

- *Adult Study Guide* -
THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Class Goals:

- To better understand the life of Jesus, specifically His example, teachings, power, and kingdom.
- To equip one another to imitate Matthew's choice:
 - First, to walk away from the world and follow Jesus with great love, faith, loyalty, service, & obedience.
 - Second, to tell others about Jesus in a loving and compelling manner that urges them to become a Christian.
- To spotlight the bold and challenging teachings of Jesus that define true righteousness.
- To avoid the pitfalls of hypocrisy and man-made regulations seen in the Pharisees and Sadducees.
- To increase our confidence in the reliability of the Scriptures by noting the fulfilled prophecies and geographical details referenced by Matthew.

6 Week Lesson Plan:

Lesson 1, Sept 10	Introduction & Birth	(Matt. 1-2)
Lesson 2, Sept 13	Jesus' Baptism & Temptation	(Matt. 3-4)
Lesson 3, Sept 17	The Sermon on the Mount	(Matt. 5-7)
Lesson 4, Sept 20	Jesus' Miracles & Apostles	(Matt. 8-10)
Lesson 5, Sept 24	The Response of the People	(Matt. 11-12)
Lesson 6, Sept 27	The Kingdom Parables	(Matt. 13)
Lesson 7, Oct 1	Recognizing Jesus Is The Christ	(Matt 14-17)
Lesson 8, Oct 4	Jesus Teaches Humility & Holiness	(Matt. 18-20)
Lesson 9, Oct 15	Jesus' Last Week	(Matt. 21-23)
Lesson 10, Oct 18	The Things To Come	(Matt. 24-25)
Lesson 11, Oct 22	Jesus' Trial & Crucifixion	(Matt. 26-27)
Lesson 12, Oct 25	Jesus' Resurrection	(Matt. 28)

1

Introduction & Birth

Reading: Matthew 1-2

“She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins. Now all this took place to fulfill what was spoken by the Lord through the prophet: BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD AND SHALL BEAR A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL,” which translated means “GOD WITH US.”

(Matthew 1:21-23)

Chapter 1 and 2 introduce the reader to Jesus. Matthew uses Jesus’ family tree, the miracles surrounding His birth, fulfilled prophecy, and the moral character of Joseph and Mary to show that this child is the long-awaited Savior (1:21). Even in these early chapters, Matthew shows that some will respond to Jesus with joy and worship (2:10) and others with rejection and heartbreaking evil (2:16).

STRUCTURE OF THE BOOK:

The gospel of Matthew can be divided into 5 sections. What phrase does Matthew use to indicate the transition to each new section? (Matthew 7:28, 11:1, 13:53, 19:1, 26:1)

The gospel of Matthew follows Jesus ministry through what major regions?

_____ (Matthew 4:12) _____ (Matthew 19:1)

_____ (Matthew 20:17, 29) _____ (Matthew 21:1)

Chapter Outline

- Genealogy (1:1-17)
- Virgin Birth (1:18-25)
 - OT: Isaiah 7:14
- Visit of the Wise Men (2:1-12)
 - OT: Micah 5:2
- Escape to Egypt (2:13-15)
 - OT: Hosea 11:1
- Herod's Execution of Baby Boys (2:16-19)
 - OT: Jeremiah 31:15
- Arrival in Nazareth (2:19-23)
 - OT: Psalm 22:6 ?

Key Places

- _____ (2:1)
- _____ (2:3)
- _____ (2:13)
- _____ (2:18)
- _____ (2:22)
- _____ (2:23)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why would this genealogy be important to a Jewish audience? What 4 women are named in the genealogy of Jesus?
2. What qualities of Joseph are specifically mentioned or demonstrated by his actions in these chapters?
3. In what city was Jesus born?
In what city was He raised?
4. How did the wise men find Jesus?
5. Based on their travels, comments, and actions, who do the wise men consider Jesus to be?
6. How many times does Matthew mention God sending an angel to ensure Jesus is cared for?

APPLICATION:

1. I admire and will imitate Jesus' example of...
2. To better follow Jesus, I will change...
3. Something I will tell others about Jesus is...

PRAYER:

Pray for God to help mold in your heart the qualities of Joseph, Mary, and the Wise Men. Give thanks for God sending His Son into the world as our Savior.

2

Jesus' Baptism & Temptation

Reading: Matthew 3-4

“After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him, and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased.”

(Matthew 3:16-17)

Chapter 3 and 4 describe the key events that mark the beginning of Jesus' ministry: His baptism, His temptation, His disciples, and His proclamation of the “gospel of the kingdom” along with many miracles (4:23). These chapters are RICH with insight into the heart of Jesus. We read of His concern for righteousness (3:15), His dependence on scripture (4:4ff), and His invitation to “Follow me...”(4:19). Read slowly to appreciate the “Great Light” (4:16) Jesus brought into a sinful and darkened world.

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Name 4 traits of John the Baptist's life and teaching:

2. What do we learn about the Pharisees and Sadducees in 3:7-12? What other places within the gospel of Matthew is the language of a “tree” used to teach?

Chapter Outline

- John the Baptist (3:1-12)
 - OT: Isaiah 40:3
- Baptism of Jesus (3:13-17)
- Temptation of Jesus (4:1-11)
 - OT: Deuteronomy 8:3
 - OT: Psalm 91:11,12
 - OT: Deuteronomy 6:16
 - OT: Deuteronomy 6:13
- Calling His Disciples (4:12-22)
 - OT: Isaiah 9:1-2
- Preaching & Healing (4:23-25)

Key Places

- _____ (3:1)
- _____ (3:5)
- _____ (3:6)
- _____ (3:13)
- _____ (4:1)
- _____ (4:13)
- _____ (4:18)
- _____ (4:24)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

3. How is each member of the Trinity manifested in Matthew 3:16-17?
4. How are the baptisms of Matthew 3 and Matthew 28:19 similar and how are they different?
 - John:
 - Holy Spirit & Fire:
 - Jesus:
 - Disciples:
5. What do we learn about Satan? (4:1-11)
6. Who were the 4 fishermen called to follow Jesus?
7. What does the phrase “fishers of men” indicate about the mission of Jesus’ disciples?

APPLICATION:

8. I admire and will imitate Jesus’ example of...
9. To better follow Jesus, I will change...
10. Something I will tell others about Jesus is...

PRAYER:

Pray for God to help you resist temptation and depend upon His word to walk in the light. Pray for people to follow Jesus as quickly and deeply as Peter, Andrew, James & John.

3

The Sermon on the Mount

Reading: Matthew 5-7

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. . . . When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.”

(Matthew 7:24, 28-29)

Chapters 5-7 contain the greatest sermon ever preached. Jesus masterfully addresses the people of His kingdom (Ch. 5), the righteousness of His kingdom (Ch. 6), and the relationships within His kingdom (Ch. 7). Every section contains teachings that will draw us closer to God and help us become more righteous...if we will hear His words and build our lives on the Rock.

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why is the idea of surpassing the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees key to understanding this sermon? How many times does this sermon contain the word “righteousness?”
2. What 5 subjects are contrasted in 5:21-48?
3. How does God sending rain upon all people teach us to better love our enemies? (5:45)

Chapter Outline

- Beatitudes & Light (5:1-19)
- I Say to You (5:20-48)
 - OT: Exodus 20:13
 - OT: Exodus 20:14
 - OT: Deuteronomy 24:1
 - OT: Deuteronomy 23:21
 - OT: Isaiah 66:1, Ps 48:2
 - OT: Exodus 21:24
 - OT: Leviticus 19:18
- Giving, Praying, Fasting (6:1-18)
- God Is Greater Than Our Wealth or Worries (6:19-34)
- Correcting Our Judgment (7:1-6)
- Pursuing & Imitating God (7:1-14)
- Understanding God’s Judgement (7:15-23)
 - OT: Psalm 6:8
- Build On The Rock (7:24-29)

Key Places

- _____ (5:1)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

4. Why is it important that our giving, praying, and fasting often be done in secret? (6:2, 4, 14, 18)
5. How can we be sure that God is our master, not our wealth? (6:24)
6. Worry is often the result of losing sight of some very important facts. What does Jesus ask us to reflect on to overcome worry? (6:25-34)
7. How is the Golden Rule a summary of the Law & Prophets? (7:12)
8. Matthew 7 includes many consequences for disobedience. What outcomes are we told to expect in:

7:1	7:6	7:8
7:13	7:19	7:23

APPLICATION:

9. I admire and will imitate Jesus’ example of...
10. To better follow Jesus, I will change...
11. Something I will tell others about Jesus is...

PRAYER:

Pray based on the instructions of Jesus in 6:7-14.

4

Jesus' Miracles & Apostles

Reading: Matthew 8-10

“Which is easier, to say, “You sins are forgiven,’ or to say ‘Get up, and walk’? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” – then He said to the paralytic, “Get up, pick up your bed and go home.”

(Matthew 9:5-6)

Chapters 8-10 are full of faith-building evidence of Jesus' power and authority. Jesus shows His ability to heal both near and far, for both Jew and Gentile. His power over disease, nature, demons, and ultimately over sin is established. As Jesus' popularity grows, He tells the apostles (and us) more about what is required to truly follow and serve Him.

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What attitudes are present in those who come to Jesus to be healed?

The Leper (8:1-4)

The Centurion (8:5-13)

2. How do people respond to the healings of Jesus?

Peter's mother-in-law (8:14-17)

The Gadarenes (8:28-34)

Chapter Outline

- 1st Set of Miracles (8:1-17)
 - OT: Isaiah 53:4
- Discipleship: Priority (8:18-23)
- 2nd Set of Miracles (8:24-9:8)
- Discipleship: Practices (9:9-17)
- 3rd Set of Miracles (9:18-38)
- Discipleship: Proclaim Him (10)
 - Micah 7:6

Key Places

- _____ (8:5)
- _____ (8:18)
- _____ (8:28)
- _____ (9:1)
- _____ (10:6)
- _____ (10:15)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

3. According to Matthew 8:17 and 9:6, 36 why did Jesus perform His miracles?
4. Why is Jesus criticized for spending time in the house of Matthew? What is the meaning of Jesus' response? (9:9-13)
5. How does the criticism of Jesus escalate? (9:11, 34)
6. Who were the apostles sent to preach to and what would indicate they had found a worthy person, house, or city? (10:1-15)
7. Jesus tells the apostles how to respond to difficulty by saying "do not" many times. Complete these phrases:
10:19

10:26, 28, 31

10:34

APPLICATION:

8. I admire and will imitate Jesus' example of...
9. To better follow Jesus, I will change...
10. Something I will tell others about Jesus is...

PRAYER:

Pray for the "Lord of the harvest to send our workers into His harvest." (9:38)

5

The Response of the People

Reading: Matthew 11-12

“How much more valuable then is a man than a sheep! So then, it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath. Then He said to the man, “Stretch out your hand!” He stretched it out, and it was restored to normal, like the other. But the Pharisees went out and conspired against Him, as to how they might destroy Him.”

(Matthew 12:12-14)

Despite the miracles of Jesus, Matthew 11 and 12 show that He was largely rejected by the people of His day. Not only are His miracles ignored, but His acts of mercy carried out on the Sabbath become a major point of criticism. Even when rejected, Jesus continued to call people of faith to accept the rest He offered and to do God’s will. (11:25-30, 12:7, 15, 28, 49-50)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. While praising John, what does 11:11-12 indicate about the kingdom of heaven?
2. Are the criticisms in 11:18-19 factual or are they exaggerations? What does this say about those who opposed Him?
3. How should the people of Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum have responded to the miracles and preaching of Jesus?
4. Jesus compares the cities of His day to ancient cities. What relationship did these cities have to the nation of Israel? (11:20-24)

Chapter Outline

- John's Questions (11:1-19)
 - OT: Isaiah 35:5
 - OT: Malachi 3:1
- Unrepentant Cities (11:20-24)
- Come to Me (11:25-30)
 - OT: Jeremiah 6:16
- Lord of the Sabbath (12:1-21)
 - OT: 1 Samuel 21:6
 - OT: Hosea 6:6
 - OT: Isaiah 42:1ff
- Pharisees Rebuked (12:22-37)
- The Sign of Jonah (12:38-45)
 - OT: Jonah 1:17
- Family of God (12:46-50)

Key Places

- _____ (11:21)
- _____ (11:21)
- _____ (11:22)
- _____ (11:23)
- _____ (11:24)
- _____ (12:9)
- _____ (12:41)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

5. What group repeatedly opposes the work and teachings of Jesus in 12:2, 14, 24, 28?
6. In Matthew 12:1-7 were the disciples guilty of actually breaking God's law to observe the Sabbath? Why or Why Not?
7. How does Jesus disprove the accusation that He was casting out demons by Satan's power? (12:22-32)
8. After performing many miracles, why does Jesus rebuke the scribes and Pharisees for requesting a sign? (12:38-42)
9. What becomes the deciding factor in our ability to have a saving relationship with Jesus Christ? (12:46-50)

APPLICATION:

10. I admire and will imitate Jesus' example of...
11. To better follow Jesus, I will change...
12. Something I will tell others about Jesus is...

PRAYER:

Pray for the "ears to hear" Jesus describes in 11:15. Ask for a humble heart that will accept the teachings of Jesus, appreciate the power of the Holy Spirit, and do the will of the Father who is in heaven.

6

The Kingdom Parables

Reading: Matthew 13

“And the disciples came and said to Him, “Why do You speak to them in parables? Jesus answered them, “To you it has been granted to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been granted. For whoever has, to him more shall be given, and he will have an abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has shall be taken away from him.”

(Matthew 13:10-12)

Matthew 13 records seven parables Jesus taught about the kingdom of heaven. These parables not only inform us about the nature of the King and His kingdom, but they also transform us by highlighting the qualities of kingdom citizens Jesus desires. For those seeking God, the parables provide compact and memorable lessons. For those who were unreceptive, the parables were easy to dismiss and ignore.

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How are the disciples different from the great crowds of people gathered by the sea to listen to Jesus?
2. In the parable of the sower, what obstacles to fruitfulness does Jesus warn us about?
3. How does Jesus’ explanation of the parable of the sower (18-23) and the parable of the tares (36-43) guide and train us to interpret His other parables?

Chapter Outline

- The Sower (13:1-9)
- Why Parables? (13:10-17)
 - OT: Isaiah 6:9
- Sower Explained (13:18-23)
- Tares Among Wheat (13:24-30)
- The Mustard Seed (13:31-32)
 - OT: Ezekiel 17:23
- The Leaven (13:33-35)
 - OT: Psalm 78:2
- The Tares Explained (13:36-43)
 - OT: Daniel 12:3
- The Hidden Treasure(13:44-45)
- The Precious Pearl (13:46)
- The Dragnet (13:47-52)
- Jesus In Nazareth (13:53-58)

Key Places

- _____ (13:54)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

4. According to the parable of the tares, who is responsible for the evil in the world? (vs. 28, 39)
5. How does the expansion of Jesus' kingdom as described in the parables of the mustard seed and leaven differ from the expansion of earthly kingdoms such as Rome?
6. What qualities of kingdom citizens are commended in the parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl of great price?
7. Many people desire rulers to administer swift and decisive judgment at the first sign of trouble. What does the parable of the dragnet teach us about Jesus' approach?
8. Why did Jesus limit the miracles He performed in Nazareth?

APPLICATION:

9. I admire and will imitate Jesus' example of...
10. To better follow Jesus, I will change...
11. Something I will tell others about Jesus is...

PRAYER:

Pray to bear much fruit, in spite of the evil in the world.
Pray for the kingdom of heaven to grow and expand.
Pray for boldness to value God's kingdom above all else.

7

Recognizing Jesus As The Christ

Reading: Matthew 14-17

“He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

(Matthew 16:15-16)

Following the parables, Matthew 14 to 17 brings Jesus identity into crystal clear focus. This section emphasizes that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God in four ways.

First, by recording additional miracles that took place before large crowds.

Second, by contrasting the hypocrisy of the Pharisees with the authority of Jesus.

Third, by including Peter’s own confession of Christ.

Fourth, by referencing the Father’s declaration that “This is my beloved Son...”(17:5).

Notably, this section not only reinforces who He is, but also what He is going to do: build His church (16:18) and sacrifice His life (16:21).

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Explain why and how John the Baptist was executed?
2. What prompts Jesus to perform the miracle of feeding the 5,000? (14:14)
3. Why did Jesus send the disciples ahead of him in the boat? (14:23)
4. What warning does Jesus give regarding man-made traditions?

Chapter Outline

- The Death of John (14:1-12)
- His Miracles (14:13-36)
- Teaching on Tradition(15:1-20)
 - OT: Exodus 20:12
 - OT: Isaiah 29:13
- His Miracles (15:21-39)
 - OT: Isaiah 9:1-2
- Teaching on Leaven (16:1-12)
- Confession & Teaching (16:13-28)
 - Psalm 62:12
- Mt of Transfiguration (17:1-13)
- Demon Cast Out & Temple Tax (17:14-27)

Key Places

- _____ (14:13)
- _____ (14:34)
- _____ (15:21)
- _____ (15:29)
- _____ (16:13)
- _____ (17:1)
- _____ (17:24)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

5. Who received the glory for Jesus’ miracles? (15:31)
6. What on-going problem does Jesus call his disciples to address in 14:31 and 16:8?
7. Why is confessing our faith in Jesus important?
8. What is at stake in our decision to follow Jesus? (16:24-28)
9. What is the significance of Moses & Elijah’s appearance on the mountain with Jesus?
10. How do Jesus’ responses in 15:15-20 and in 17:24-27 each perfectly address the situation?

APPLICATION:

11. I admire and will imitate Jesus’ example of...
12. To better follow Jesus, I will change...
13. Something I will tell others about Jesus is...

PRAYER:

Pray for growing loyalty to Jesus, and for protection from the influence of false teachings. Pray that our minds will be sat upon the interests of God.

8

Jesus Teaches Humility & Holiness

Reading: Matthew 18-20

“But Jesus called them to Himself and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. It is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

(Matthew 20:25-28)

Chapter 18-20 describe the humility and holiness that must be exercised by followers of Christ. Jesus teaches how to apply these virtues when restoring Christians who sin, extending forgiveness, honoring God’s plan for marriage, and following Him at great personal cost. By developing humility and holiness in the apostles, He further prepares them to be sacrificial leaders after His death. (20:17-19)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What question in 18:1 leads Jesus to discuss childlike humility? What is meant by a “stumbling block?”
2. What is the end goal of the spiritual discipline prescribed in 18:15-20? Why are humility and holiness important in this process?
3. What is the significance of the amount owed in 18:24?

Chapter Outline

- Question to Jesus (18:1-14)
 - “Who is the greatest...”
- Restoration & Forgiveness (18:15-35)
- Marriage & Divorce (19:1-12)
 - OT: Genesis 1:27
 - OT: Genesis 2:24
 - OT: Deuteronomy 24:1
- Blessing Children (19:13-15)
- Rich Young Ruler (19:16-26)
- Question to Jesus (19:1-20:16)
 - “what then will there be for us...”
- Death & Service (20:17-28)
- Healing the Blind (20:29-34)

Key Places

- _____ (19:1)
- _____ (20:17)
- _____ (20:29)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

4. What does Jesus base His marriage regulations upon? (19:1-12)
5. What is the only exception Jesus allows for a divorce? (19:9)
6. What is the condition of one who divorces and remarries for reasons other than adultery? (19:9)
7. Why is it difficult for the wealthy to enter the kingdom of heaven?
8. What lesson does Jesus repeat and reinforce in 19:30, 20:16, and 20:27?
9. What is the proper response to God’s generosity? (20:13-16)

APPLICATION:

10. I admire and will imitate Jesus’ example of...
11. To better follow Jesus, I will change...
12. Something I will tell others about Jesus is...

PRAYER:

Pray for God to develop childlike humility and Christ-like holiness in our example, our fellowship, our marriages, our priorities, our leadership, and our vision.

Chapter Outline

- Entry of The King (21:1-11)
 - OT: Zechariah 9:9
 - OT: Psalm 118:26
- Questioning His Authority (21:12-27)
 - OT: Isaiah 56:7
 - OT: Jeremiah 7:11
 - OT: Psalm 8:2
- 3 Parables (21:28-22:14)
 - OT: Isaiah 5:1
 - OT: Psalm 118:22
- Questioning His Understanding (22:15-40)
 - OT: Deuteronomy 25:5
 - OT: Exodus 3:6
 - OT: Deuteronomy 6:5
 - OT: Leviticus 19:18
- Jesus Asks About The Christ (22:41-46)
 - OT: Psalm 110:1
- 8 Woes of Hypocrisy (23:1-36)
 - OT: Genesis 4:8
 - OT: Zechariah 1:1
- Mourn for Jerusalem (23:37-39)
 - OT: Psalm 118:26

Key Places

- _____ (21:1)
- _____ (21:17)
- _____ (21:20)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

3. Based on Jesus response in 22:18, what should we recognize about the greeting given to Jesus in 22:16?
4. What questions are posed to Jesus in chapter 22?
 - vs. 17 _____
 - vs. 28 _____
 - vs. 35-36 _____
5. What do you love about the answers Jesus gives?
6. Chapter 23 is a rebuke, but Jesus also includes the remedy to the spiritual disease of hypocrisy. What cures does the Great Physician prescribe?
 - vs. 3 _____
 - vs. 11 _____
 - vs. 23 _____
 - vs. 34 _____

APPLICATION:

7. I admire and will imitate Jesus' example of...
8. To better follow Jesus, I will change...
9. Something I will tell others about Jesus is...

PRAYER:

Pray for wisdom to repent of any areas of life where we claim Jesus is our king, but reject His loving leadership.

10

The Things To Come

Reading: Matthew 24-25

“Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; so, you too, when you see all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door. Truly I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away.”

(Matthew 24:32-35)

Chapter 24 and 25 speak of God’s coming judgment and man’s responsibility to get prepared. From the Mount of Olives, Jesus prepares His disciples for the destruction of Jerusalem and delivers 3 parables about the importance of being alert and faithful when He returns. This section may also have references to the final Day of Judgment, and is best studied alongside Mark 13 and Luke 21.

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. What observations and questions prompt the Olivet Discourse? (24:1-3)
2. What instructions does Jesus give that indicate He is speaking of a localized and escapable judgment?
 - vs. 16
 - vs. 19-20
 - vs. 22
 - vs. 34

Chapter Outline

- Do Not Be Afraid (24:1-14)
- Flee to Safety (24:15-28)
 - Daniel 9:27, 11:31, 12:11
- Judgment is Coming (24:29-41)
 - OT: Ezekiel 32:7
 - OT: Daniel 7:13
- Be Alert (24:42-51)
- Parable: Wise Virgins (25:1-13)
- Parable: Talents (25:14-30)
- Parable: The Sheep & Goats (25:31-46)

Key Places

- _____ (24:1)
- _____ (24:3)
- _____ (24:16)
- _____ (Luke 21:20)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

3. In 24:29 Jesus quotes from Ezekiel 32:7. Based on the original context, does God sometimes use vivid, cosmic language to describe His judgment upon a single nation? Why does this matter?
4. What major lesson in 24:42-51 should we learn?
5. When will Christians have to imitate the wise virgins and say “no” to the requests of others?
6. In the parable of the talents, what statement of approval is given to the faithful servants? (25:21, 23)
7. What phrase is repeated in 22:13, 24:52, and 25:30?
8. What phrases in 25:31-46 indicate that Jesus is speaking about a universal judgment?

APPLICATION:

9. I admire and will imitate Jesus’ example of...
10. To better follow Jesus, I will change...
11. Something I will tell others about Jesus is...

PRAYER:

Pray for courage and confidence to let your light shine in a dark and perishing world. Pray for Christian friends who will stir you up to be diligent and faithful in serving God.

11

Jesus' Trial & Crucifixion

Reading: Matthew 26-27

“They stripped Him and put a scarlet robe on Him. And after twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on His head, and a reed in His right hand; and they knelt down before Him and mocked Him, saying, “Hail, King of the Jews!” They spat on Him, and took the reed and began to beat Him on the head. After they had mocked Him, they took the scarlet robe off Him, and put His own garments back on Him, and led Him away to crucify Him”

(Matthew 27:28-31)

Jesus' final hours before His crucifixion are described in chapter 26 and 27. While observing the Passover, He instituted the Lord's Supper and then entered the garden of Gethsemane to spend the night in prayer. His betrayal and trial followed. Matthew doesn't emphasize the graphic details of Jesus death, but instead points our attention to the inscription Pilate had placed which read, “This is Jesus The King of the Jews.”

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Contrast the character of Judas and of Mary in 26:1-19

Judas Is...

Mary Is...

2. How is the significance of the body and the blood of Jesus described in 26:20-30?

Chapter Outline

- Jesus' Death is Imminent (26:1-19)
- Jesus' Memorial Meal (26:20-35)
 - OT: Exodus 12:1
 - OT: Zechariah 13:7
- Jesus' Prayer & Betrayal in The Garden (26:36-56)
- Jesus Before Caiaphas & Peter's Denials (26:57-75)
 - OT: Psalm 110:1
- Judas' Regret (27:1-10)
 - OT: Jeremiah 18,19,32
 - OT: Zechariah 11:12-13
- Jesus Before Pilate (27:11-32)
- Jesus Crucifixion & Burial (27:33-66)
 - OT: Psalm 22:8,1

Key Places

- _____ (26:6)
- _____ (26:30)
- _____ (26:32)
- _____ (26:36)
- _____ (27:33)
- _____ (27:57)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

3. What does Jesus say will happen in 26:31-35?
4. When facing danger and hostility in 26:36-56, what actions did Jesus take that we can imitate in times of trouble?
5. Contrast the regret of Peter and the regret of Judas. What does this teach us about how we face our failures? 26:68-27:10
6. How many hours was Jesus on the cross?
7. What Psalm did Jesus quote in response to His accusers while on the cross? (vs. 46)
8. Who witnessed the crucifixion of Jesus? (vs. 55-56)
9. How does Joseph's care for Jesus' body display honor towards Jesus? How is this similar to 26:7

APPLICATION:

10. I admire and will imitate Jesus' example of...
11. To better follow Jesus, I will change...
12. Something I will tell others about Jesus is...

PRAAYER:

Pray for God to show mercy towards us when our spirit is willing but our flesh is weak. Thank God for loving us to such an extent that He would send Jesus to redeem us.

12

Jesus' Resurrection

Reading: Matthew 28

“The angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; for I know that you are looking for Jesus who has been crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said. Come, see the place where He was lying.”

(Matthew 28:5-6)

Chapter 28 is a chapter of faith and victory. The women are told by the angels that “He has risen” but will they believe? The disciples are told by the women, but will they believe? Lies about Jesus abound today just as they did then (vs. 11-15), but Matthew tells each of us: He has risen...will we believe?

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. In vs 1, what phrase does Matthew use to describe the timing of Jesus resurrection?
2. Who comes to the grave?
3. What response do the disciples, both male and female, have to Jesus? (vs 9, 17)

Chapter Outline

- He Has Risen! (28:1-10)
- The Soldier's Lie (28:11-15)
- The Great Commission (28:16-20)

Key Places

- _____ (28:1)
- _____ (28:7)
- _____ (28:16)
- _____ (28:19)

STUDY & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

4. What problems exist with the story the chief priests use to deny Jesus' resurrection? (vs. 11-15)
5. Jesus delivers the "Great Commission" what makes it so great?
 - A Great _____
"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."
 - A Great _____
"Go therefore and make disciples..."
 - A Great _____
"...of all the nations,"
 - A Great _____
"...baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,"
 - A Great _____
"...teaching them to observe all that I commanded you;"
 - A Great _____
"...and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

APPLICATION:

6. I admire and will imitate Jesus' example of...
7. To better follow Jesus, I will change...
8. Something I will tell others about Jesus is...

PRAYER:

Pray to be a fully believing, fully devoted Christian, actively taking part in the Great Commission.