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**Chapter 4 Study Guide: Jesus’ Revolutionary Teaching**

**Icebreaker**: This chapter contains a lot of Jesus’ teaching and people loved Him. Who was the best teacher you ever had? What characteristics made them such a good teacher?

1. What stuck out to you from the teaching or reading this week?
2. This chapter begins with Jesus healing a man who was disabled. Why were the Jewish leaders questioning the man who had been healed (pg. 59)? Why were they persecuting Jesus (pg. 60)?
3. Why might someone prefer rules and regulations to freedom?
4. What authority does Jesus appeal to on pg. 60? Why is it important to understand who sent Jesus?
5. Why do you think that Jesus continued to break the Pharisees rules about the Sabbath (pg. 62-63)? How does this connect to Jesus’ mission and the “Upper Story” of God’s plan?
6. Why do you think Jesus spent all night in prayer before he appointed the twelve apostles (pg. 64)? What can learn from His example when it comes to making important decisions (See James 1:5-6)?
7. When you read through the “Beatitudes” on pg. 65-66, which one do you relate to the most and why?
8. Our role in HIS Story is to influence our world for Christ. To illustrate this, Jesus uses two examples, the first being salt (pg. 67). What are some of the ways that salt is useful and how does this apply to being a Christian?
9. The second illustration Jesus uses to illustrate being a Christian is light. What are the useful properties of light and how does this apply to being a Christian?
10. Jesus makes clear that He’s here to fulfill the Law, not to abolish it (pg. 67-68). What warning does He issue to those who disregard God’s Law? How do we “bend” and “break” God’s Law and what does it mean to live by God’s commandments?
11. Jesus issues six radical commandments on pg. 68-70. Can you identify each of the six? How is it possible to live according to Jesus’ commands (See Ephesians 4:20-24, 30 and 5:18)?
12. Jesus commands us to give in secret and pray in secret (pg. 70-71). Why do you think Jesus is so concerned about our motives? Why is it so hard to keep from living for other people’s approval?
13. When Jesus teaches us to pray, He addresses five types of prayer that we need to practice in our lives:
    1. Praise – “Our Father in heaven, may your name be honored”
    2. Purpose – “May your kingdom come, may your will be done on earth as it is in heaven”
    3. Provision – “Give us today our daily bread”
    4. Pardon – “Forgive us our debts (sins) as we ourselves have forgiven our debtors”
    5. Protection – “And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one”

Which of these types of prayer do you currently practice? Which types do you need to start practicing?

1. Why does Jesus say we shouldn’t worry (pg. 64)? What things do you worry about that you need to learn to turn over to God?
2. What warning does Jesus issue for those who judge others (pg. 72)? What are some of your pet peeves that you tend to judge more harshly than others? What advice does Jesus give about overcoming judgmentalism?
3. Is there ever a time a Christian should judge another person (pg. 73; See John 7:24; 1 Corinthians 5:12-13)?
4. How does Jesus say we will recognize a false prophet (pg. 74)?
5. According to Jesus, who will enter into the kingdom of heaven (pg. 74)?
6. What is the difference between the wise and foolish person according to Jesus (pg. 75)?
7. Why were the people amazed at Jesus’ teaching (pg. 75)?