

# relate + able

## IN THIS TOGETHER

### Week 1

Heritage exists to connect people to [GOD](#),  
to each [OTHER](#), and to their [PURPOSE](#).

#### *Matthew 4:17*

*From that time on Jesus began to preach,  
"Repent, for the kingdom of [HEAVEN](#) is at hand."*

#### *Matthew 4:23-25*

*<sup>23</sup> Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. <sup>24</sup> News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed; and he healed them. <sup>25</sup> Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him."*

Jesus did not come to make things  
BETTER,  
but to make everything NEW.

*Revelation 21:5a [NLT]  
And the one sitting on the  
throne said, "Look, I am  
making everything new!"*

### **Matthew 5:1-3**

<sup>1</sup> Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, <sup>2</sup> and he began to teach them. He said: <sup>3</sup> "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."

DESPERATION for God leads us  
to fully embrace his kingdom.

## So What?

What have you been trying to make better  
that Jesus wants to make NEW?

## Notes:

*"Perhaps this is what 'holy scripture' really is — not a calm, serene list of truths to be learned or commands to be obeyed, but a jagged book that forces you to grow up in your thinking as you grapple with it." — N.T. Wright*



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## Now What? [For Further Reflection]:

:: *What is your richest relationship? Share one of your favorite memories from that relationship.*

:: *Re-read Matthew 4:23-5:3.*

    :: *What sticks out to you? Why might that be notable?*

    :: *What do you find especially challenging or encouraging?*

    :: *What do you think was the connection between the miraculous activity of Jesus and his teaching?*

:: *Pastor Jeremiah said, "Jesus did not come to make things better, but to make everything new." What are some of the implications of this for us?*

:: *Describe a season or moment when you have been desperate for God. What was that like? How did He reveal himself to you there?*

:: *What do you think are some ways we can position ourselves to be desperate for God?*

:: *What are symptoms that we may be too self-sufficient when it comes to our relationship with Him?*

:: *Share with at least one person the thing you identified that you're working to make better but that God wants to make new. Invite them to pray specifically for you in the next week.*

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## How to start a relationship with Jesus:

1) Admit that you, like everyone else, are in need of rescue.

2) Ask God to forgive your sins.

3) Say YES to God by trusting Jesus as Savior & Lord.

*You can do that right now by simply talking to God in a prayer like this:*

***Dear Lord Jesus, I know I am a sinner, and I ask for Your forgiveness. I believe You died for my sins and rose from the dead. Today, I choose to trust and follow You as my Risen Lord and Savior. Guide my life and help me to do Your will. In Your name, amen.***

Unless otherwise noted, today's Scripture is from the  
New International Version [NIV].

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