

# WEEK FIVE: OPEN HEAVEN

## CONVERSATION STARTER:

If Heaven was a block party, how would you describe it?

## ▶ PLAY VIDEO

## READ & DISCUSS: [Matthew 7:24-27](#)

What stands out to you in this passage?

## ASK GROUP MEMBERS TO READ:

Each week, we talk about how God's way leads to life. How the way of surrender, obedience, and generosity is where true freedom lies. That it's only the ones who love and love and keep on loving that live a full life. But do you believe that?

Here's the truth: God desires to fulfill his promises more than we desire to receive them. All throughout scripture we see that God spoke, and it was so (Genesis 1). That no word from the Lord ever failed (Luke 1:37). That all the Lord speaks is accomplished (Isaiah 55:11). Look at Numbers 23:19–

*“God is not a man, that He should lie,  
Nor a son of man, that He should repent;  
Has He said, and will He not do it?  
Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?”*

Why is this important? Because surrender, obedience, and generosity are sacrificial ways to live. You can look at those three words and think: I see a lot of loss, but what am I gaining?

And that is when knowing what God has promised and taking him at his word becomes life or death.

God tells us that life is found not in the abundance of what we have, but in seeking his kingdom and his glory first. Do you believe him?

God tells us that life will be richer when we live generously for others. Do you believe him?

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God tells us that emptiness awaits the one who clings to status and people and pretty things over him. Do you believe him?

The way that leads to life is not hidden from us. We just have to start taking God at his word when he gives us the map. We see heaven on earth when we act like citizens of heaven, not citizens of the world.

*“Therefore, everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.*

*But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.” Matthew 7:24-27*

### **DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**

- 1) What is getting in your way from fully taking God at his word when he says that he withholds no good thing (Psalm 84:11)?
- 2) How would you describe a rich life? How does the Lord describe a rich life?
- 3) Think about what you are sowing into the important relationships in your life. What fruit are you hopeful to see?
- 4) As you trust God with your FIRST commitment, what are you hoping to see God do in your life and in our church?

### **INSIDE THE BOX**

God is looking for partners in his Kingdom, so what does partnership look like? How do we bring heaven to earth?

- 1) Acknowledge the Lordship of Christ and the goodness of his way.
- 2) Identify where it's hard to take God at his word, and confess those unbelief's to him in prayer.
- 3) Ask the Holy Spirit to show you how God is moving around you.

### **▪ 2 CHRONICLES 7:14**

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