

Going Deeper Questions
Kingdom Transitions
Matthew 12:9-30
November 1, 2009

1. The sermon series has moved to the New Testament. If you have been following the series, has it changed you at all – your understanding, your outlook on life, your view of the future, etc.? Explain.
2. Jeremy shared how through the religious leaders (Pharisees and Scribes), the Jewish people rejected Jesus (Matthew 12:10, 14, 24). It was like Jesus was calling them to walk forward, but they refused and walked backwards (remember the horse illustration). Do you know of anyone (Jew or non-Jew) who flat out rejects Jesus? What do you think you should do with them: keep pressing them to accept Him, ignore them, just pray for them, etc.,?
3. In Matthew 12:15-21 a prophecy from Isaiah 42:1-4 is quoted (mainly from the LXX, or Septuagint—the Greek translation of the Old Testament that dates back before Jesus was on the earth). Jeremy explained why Jesus told people not to tell others when He healed them (Matthew 12:16, 19). Read that prophecy there in Matthew 12:18-21 and see what Jesus did for justice, and what He did for you and me.
4. Agree or disagree: “Based on the sermon and on Matthew 6:19-34, I think it is wrong that the focus of my life is to provide for my family (defining “family” within your context).”
5. Matthew 12:30 is a call to a decision. Which kingdom are you going to live for? How will others see that in your life? What will you do differently today based on your choice?
6. Bonus Question: In the context of Matthew 12:9-30, what immediately follows is what is commonly known as “the unforgivable sin” (Matthew 12:31-32). Based on the context, what do you think the unforgivable sin is? *Hint: What and Who were they rejecting?*
 - a. Some say, ‘*The unforgivable sin could have only happened when Jesus was on the earth, but an unforgivable sin happens today.*’ What do you think that means?