Community Group Questions

1. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?

2. What is the broad context of Matthew 5-7? To discover this, compare Matthew 4:23-24 with Matthew 9:35-38. How are these passages the same? What do they both emphasize?

3. Matthew 4:23-24 and Matthew 9:35-38 are like bookends that summarize the teaching and healing ministry of Jesus. If these passages are like bookends, then what is emphasized by Matthew between these two passages in Matthew 5-7 and Matthew 8-9?

4. Why is it so important to understand what happens in Matthew 3-4 in order to interpret and apply the Sermon on the Mount properly? What would be a wrong way to approach or interpret the Sermon on the Mount?

5. What was the message of John the Baptist (Mt. 3:1-12) and the message of Jesus (Mt. 4:12-22)?

6. Who was the Sermon on the Mount preached to? See Matthew 4:25-5:1 and 7:28-29. Jesus often had crowds around him in his ministry as he taught and healed. How might the ministry of Jesus influence how you live your life? How might the ministry of Jesus influence how you view church services?

7. Next week Pastor Cory will preach the first of two messages on Matthew 5:2-12. Take time to read the passage together. What questions do you have about this passage?