

MATTHEW

BIBLE STUDY

A Four-Week Study Guide for Individuals and Groups

AGES:
16+

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INTRODUCTION



Background on the Book of Matthew

WELCOME to this one-month study on the Book of Matthew for both group and individual learning. Herein are all the important facts about the book—its background, purpose, and most beloved scriptures—and a daily study to help you navigate with ease and enjoyment.

Why this study is so important to a growing faith

The Book of Matthew is the second most Googled and second most popular Bible book, after Psalms. As the first book of the New Testament, it is a fantastic first look at our faith and who Jesus actually was. Because Matthew was Jewish, he understood the importance of crediting Christ by showing His life in Old Testament prophecy, just under 50 times.

This study on Matthew will address the following questions, among others:

- Where is the Sermon on the Mount located?
- Do parts of the Christmas story appear in Matthew, and if so, which ones?
- What parables appear only in Matthew? What about prophecies, miracles, and classic Bible stories that are singular to Matthew?
- What chapters are each of these in?

How this study of Matthew works

Each of the 28 chapters in Matthew will encompass one day's study or half of a day's study. Hence you will have six days of study, with one day off in each of the four weeks, for a total of 24 days of study. You can arrange so that the sixth day of study, a comprehensive look at the past five days, can be split up with you doing the part corresponding to each day on that particular day. This way, you can complete six days of study in five.

You will visit one or two chapters each day following an introductory Day 1.

Despite all its comprehensive materials, the study is neither difficult nor terribly time-consuming. A day's work can be done in half an hour, but it can take up to an hour, depending on how much time you'd like to give to the subjective questions about that day's reading. The study is designed to be highly individualized, good for small groups, but also applicable for an individual.

INTRODUCTION



What's to be done each day?

Our Table of Contents, beginning on the next page, shows the comprehensive list of chapters that will be covered in the course. Each day of the month-long study is clearly marked so that you'll always know where to pick up.

Each day you will

- Peruse all the important CHAPTER FACTS at the top of that day's page, including what miracles, parables, prophecies, and classic Bible stories are in that chapter or chapters.
- Complete the CHAPTER STUDY, by reading either one or two chapters of Matthew as indicated.
- Read a brief devotion.
- Answer questions about the text. Some will be easy, like the fill-in-the-blank statements. Others will encourage you to be pensive and thoughtful. In some of these, you'll be given chances to discover what verses are important to you personally with questions such as, "What line or phrase in this passage stands out most to you and why?" In this case, all answers could be different, depending on what people are facing in their lives.
- Study a Week in Review question for the day. You can actually approach the Week in Review Page as that 6th workday each week. Or, at the end of your studies each day, you can go to the Week in Review page and look at the question devoted to that day's material. Some people find it easier to answer the question while the material is fresh; others like some days to pass to make sure they still remember.

With just a little time each day for a month, you will have a wonderful opportunity to immerse yourself in the Book of Matthew. By the end of the month, you will have a much better idea of where to find important miracles, parables, and teachings of Jesus in this first and famous book of the New Testament.

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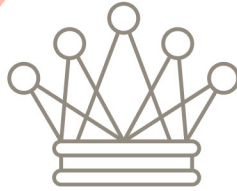
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MATTHEW

Matthew 1-7



WEEK 1

All About Matthew

Introduction

Study this material and answer questions in the Week in Review, Introductory Day 1 Quiz. What is below will help you know the background of this book and where it fits in its historic context, in the author's intentions, and in its most foundational messages.

CHAPTER FACTS

Order in New Testament:

1

Number of Chapters:

28

Type:

History / Gospel

Written:

60-65 AD

About this Period:

7 BC to 26 AD

By:

Matthew the Apostle

MATTHEW FAQ

1. For whom was Matthew written?

Matthew was written as a witness to Jewish people. This is evident by Matthew supporting his testimony with Old Testament prophecy. He compared Old Testament prophecy to the life of Jesus more than 50 times.

2. Was Matthew a fisherman like John, James, and Peter?

No, Matthew was a tax collector before following Jesus. The telling of his conversion is in Matthew 9:9-10.

3. Some of the disciples are known by different names in different Gospels. Is Matthew one of these?

Yes. Matthew was known as Levi in the books of Mark and Luke. Matthew is a Greek name, whereas Levi is his Jewish name. Having two names was common in those days.

MATTHEW FAQ

4. What part of the Christmas story is in the Book of Matthew? Matthew is one of two Gospels that tell parts of the Christmas story. Matthew tells the part about the Magi or Wise Men, which consequently leads to the telling of

- the Wise Men's visit and warning from an angel,
- Herod's genocide in Bethlehem,
- the family fleeing to Egypt, and
- the family's return and settling in Nazareth.

Luke 2 contains the actual Nativity story of the shepherds at the manger.

5. What passages are most famous in the book of Matthew? Matthew contains 25 miracles, of which 3 are exclusive to this Gospel. The three miracles exclusive to Matthew include two from Matthew 9. (1) Jesus healed two blind men in 9:27-31 and then (2) healed a man who was mute in 9:32-34. Finally, (3) Jesus paying the temple tax with coins found in fish's mouth (Matthew 17:24-27) is not recorded in any other Gospel. The book also contains 23 parables, of which 16 are exclusive to Matthew. But its most famed passage is probably The Sermon on the Mount, which completely encompasses chapters 5-7.

6. What prophecies of Christ are singular to the Book of Matthew? While mostly known for more than 50 Old Testament prophecy fulfillments, Matthew also contains some prophetic words from Christ about the future. The most notable include

- the reference to Peter as the Rock or future Church (16:17-19)
- the Kingdom would be handed over to the Gentiles (21:43)
- the destruction of the Temple would occur again in less than 50 years (25:2)
- the famed description of the End Times (chapter 24)

7. Which details of Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension are singular to Matthew? Here are five important details found only in Matthew:

- the 30 pieces of silver given to Judas (26:14-15)
- suicide of Judas (26:15, 27:3-10),
- Pilate's wife's disturbing dream (27:19),

MATTHEW FAQ

- earthquake at the Resurrection (28:2-4),
- the Great Commission (28:16-20).

8. What are the most popular verses people search for in Matthew? According to a search engine that keeps track of Bible verse activity, the most popular verses in Matthew are these:

- Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. —Matthew 28:19
- “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” —Matthew 11:28

9. What is a synoptic Gospel, and is Matthew among them? Matthew is a synoptic Gospel along with Mark and Luke. The term “synoptic” means alike in form and intent. The Gospel of John is different in subtle but very interesting ways.

See the quiz questions about today’s lesson at the top of the Week in Review and see how many you can answer.

All These Ancestors & the Three Wise Men

Read MATTHEW 1 & 2



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- (Chapter One) Nazareth
- (Chapter Two) Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Egypt, Nazareth

Approximate year:

- **7 BC to 5 BC.** *Note: There is much debate about the actual birth year of Jesus as well as how long Jesus was in Egypt. In the case of the birth year, very few scholars believe that Jesus was actually born in the year 0. Various scholars support His birth being 3 BC, 5 BC, or 7 BC. Some scholars put forth the idea that Jesus' time in Egypt was short, around two years. However, He could have stayed in Egypt until the age of 11, as we don't need to find Him living in Nazareth until He is 12 and the story is told of His parents taking Him to Jerusalem. We support the 7 BC birthdate and a short stay in Egypt of around 2 years, as these correspond best with the death of Herod, which brought about their return. There is good material supporting the other dates as well.*

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Isaiah 7:14 fulfilled in Matthew 1:23
- Micah 5:2, 4 fulfilled in Matthew 2:7
- Hosea 11:1 fulfilled in Matthew 2:15
- Jeremiah 31:15 fulfilled in Matthew 2:18

Miracles Recorded:

- Angels speak to both Joseph and the Magi in dreams and prevent disasters.

Teachings:

- Genealogy (Legal line of Jesus through His adopted Father Joseph)

Classic Bible Stories:

- Joseph & Mary are engaged
- The Magi visit Herod then Jesus
- The Escape to Egypt
- The Genocide in Bethlehem
- The Return to Nazareth

DEVOTION

Even the most enthusiastic of Christians can look at a list of names, such as the list in Matthew 1, and think, “boring.” But this is simply a misunderstanding about what this list seeks to prove. It proves that Jesus had human, flesh and blood ancestors, just like the rest of us, and who they were throughout recorded history. He truly is the Son of Man. There is also a misunderstanding about who these people are. First off, they include all the kings of Judah. It was prophesied in Genesis 49:10 that the Messiah would come from the tribe of Judah, and hence, all its kings are in the line to Christ. Second, they include ancestors of Jesus going all the way back to Abraham, or early Genesis. It means the story about Genesis encompasses the whole Bible. Abraham is related to Adam, and it is shown how in Genesis 11. Abraham is related to Jesus, and it is shown how in Matthew 1. If you believe the Bible to be a fair and accurate record, then the history of the Jews, from Adam to Jesus, is central to the history of mankind.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 2:6

But you, _____, land of Judah
are by no means least among the rul-
ers of Judah, for out of you will come a
_____, who will rule or shepherd
my people _____.

Application Question: Name some of
the shocking things about Herod's be-
havior in verses 1-13:

02

Write out Matthew 2:15

Application Question: This scripture quotes Hosea 11:1. According to the text, why was God's son in Egypt?

03

Write down one line or passage that strikes you the most from Matthew 2. What is it teaching you?

Application Question: This passage of 2:13-18 covers the genocide in Bethlehem. While there may have been less than a dozen babies murdered, this passage describes a type of evil rarely seen. What was Herod's motive in resorting to such evil?

John the Baptist & Jesus

Read Matthew 3



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Wilderness of Judea
- Jordan River

Approximate year:

- 24 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Isaiah 40:3 fulfilled in Matthew 3:3

Miracles Recorded:

- God's voice being heard from heaven confirming Christ's Sonship

Teachings:

- "You brood of vipers; who warned you of the wrath to come?"

Classic Bible Stories:

- Jesus is baptized

DEVOTION

The climax of the story which God has John the Baptist come ahead of Jesus to announce Him to the world. It was to be yet another sign from God that Jesus was indeed the Messiah. And, as is often the case with God's chosen, John was a bit of an outsider. He didn't wear fancy clothing or feast on choice cuisine. He wore whatever was available way out in the wilderness—in this case, animal skins with a leather belt tied around his waist. He ate bugs. He probably didn't have a very sociable personality given how fast he was to call the Pharisees and Sadducees "a brood of vipers." We mustn't feel that if we are a little different that God disapproves of us. He made you just the way you are to serve people just the way He wants. God is disappointed by mediocrity—not diversity.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 3:3

A voice of one calling in the

_____, prepare the
way of the _____, make
straight paths for him.

Application Question: Find Isaiah 40:3, from which this prophecy originally came. How do the two differ?

02

Write out Matthew 3:11

Application Question: What is surprising about John's description of Jesus? Why?

03

Write down one phrase or line that strikes you the most from Matthew 3:13-17.

Application Question: How do you apply the line you just chose to your own life?

Jesus is Tempted by Satan

Read Matthew 4



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Wilderness (unknown location in Israel)
- Galilee (Nazareth, Capernaum, etc.)

Approximate year:

- 24 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Isaiah 9:1-2 fulfilled in Matthew 4:15

Miracles Recorded:

- Many healed (4:23-25)

Classic Bible Stories:

- Christ's temptation in the wilderness

DEVOTION

Today's reading is what some bible teachers use to explain the concept of "to be tempted is not to sin." We are all tempted and can feel unnecessarily guilty about it. We have all been in the throes of choosing between right and wrong and, after some pain and anguish, decided to do the right thing. It is challenging, however, to think about our Lord and Savior going through this. But yes, Jesus actually did deliberate on whether it would be worthwhile to bow down to Satan and come into his fortune that way rather than serving the Father. Jesus actually did desire that bread which he could have made out of stones. It's likely his mouth watered. But he declined. For us, what's most important is that we don't chastise ourselves for being tempted. We are like Jesus in that sense and can also use his strength to answer well.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 4:13

Leaving _____, he went
and lived in _____,
which was by the lake in the area
of _____ and
_____.

Application Question: Very few people realized that Jesus actually lived in one city for a while—Capernaum--and may have even had his own dwelling place or apartment. If Jesus had lived in your neighborhood, would you have recognized him as special? Tell what you think would have happened.

02

Write out Matthew 4:23

Application Question: The verse lists three things that Jesus was doing in the area. Circle them. Which of those three things brought him the most attention, drawing large crowds from far and wide? Explain how Jesus' teaching ministry depended on his healing ministry.

03

Write down Jesus' three responses to Satan as told in verses 1 through 11.

Application Question: Reflect on a temptation that you have grappled with. Say which of Christ's temptations it had the most commonality with and why.

Sermon on the Mount

Read Matthew 5-7



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Mountainside, unknown but probably in Northern Israel.
Note: Tradition names the location as a large hill known as Karn Hattin, located near Capernaum along the Sea of Galilee. As Jesus spent much of His early ministry in these parts, the location makes sense. There is a modern church nearby called the Church of the Beatitudes, reflecting the local belief that the Sermon happened there.

Approximate year:

- 24 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- None

Miracles Recorded:

- None

Teachings:

- Sermon on the Mount

Classic Bible Stories:

- The chapters are a recording of Jesus' words during the Sermon on the Mount.

DEVOTION

One of Jesus' first teachings is the Sermon on the Mount. It is recorded in Matthew 5-7 as well as Luke 6. We are so accustomed to hearing quotes from this famous sermon that the words can seem mundane or repetitive. We may not be shocked by the phrase, "blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." The whole sermon was quite remarkable to the Jews who heard it, however. They had long felt that the Jewish religious leaders of the day were God's most holy people, and, spanning outwards, God cared less or little about those farthest from the priests. Jesus was telling them that God cared about them personally, and that not even the scribes and pharisees were good enough for heaven. So, believe in Jesus, let Him fill you with His spirit and love, and rejoice!

01

Fill in the blanks the Beatitudes in Matthew 5:3-10

1. Blessed are the _____ in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
2. Blessed are those who _____, for they will be comforted.
3. Blessed are the _____, for they will inherit the earth.
4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for _____, for they will be filled.
5. Blessed are the _____, for they will be shown mercy.
6. Blessed are the pure in _____, for they will see God.
7. Blessed are the _____, for they will be called children of God.
8. Blessed are those who are _____ because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Application Question: Which beatitude stands out as most personally applicable to you? Why?

02

Write out Matthew 6:34

Application Question: What is one thing you tend to worry about that you would like to stop worrying about? How does Matthew 6:25-34 help you?

03

Write down one phrase or line that stands out for you from Matthew 7.

Application Question: How do you apply the verse you picked to your personal life?



Introductory Day 1 Quiz:

This quiz reinforces the factual material given on Day 1

1. Which are the other two synoptic Gospels: _____ and _____
2. Matthew's other name: _____
3. Date the book was likely written: _____
4. Number of chapters: _____
5. Old Testament prophecy was quoted nearly _____ times in Matthew
 a. 30 b. 40 c. 50 d. 60
6. This Gospel tells which part of the Christmas story?
 a. Wise Men with King Herod b. Shepherds at the Nativity
7. Of the 23 parables included in Matthew, this many are singular to this Gospel:
 a. 9 b. 12 c. 16 d. 20
8. Of the 18 miracles mentioned, at least three are unique to this Gospel, including
 a. Healed two blind men b. Healed mute c. Pay temple tax with coin from fish
9. The details singular to Matthew about the Crucifixion and Resurrection include
 a. Simon carrying the cross b. suicide of Judas c. Mary Magdalene seeing the risen Lord first



Part 2: Application Questions

Use these Week in Review questions for personal growth, group discussion, or both. There are no right or wrong answers; just opportunities to further flesh out the passages of this week and share those insights if possible.

FROM DAY 2

Why would the Magi or Wise Men have felt incredibly naïve toward the end of their journey? Who were they being naïve about and why?

FROM DAY 3

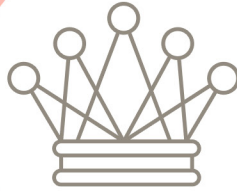
Read Malachi 4:5. This is a reference to Elijah the Prophet from 1 Kings 17-19 and 2 Kings 1-2. Based on this verse, a lot of religious leaders were imagining an Elijah lookalike or the ghost of Elijah to precede the Messiah. They did not recognize John as he. Today, there is also great talk about prophecy that could come to pass soon. What are some ways we can prevent ourselves from not recognizing the right signs and God's messages?

FROM DAY 4

Why do you think Jesus was "led by the Spirit" (verse 1) to be tempted? How does this fit with Jesus teaching the disciples to pray "lead me not into temptation?"

FROM DAY 5

Matthew's account of the Sermon on the Mount is three chapters long. What is your favorite part? What speaks to you the loudest and why?



MATTHEW

Matthew 8-15



WEEK 2

Jesus Heals Many; Calms a Storm

Read Matthew 8

CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Capernaum, Region of Gadarenes

Approximate year:

- 25 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Isaiah 53:4 fulfilled in Matthew 8:17

Miracles Recorded:

- Jesus heals leprosy
- the Centurion's servant
- Peter's mother-in-law is healed
- Jesus calms the storm
- Jesus restores two demon-possessed men

Teachings:

- The cost of following Christ

Classic Bible Stories:

- Jesus Calms the Storm

DEVOTION

The faithful centurion of this chapter is actually not Jewish, but a Roman Gentile. Hence, Jesus' response—that many subjects of the kingdom would be thrown into outer darkness—was His first opportunity to tell people that you no longer have to be Jewish to be saved. It won't help you to be any special person's children or grandchildren or to be living in one culture or another. We can thank God today that He alone calls us, and His is the only voice our hearts truly hear concerning salvation and coming into His kingdom.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 8:9

For I myself am a man under
 _____, with soldiers under
 me. I tell this one, '_____' and
 he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he
 _____. I say to my servant,
 '_____', and he does it.

Application Question: The centurion said he was not worthy for Jesus to come under his roof. Why do humble truths like this seem to sit well with God when we say them? Doesn't He want us to approach His throne freely and often?

02

Write out Matthew 8:20

Application Question: This line is great for summing up the ministry of Jesus, where He essentially had no home. Today, nearly all in the ministry have homes. What kind of sacrifices are we supposed to make so that others will believe they are seeing the love of Christ?

03

Write down one phrase or line that strikes you the most from Matthew 8:28-34.

Application Question: Astonishingly, the people ask Jesus to leave their region after all He had done. One issue was that the swine drowning was extremely costly. Just understanding human nature, why else may the people have wanted Him gone?

The Man Let Down through the Ceiling, etc.

Read Matthew 9 & 10



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Capernaum & surrounding towns and villages

Approximate year:

- 25 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Hosea 6:6 fulfilled in Matthew 9:13,
- Micah 7:6 fulfilled in Matthew 10:36

Miracles Recorded:

- Paralyzed Man Healed
- Girl Raised from the Dead
- Bleeding Woman Healed
- Two Blind Men Healed
- Demonic Cured

Teachings:

- It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick
- Why Jesus' disciples don't fast
- The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few
- Sheep among wolves
-

Classic Bible Stories:

- Jesus sends out the Twelve (chapter 10),
- Names of the disciples (chapter 10)

DEVOTION

The paralytic man let down through the ceiling is a favorite Bible story of many. Jesus is speaking in a house filled with so many people that the paralytic's friends could not fit his stretcher into the house. Instead, they climbed to the roof and lowered their friend down through a hole. Some are amused at how Jesus was not angry at the men. They were interrupting Him and probably dropping straw on His head! Instead, He made a stunning point: If people wanted to believe that He could heal diseases, they first had to believe that He could forgive sins. There really was no way to argue with either Jesus' point or His performance. It was a great day in the life of many, and not just the paralytic who walked home with his loyal friends.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 9:12

It is not the _____ who need a
doctor, but the _____.

Application Question: What are some
ways in your life you feel like you are
“sick” and need the spiritual doctor,
Jesus, to fix you?

02

Write out Matthew 10:16

Application Question: Name a time in your Christian life where you felt like a sheep
among wolves. How did God aid in your situation or deliver you?

03

Write down one phrase or line that strikes you the most from Matthew 10:17-42.

Application Question: Jesus hits on so many points in this session. Which ones
seemed to light up in your heart and why?

Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

Read Matthew 11 & 12



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Towns of Galilee: Chorazin, Bethsaida, Capernaum,

Approximate year:

- 26 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Isaiah 42:1-4 fulfilled in Matthew 11:18-21

Miracles Recorded:

- Man with shriveled hand healed
- Demonic healed

Teachings:

- A kingdom divided will not stand
- Only the sign of Jonah will be given

Classic Bible Stories:

- John the Baptist sends his disciples to ask again if Jesus is the one

DEVOTION

These two chapters are jam-packed with great material. You could almost pick any paragraph blindly and create a full journal or sermon from it. Let's look at 11:18-19, because we've likely all been put in this position. A friendly skeptic cuts on a Christian pastor, saying he has too much money. A few days later he's squawking about how much of the church budget that same pastor allocated to missions, instead of building maintenance. When no matter what you do, there's a skeptic to announce your alleged hypocrisy, remember that Jesus had His share also! Some are right here in this chapter.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 11:13-14

For all the Prophets and the Law
 prophesied until _____. And
 if you are willing to accept it, he is
 _____ who was to come.
 Whoever has ears, let them hear.

Application Question: The religious leaders of the day missed that John the Baptist was actually the “Elijah” prophesied by Malachi in the last verse of the last chapter. They were looking for someone who embraced them and spoke a truth that would be appealing to them. What are some ways to avoid falling into their deception?

02

Write out Matthew 11:25

Application Question: Some say that it’s easier to share Christ’s love with a prisoner in jail than a professor in college. Why do you think this could have some truth to it?

03

Write down one passage or line that strikes you the most from Matthew 12.

Application Question: Write how this passage or line relates to something in your own life.

Parable of the Sower & Other Parables

Read Matthew 13



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Unnamed Lake by Capernaum, Nazareth

Approximate year:

- 25 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Isaiah 6:9-10 fulfilled in Matthew 13:15
- Psalm 78:2 fulfilled in Matthew 13:35

Miracles Recorded:

- Parable of the Sower
- Parable of the Weeds
- Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast
- Parable of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl
- Parable of the Net

Teachings:

- A prophet is without honor in his hometown

Classic Bible Stories:

- Parable of the Sower

DEVOTION

Included in today's readings is the Parable of the Weeds. This is a great passage to quote people who think, "there are so many Christian hypocrites, and therefore that faith is untrue." What we really have a lot of are called wolves in sheep's clothing, or, according to today's reading, "weeds in the wheat." Other religions only rarely attract a wolf in sheep's clothing. That's because they are not trying to define goodness, nor instructing others in how to achieve it. The devil is always on a desperate hunt for ways to make people, especially Christians, look worse. The Parable of the Weeds teaches us that God has a policy of not removing weeds for fear of destroying some wheat. We will reside next to and among awful people until we die. Next time someone glibly points out Christian hypocrites, shrug and say, "wolf in sheep's clothing" or "weeds in the wheat." Point them to this chapter.

01

Write down one phrase or line that strikes you the most from Matthew 13:1-23, the Parable of the Sower.

Application Question: What does this line or passage have to do with your personal life? How can it help you?

02

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 13:30

Let both grow together until the _____. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the _____ and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the _____ and bring it into my barn.

Application Question: Have you or any of your loved ones claimed to have been a victim of a wolf in sheep's clothing or a weed among the wheat? What happened?

03

Write out Matthew 13:44-45.

Application Question: Christians saved during the Jesus Movement (late 1960s – late 1980s) read verses 44 and 45 and raised the rhetorical question, “When, o when did we lose sight of the fact that this salvation was supposed to cost us everything?” How does this question relate to the scripture verses? What attitude of today do you think it is trying to combat?

Who Jesus Is; No Signs Given

Read Matthew 14 & 15



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Unnamed solitary place,
- Tyre & Sidon
- Sea of Galilee
- Magadan

Approximate year:

- 25 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Isaiah 29:13 fulfilled in Matthew 15:8-9

Miracles Recorded:

- Jesus walks on water
- Jesus feeds two multitudes of 4,000 and 5,000

Teachings:

- Hypocrites break God's commands for the sake of tradition

Classic Bible Stories:

- John the Baptist beheaded
- Jesus feeds the 5,000
- Jesus walks on water and asks Peter to come out to Him
- Jesus feeds the 4,000
- Faith of the gentile (Canaanite) woman

DEVOTION

We'd all probably like to ask Jesus for a sign that He is present and listening to us. One Christian woman prayed, "Lord, please show me something red out the window if you want me to buy some extra groceries for our sick neighbor." She felt led to help the sick neighbor, but money was tight. It was the dead of winter, and no red blooms were in sight. An orange tricycle sat on a neighbor's sidewalk. But is orange actually red? The woman wondered about how much time she should let pass—ten minutes, two hours, or two days? She thought, "If I stood here looking out this window for four hours, I would surely see a red cardinal at some point. So why don't I just go with the assumption that one will pass by, and I'll just go buy the groceries?" God likely has many reasons for not giving signs. One is that we could drive ourselves crazy deciding what a sign actually is.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 15:8-9

'These people honor me with their

_____,

but their _____ are far from me.

9 They worship me in _____;

their teachings are merely

human_____.'

Application Question: Some people can go to church regularly for years but not be saved. How does this fact relate to the statement above?

02

Write out Matthew 14:29-30

Application Question: Jesus expected that Peter's faith should be strong—and ours as well. What is something in your life for which you need greater faith? Ask God to increase your faith.

03

Write down one phrase or passage that strikes you the most from Matthew 15:10-39

Application Question: How does this passage reflect on your life? What can it help you change?



Part 1: Application Questions

Use these Week in Review questions for personal growth, group discussion, or both. There are no right or wrong answers; just opportunities to further flesh out the passages of this week and share those insights if possible.

FROM DAY 1

When Jesus calmed the storm in Matthew 8:23-27, He rebuked the disciples. Was it because they didn't feel they could calm the weather themselves, or was it because they still feared death after hearing all Jesus was teaching about the Kingdom of Heaven being their inheritance?

FROM DAY 2

The friends of the paralytic man were not afraid to interrupt Jesus in order to help him. How do their actions increase the power in your prayers and your confidence while speaking to God?

FROM DAY 3

It's generally easier to see the sins of others than it is to see our own. This was the problem with the religious leaders of Jesus' day—they started with the premise that they themselves were good. How can we use humility to keep our paths straight?

FROM DAY 4

Think of someone who has trumpeted to you about too many Christians being hypocrites. Write out a response for them and others that has to do with wolves in sheep's clothing or weeds among the wheat.

FROM DAY 5

If you were to ask Jesus for a sign, what would it be? What might He say to you so that you don't feel like you need that sign?



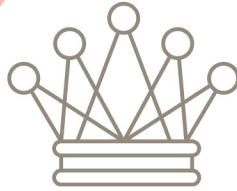
Part 2: Locating Important Scriptures

Fill in this part at the end of the week. As one of the most helpful parts of the study, the location of important texts will be reinforced so that you can look them up easily whenever needed for further study, or helpfully point out their location during a discussion. Try to retain the positions of the most important part of the work studied so far. This contains the most important scriptures from Week 1 as well as Week 2. Repetition is great for the mind!

Chapter(s)

Event

_____	Genealogy: the legal bloodline of Jesus
_____	The Magi or Wise Men visit Jesus
_____	The Beatitudes
_____	The Sermon on the Mount
_____	Jesus calms the storm
_____	"I'm sending you out as sheep among wolves"
_____	Parable of the Sower
_____	Jesus walks on water
_____	John the Baptist is beheaded



MATTHEW

Matthew 16-22



WEEK 3

Parables, Transfiguration, Predicting Death

Read Matthew 16 & 17

CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Magadan
- Caesarea Philippi
- Galilee, unnamed high mountain
- Capernaum

Approximate year:

- 26 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- None

Miracles Recorded:

- Transfiguration
- Heals a demon-possessed boy

Teachings:

- Whoever wishes to come after me
- The Temple tax

Classic Bible Stories:

- Transfiguration

DEVOTION

Stories like the Transfiguration are now around 2,000 years old. The stories Jesus told about Moses and Daniel were about between 1,500 and 700 years old when Jesus told them. He expected people to believe him. It doesn't matter how old a story is. If God spoke the truth 4,000 years ago, the words are still true. Jesus wants us to believe the trail of great stories, records and miracles he left for us in his word. He wants us to understand that these speak his truth. He shouldn't have to repeat miracles for each generation, and, he has never resorted to showoff behavior. Fall in love with the Bible history and don't let any hard-hearted skeptic steal it from you.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 16:18

And I tell you that you are

_____, and on this rock I will

build my _____, and the gates

of _____ will not overcome it.

Application Question: With the phrase “and the gates of hell/hades will not overcome it,” Jesus is actually predicting that the church would go through some serious torment from the forces of darkness. What are some of these serious issues the church at large has faced?

02

Write out Matthew 16:24-27

Application Question: Some Christians believe that because salvation is a free gift from God that God doesn't really expect anything from His own children. How would someone like that read the passage above?

03

Write down one phrase or passage that strikes you the most from Matthew 17.

Application Question: What does the phrase or passage you wrote down have to do with your life at present?

Children, Parables, Teachings

Read Matthew 18 & 19



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Galilee, Judea near the Jordan (east side)

Approximate year:

- 26 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- None

Miracles Recorded:

- None

Teachings:

- Parable of the wandering sheep
- Parable of the unmerciful servant
- Divorce
- Do not cause children to stumble

Classic Bible Stories:

- Little children see Jesus
- The rich man refuses to leave his wealth and follow Jesus

DEVOTION

As we work our way through the words of Christ in the Gospels, we can begin to see a pattern. People often ask Jesus a question having to do with making themselves feel important. Jesus answers the question by telling the onlookers to seek more humility. Not much has changed. Today, we tend to worship schooling, which has the ability to make us rich and powerful if we take it seriously. Jesus' answers to the masses still apply today: things like don't seek riches and power, seek to be like little children. We read these words of Christ, yet still envision our children belonging to the best country clubs and receiving admission to the top schools. We're getting it wrong. It would probably do us a great deal of good to wake up every morning asking God, "please help me become more and more humble."

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 19:24

Again I tell you, it is easier for a
 _____ to go through the eye of
 a _____ than for someone who
 is _____ to enter the kingdom
 of God.

Application Question: “It isn’t wrong for Christians to be rich; it is wrong for followers of Christ to focus on becoming rich.” –Anonymous. Find your own words for this statement or, if you disagree with it, argue it.

02

Write out Matthew 18:21-22

Application Question: Forgiving and forgetting are NOT the same thing. What are some differences?

03

Write down one phrase or line that strikes you the most from the Parable of the Lost Sheep in Matthew 18:12-14.

Application Question: We can “wander off” like sheep when we are still regularly attending church and Sunday school. How does this happen? What are some of the circumstances where you could find yourself backsliding or getting lost?

Teachings

Read Matthew 20



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Road to Jerusalem
- Jericho

Approximate year:

- 26 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- None

Miracles Recorded:

- 2 blind men receive their sight

Teachings:

- Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard

Classic Bible Stories:

- James and John's mother asks that her sons be seated on the left and right of Jesus

DEVOTION

The first story in this chapter is of vineyard workers all receiving the same wage in spite of working vastly different hours. It is very like a much more famous story, The Prodigal Son, where the father wants to give his good and wayward sons exactly the same rewards. These stories help us to understand that salvation is a free gift from God. However, some believe that your willingness to serve God throughout life will make a difference up in heaven—the things you do down here decide your rewards or inheritance up there. In the story of the prodigal son, the father was thrilled to see his wayward son returning. However, the young man's inheritance had been blown, and there is no talk about giving him a second inheritance. While accepting salvation as a free gift, like the love of the prodigal son's father, let's work hard to show God how grateful we are, how devoted to him we are, and how desiring we are to be working for the kingdom. Our lives won't be perfect, but they will be rewarding and fulfilling often.

01

Write down one phrase or line that strikes you the most from verses 1-16.

Application Question: The situation of payment to the workers sounds unfair. Why is it okay for God to let some people into the kingdom of heaven who made deathbed confessions, while others tried hard to resist temptation and embrace humility their whole lives?

02

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 20:25-27

Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the _____ lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. 26 Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your _____, 27 and whoever wants to be first must be your _____."

Application Question: Name some areas of your life where you can see that practicing humility might get you further rewards, whereas acting with pride and power could cost you:

03

Write out Matthew 20:30

Application Question: The first thing these men will see in their lives is the face of Jesus. In what other ways are they more fortunate than those who have no experience with Jesus?

Palm Sunday

Read Matthew 21



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Bethpage on the Mount of Olives
- Jerusalem

Approximate year:

- 26 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Zechariah 9:9 fulfilled in Matthew 21:5
- Psalm 118:25-26 fulfilled in Matthew 21:9
- Isaiah 56:7 fulfilled in Matthew 21:13
- Jeremiah 7:11 fulfilled in Matthew 21:13
- Psalm 8:2 (Septuagint) fulfilled in Matthew 21:16
- Psalm 118:22-23, Matthew 21:42

Miracles Recorded:

- Cursing of the Fig Tree

Teachings:

- Parable of the two sons, Parable of the tenants

Classic Bible Stories:

- Palm Sunday
- Jesus' Authority Questioned by the Religious Leaders

DEVOTION

Why do so many Christians clearly experience “no” as the answer to prayer, when Jesus clearly promised that people working for the kingdom would hear “yes” to seemingly impossible requests? Is it that they don’t have enough faith? Did God not make this promise to them? The answer to both questions is, in a way, yes. It’s hard to acquire a lot of faith when something is not God’s will, and people who ask often haven’t assessed the situation correctly. They believe in Jesus but they haven’t given their lives to Him for the Kingdom’s sake. This promise was for the Kingdom’s workers, who have given their lives. People who plan to live like the disciples, putting nothing before Christ and the gospel, are the ones who can experience the assured “yes” answers.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 21:5

"Say to Daughter _____,
 'See, your king comes to you,
 gentle and riding on a _____,
 and on a colt, the _____ of a
 donkey.'"

Application Question: The above prophecy is from Zechariah 9:9, written just over 500 years earlier. What other verses in this particular story (v. 1-17) let you know that prophecy is being fulfilled?

02

Write out Matthew 21:21

Application Question: As stated in the devotion, Jesus spoke these famous words to His disciples, who had already committed themselves to Jesus, who had already sacrificed successful businesses and being able to give their children a normal upbringing. Why doesn't this promise always work for people today who ask God for things?

03

Write down one phrase or line that stands out to you the most from Matthew 21:28-46

Application Question: How does this passage relate to your life at present?

Final Teachings Before Jesus' Arrest

Read Matthew 22



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Jerusalem

Approximate year:

- 26 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Prophecies were mentioned by Jesus four times but for the purpose of teaching, not fulfillment. They include Exodus 3:6, Deuteronomy 6:5, Leviticus 19:18, and Psalm 110:1.

Miracles Recorded:

- None

Teachings:

- Parable of the Wedding Banquet
- "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's"
- No marriages in heaven
- The greatest commandment in the law

Classic Bible Stories:

- None

DEVOTION

Jesus knew His crucifixion was drawing near. And yet, He taught more and probably more intensely than at any other time in His ministry. Obviously, any fear of pain, suffering or death did not cause Him to skip a beat. Someday we might find we have an incurable illness and only a certain amount of time to live. What can we do to be like Christ was on Tuesday of Holy Week? Perhaps if we plan it out now, we will remember if the time comes and have encouraged ourselves to be strong and courageous like Christ Himself.

01

Write down one phrase or line that strikes you the most from Matthew 22:1-14.

Application Question: How does the line or phrase you chose apply to your life at present?

02

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 22:21

“Caesar’s,” they replied. Then he said
to them, “So give back to _____
what is _____, and to
_____ what is _____.”

Application Question: How can we obey God and our civic leaders? Do you think these are mutually exclusive? Why or why not?

03

Write out Matthew 22:37-40

Application Question: How does Jesus’ answer to this question help you understand the reason for the Law in the Old Testament?



Part 1: Application Questions

Use these Week in Review questions for personal growth, group discussion, or both. There are no right or wrong answers; just opportunities to further flesh out the passages of this week and share those insights if possible.

FROM DAY 1

Express to God that you believe His Word is true and that His Word is given to us in the Bible. Express to Him your favorite Bible miracle and why.

FROM DAY 2

Write down some temptations that may have caused you to “wander off” from Christ for a while. If this has never happened to you, it has likely happened to a friend or relative. This is known as “backsliding” and generally happens to Christians at some point in their lives.

FROM DAY 3

“Some of your rewards in heaven—your inheritance—will be determined by your actions here, even though salvation itself is free.” Either defend or argue this statement.

FROM DAY 4

Assess your life and the work you are currently doing for Christ. Are you one of the people coming close to hearing “yes” to all the answers to your prayers? What do you refuse to ask God for that a more selfish person or immature Christian would likely ask for?

FROM DAY 5

Pretend for a minute you are hearing a doctor say you likely will only live another six months. What would you say in response? How would you spend that time?



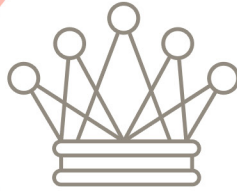
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Chapter(s)

Event

_____	Genealogy: the legal bloodline of Jesus
_____	The Magi or Wise Men Visit Jesus
_____	The Beatitudes
_____	The Sermon on the Mount
_____	Jesus calms the storm
_____	"I'm sending you out as sheep among wolves"
_____	Parable of the Sower
_____	Jesus walks on Water
_____	John the Baptist is beheaded
_____	Transfiguration
_____	Palm Sunday



MATTHEW

Matthew 23-28



WEEK 4

Woe Unto You, Jerusalem

Read Matthew 23

CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Jerusalem

Approximate year:

- 26 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Psalm 118:26 fulfilled in Matthew 23:39

Miracles Recorded:

- None

Teachings:

- 7 Woes to Religious Leadership

Classic Bible Stories:

- Woe unto you, Scribes, Pharisees

DEVOTION

The seven woes to the scribes and Pharisees can be hard to read. You become aware you are looking at your own guilt as well as that of these master manipulators. Whatever the scribes and the pharisees did, we know we are capable of it. We know we have our own versions of their guilt. We want to shut our eyes and embrace a belief that we are better. It is better to forget that and keep moving to a place of repentance and humility. If Jesus can go to the cross for us, we can go to Him for growth and forgiveness.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 23:5-6

Everything they do is done for people to see: They make their _____ wide and the tassels on their garments long; they love the place of honor at banquets and the most important seats in the _____.

Application Question: What are some of the things in our culture that people love as much as the scribes and Pharisees loved their places of honor? How can we sidestep the trouble that comes with “keeping up with the Joneses?”

02

Write out Matthew 23:37

Application Question: God implies here that He is always willing to gather us in times of sorrow but we make it impossible. What are some of the things we do that make it impossible for God to cleanse and keep us protected?

03

Write down one phrase or line that strikes you the most from the Seven Woes on the Teachers of the Law and the Pharisees, Matthew 23:13-36.

Application Question: Take the one of the seven woes that speaks to you the loudest and write out some examples of what it looks like today. The setting and circumstances might be different but show how the actions are similar.

Destruction of the Temple; End Times Prophecy

Read Matthew 24



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Mount of Olives

Approximate year:

- 26 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- None; however multiple prophecies are discussed as coming in the End of Days.
 1. Daniel 7:13-14, 9:27, 11:31, 12:11
 2. Isaiah 13:10 and 34:4

Miracles Recorded:

- None

Teachings:

- What the End of Days will be like

Classic Bible Stories:

- None

DEVOTION

Matthew 24 is a particularly enjoyable read if we read the clues and anticipate Jesus' return. Jesus doesn't want us to be worried about pain and suffering, because God has long brought people through trauma. But rather we should be transfixed by the idea that world history might close the final chapter sooner than most think. The only counterargument remaining is, "People have always thought the end was coming. What makes us think we're so special?" The argument implies that nobody is special enough to witness the end of time, which is nonsensical. It also implies some witnesses at some time will be in attendance, or Christ would not have bothered mentioning it.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 24:15-16

15 “So when you see standing in the holy place ‘the _____ that causes _____,’ spoken of through the prophet Daniel—let the reader understand— 16 then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

Application Question: Jesus says at the end of this verse for “the reader” to understand. This is evident in multiple translations. And yet, He is just sitting there talking to His disciples. Who is He expecting will read this warning?

02

Write out Matthew 24:21

Application Question: What are some things we can imagine that will be part of the “great, unequalled distress?” How does this verse and verses 22-25 imply that Jesus was not talking about the next destruction of the Temple, which took place in 70 AD? What information implies that this event is still in the future?

03

Write down one phrase or line that strikes you the most from the parable of the faithful and wise servant, Matthew 24:45-51.

Application Question: How do those words speak of your life or your circumstances today?

Ten Virgins, SheEp & Goats

Read Matthew 25



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Mount of Olives

Approximate year:

- 26 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- None

Miracles Recorded:

- None

Teachings:

- 3 Parables: The Ten Virgins, bags of God, Sheep & the Goats

Classic Bible Stories:

- Parable of the Ten Virgins

DEVOTION

In the parable of the Ten Virgins, what does the lamp oil symbolize? The virgins are afraid of not having enough, and the bridegroom returns before they have time to buy any. The virgins who did not prepare for the arrival were late, were not allowed in, and were told the bridegroom didn't know them. Is the lamp oil a symbol for faith? For understanding? For good works? Many theories have been written on what the lamp oil symbolizes. The message is to live each day as if it could be your last. Everyone dies, though no one knows their exact time. This is a hundred times more important than understanding the End Times of human history, which will affect only a small portion of the entire population of history. Jesus says be ready for Him!

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 25:13

Therefore keep _____, for you
 don't know the _____ or
 the _____.

Application Question: Let's say you had some way of knowing that Jesus would return shortly. What areas of your life would you like to work on to feel prepared to see our Savior?

02

Write out Matthew 25:29

Application Question: Use the passage leading up to Matthew 25:29 (verses 14-28), to make sense of the verse.

03

Write down one phrase or line that strikes you the most from the parable of the Sheep and the Goats, Matthew 25:31-46.

Application Question: As this is the last bit of Jesus' teaching before His arrest, it is into the thick of what Jesus considered very important. What in this parable strikes you as valuable to your life today? What can you do to make sure you don't get sidetracked and forget?

Last Supper, Arrest, Early Trial

Read Matthew 26



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Bethany,
- Jerusalem
- Gethsemane Garden

Approximate year:

- Passover 26 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Zechariah 13:7 fulfilled in Matthew 26:31
- Matthew 23:64 alludes to two prophecies about the End of Days: Psalm 110:1 and Daniel 7:13

Miracles Recorded:

- Prediction of Peter's three denials comes true

Teachings:

- None

Classic Bible Stories:

- Judas agrees to betray Jesus
- Last Supper
- The Arrest of Jesus

DEVOTION

Matthew 26 is one of the most action-packed chapters in the Bible, taking us from before the Last Supper, through the arrest and early parts of Jesus' trial. It is not a chapter upon which many people sit and reflect. Things happen so quickly, the most likely reaction is just to follow along as the crucifixion unfolds. However, pause to see the story from different angles. Look at the sins being committed and by whom. While Jesus' actions and words are gold, just about everyone else is making enormous mistakes. To get an even bigger understanding of the impact of the Christ's forgiveness and death on the cross, make a list of those mistakes and how many people each would affect.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 26:11-13

The _____ you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for _____. Truly I tell you, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the _____ what she has done will also be told, in _____ of her.

Application Question: If this woman's actions would be remembered by all on earth including us, then the little things we do daily will be remembered in heaven. What are some things we can do daily to be one in spirit with this woman?

02

Write out Matthew 26:28-29

Application Question: Reflect on verse 29, which is not as well-known as verse 28. Give your opinion of what it means, or seek it out in a good online commentary and state whether you agree with the author.

03

Write down one phrase or line that strikes you the most from the early trial, Matthew 26:57-75.

Application Question: Have you ever felt afraid or ashamed of your faith while in a crowd of nonbelievers? How can we keep from having a moment like Peter's?

Crucifixion & Resurrection

Read Matthew 27 & 28



CHAPTER FACTS

Setting:

- Jerusalem

Approximate year:

- 26 AD

OT Prophecies Fulfilled:

- Zechariah 11:12-13 fulfilled in Matthew 27:10
- Psalm 22:1 fulfilled in Matthew 27:46

Miracles Recorded:

- Temple curtain torn in two
- Earthquake opens tombs; people begin to see bodies of holy people who had died being raised
- The Resurrection

Teachings:

- None

Classic Bible Stories:

- Crucifixion & Resurrection

DEVOTION

The climax of the story which God has been writing since Genesis culminates right here, in these two chapters. Most Christians are aware that the Bible is made up of 66 books completed by at least 40 writers. However, professional and experienced writers will tell you that it can still be seen as ONE story—with many subplots, characters, and twists. It is God's inspired story of His love for mankind and how mankind keeps proving itself unworthy. God keeps forgiving and finally sent His Son to show us the ultimate love. We keep messing up; God keeps cleaning up, all the while showing compassion and mercy and justice.

01

Fill in the blanks of Matthew 26:45-46

⁴⁵ From noon until _____ in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eli, Eli, _____?" (which means "My God, my God, _____?").

Application Question: Verses 51-53 are lesser known facts about the crucifixion. Which of the miracles mentioned seems most special to you and why?

02

Write out Matthew 28:5-7

Application Question: Why do you think Jesus appeared to the women before His own disciples?

03

Write down one phrase or line that strikes you the most from Matthew 28, the Resurrection:

Application Question: Why does your chosen phrase or line resonate with you? What is it telling you?



Part 1: Application Questions

Use these Week in Review questions for personal growth, group discussion, or both. There are no right or wrong answers; just opportunities to further flesh out the passages of this week and share those insights if possible.

FROM DAY 1

We can often be governed by appearances if we let ourselves. For example, we can find ourselves attracted to outward appearances instead of a godly heart. It is very hard to see the insides of people—such takes time and patience. When you “look inside” for something in a friend, potential partner, business partner, etc., what traits would you like to see?

FROM DAY 2

Jesus' second coming is factual, according to all that He said in and around chapter 24. How can we keep away from the erroneous thinking that it will never happen, because it hasn't happened in 2,000 years?

FROM DAY 3

: In the Parable of the Ten Virgins, what do you believe the lamp oil symbolizes and why? What does the knowledge inspire you to do in your own spiritual life?

FROM DAY 4

The devotion this day asked you to look at the sins being committed and by whom in this part of the story. Which ones are most jaw-dropping or horrific? Why?

FROM DAY 5

On Saturday, the religious leaders went to Pilate and asked for extra guards on Sunday, saying that Jesus' disciples planned on stealing the body. When He was resurrected, the religious leaders planted that very rumor, that His body had been stolen. Yet today, we rarely hear skeptics say that the Resurrection is a sham. Skeptics are generally respectful, and if asked if they believe in the Resurrection or not, they will say they don't know. In your opinion, why are people more respectful in the present than they were at the time of Christ's death and resurrection?



Part 2: Locating Important Scriptures

Fill in this part at the end of the week. As one of the most helpful parts of the study, the location of important texts will be reinforced so that you can look them up easily for further study or helpfully point out their location during a discussion. Try to retain the positions of the most important part of the work studied so far. This contains the most important scriptures from previous weeks also. Repetition is great for the mind!

Chapter(s)	Event
_____	Genealogy: the legal bloodline of Jesus
_____	The Magi or Wise Men Visit Jesus
_____	The Beatitudes
_____	The Sermon on the Mount
_____	Jesus calms the storm
_____	"I'm sending you out as sheep among wolves"
_____	Parable of the Sower
_____	Jesus walks on water
_____	John the Baptist is beheaded
_____	Transfiguration
_____	Palm Sunday
_____	Parable of the Ten Virgins
_____	Jesus' Arrest
_____	Last Supper
_____	Crucifixion
_____	Resurrection
_____	Great Commission

ANSWER KEY



Week 1, Day 2: Bethlehem, ruler or governor, Israel

Week 1, Day 3: wilderness, Lord

Week 1, Day 4: spirit, truth

Week 1, Day 5: 1. Poor, 2. Mourn, 3. Meek, 4. Righteousness, 5. Merciful, 6. Heart, 7. Peacemakers, 8. Persecuted

Week 1 in Review, Introductory Day 1 Quiz

1. Mark and Luke
 2. Levi
 3. 60-65 AD
 4. 28
 5. 50
 6. Wise Men
 7. 16
 8. Peter walking on the sea
 9. Suicide of Judas
-

Week 2, Day 1: Authority, go, come, do this

Week 2, Day 2: healthy or whole, sick

Week 2, Day 3: John, Elijah

Week 2, Day 4: harvest, weeds, wheat

Week 2, Day 5: lips, hearts, vain, rules

Answer Key for Week 2 Part 2:

- 01 / Genealogy: the legal bloodline of Jesus
- 02 / The Magi or Wise Men Visit Jesus
- 05 / The Beatitudes
- 05-07 / The Sermon on the Mount
- 09 / Jesus calms the storm
- 10 / "I'm sending you out as sheep among wolves"
- 13 / Parable of the Sower
- 14 / Jesus walks on water
- 14 / John the Baptist is beheaded

Week 3, Day 1: Peter, church, Hades or hell

Week 3, Day 2: camel, needle, rich

Week 3, Day 3: Gentiles, servant, slave

Week 3, Day 4: Zion, donkey, foal

Week 3, Day 5: Caesar, Caesar's, God, God's

Answer Key for Week 3 Part 2:

- 01 / Genealogy: the legal bloodline of Jesus
- 02 / The Magi or Wise Men Visit Jesus
- 05 / The Beatitudes
- 05-07 / The Sermon on the Mount
- 09 / Jesus calms the storm
- 10 / "I'm sending you out as sheep among wolves"
- 13 / Parable of the Sower
- 14 / Jesus walks on Water
- 14 / John the Baptist is beheaded
- 17 / Transfiguration
- 21 / Palm Sunday

ANSWER KEY



Week 4, Day 1: phylacteries, synagogues

Week 4, Day 2: Abomination, Desolation

Week 4, Day 3: watch, day, hour

Week 4, Day 4: poor, burial, world, memory or memorial

Week 4, Day 5: three, lema sabachthani, why have you forsaken me

Week 1 in Review, Introductory Day 1 Quiz

01 / Genealogy: the legal bloodline of Jesus

02 / The Magi or Wise Men Visit Jesus

05 / The Beatitudes

05-07 / The Sermon on the Mount

09 / Jesus calms the storm

10 / "I'm sending you out as sheep among wolves"

13 / Parable of the Sower

14 / Jesus walks on water

14 / John the Baptist is beheaded

17 / Transfiguration

21 / Palm Sunday

25 / Parable of the Ten Virgins

26 / Jesus' Arrest

26 / Last Supper

27 / Crucifixion

27 / Great Commission

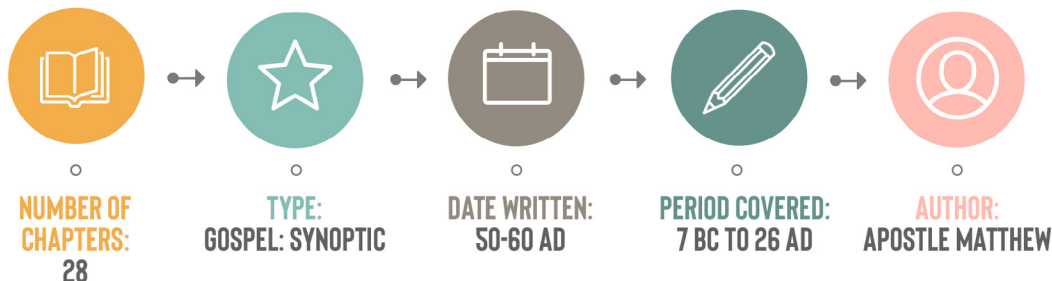
27 / Resurrection

MATTHEW | 01 NT



Matthew, also known as Levi, was one of Jesus' disciples. He was a tax collector who was so joyful when Jesus showed him attention that he signed on quickly to full-time duty. Matthew was writing to Jews as opposed to Gentiles, which is why his gospel often quotes the Old Testament to show how prophecies were fulfilled. The other gospels don't do that.

The book contains a genealogy of Jesus that dates back to Abraham, showing that many Old Testament prophecies about this bloodline came true in his birth. Other passages it is famous for include the Christmas story of the Magi (Wise Men) and the Great Commission.



BREAKDOWNS

● = Classic Bible Stories

✓ BOOK/CHAPTER/VERSES SUBJECT

☐ Matthew 1:1-17	The Legal Genealogy of Jesus
☐ Matthew 1:18-25	Christmas: Joseph's Dream of Mary
☐ Matthew 2:1-12	Christmas: The Magi
☐ Matthew 2:13-15	Christmas: Flight to Egypt
☐ Matthew 2:16-23	Christmas: Bethlehem Genocide & Egypt
☐ Matthew 3:1-12	Ministry of John the Baptist
☐ Matthew 3:13-17	Baptism of Jesus
☐ Matthew 4:1-11	Three Temptations of Christ
☐ Matthew 4:12-17	Jesus Starts his Ministry
☐ Matthew 4:18-22	First Disciples: Peter, Andrew, James, John
☐ Matthew 4:23-25	Outline of Ministry in Galilee
☐ Matthew 5:1-12	Sermon on Mount (SOM): Beatitudes
☐ Matthew 5:13-20	SOM: Salt of the earth; light of the world
☐ Matthew 5:21-48	SOM: Forgiveness, Adultery, Murder, Love, Prayer
☐ Matthew 6:1-15	SOM: Giving and the Lord's Prayer
☐ Matthew 6:16-24	SOM: Treasures in Heaven, Money
☐ Matthew 6:25-34	SOM: Anxiety, Seek First the Kingdom
☐ Matthew 7:1-6	SOM: Do Not Judge
☐ Matthew 7:7-12	SOM: Ask, Knock, Seek, Find; Golden Rule
☐ Matthew 7:13-14	SOM: Enter through the Narrow Gate
☐ Matthew 7:15-23	SOM: You will know them by their fruit
☐ Matthew 7:24-29	SOM: House on the Rock and Sand
☐ Matthew 8:1-13	Healings: Leper and Centurion's Servant
☐ Matthew 8:14-17	Healings: Peter's Mother, Many Others
☐ Matthew 8:18-22	Teaching: Let the Dead Bury their Dead
☐ Matthew 8:23-27	Miracle: Jesus Calms the Storm
☐ Matthew 8:28-34	Miracle: Legion of Demons Enters Pigs
☐ Matthew 9:1-8	Miracle: Jesus Heals the Paralytic
☐ Matthew 9:9-13	Calling of Matthew
☐ Matthew 9:14-17	Parable: Old and New Wineskins
☐ Matthew 9:18-6	Miracles: Miscellaneous Healings
☐ Matthew 10:1-15	12 Disciples Named; Instructions to Them
☐ Matthew 10:16-23	Disciples are Sheep Among Wolves
☐ Matthew 10:24-39	Teaching: Do Not Fear Those Who Kill the Body
☐ Matthew 10:40-42	Rewards for all Good Works
☐ Matthew 11:1-6	Go Tell John What You Hear and See
☐ Matthew 11:7-19	Jesus' Tribute to John
☐ Matthew 11:20-24	Woe to You (Unrepentant Cities)
☐ Matthew 11:25-30	Come to Me, All Who are Weary
☐ Matthew 12:1-7	Disciples Pick Grain on the Sabbath
☐ Matthew 12:8-21	Miracle: Withered Hand in the Synagogue

✓ BOOK/CHAPTER/VERSES SUBJECT

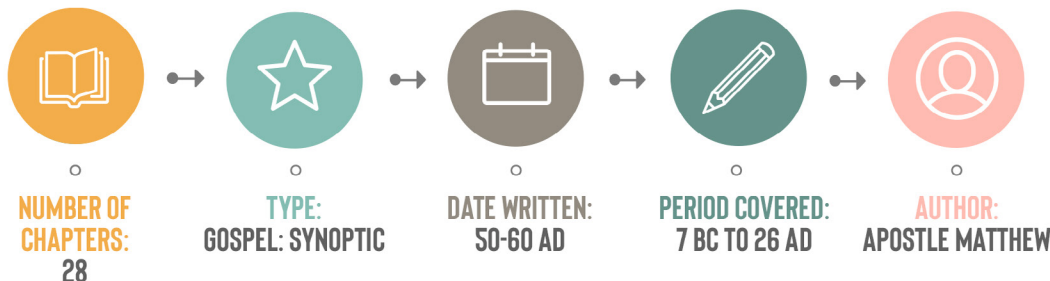
☐ Matthew 12:21-29	Miracle: He Casts Out Demons by Beelzebul
☐ Matthew 12:30-32	The Unpardonable Sin
☐ Matthew 12:33-37	Jesus Calls the Pharisees a Brood of Vipers
☐ Matthew 12:38-45	A Desire for Signs is Evil
☐ Matthew 12:46-50	My Brothers and Sisters Do God's Will
☐ Matthew 13:1-23	Parable: Sower and Seeds
☐ Matthew 13:24-30	Parable: Wheat and Tares
☐ Matthew 13:31-35	Parables: Mustard Seed and Leaven
☐ Matthew 13:36-43	Tares at the End of Time
☐ Matthew 13:44-52	Parables: Treasure, Pearl, Dragnet
☐ Matthew 13:53-58	Jesus Visits Nazareth
☐ Matthew 14:1-12	Beheading of John the Baptist
☐ Matthew 14:13-21	Miracle: Feeding the 5,000
☐ Matthew 14:22-36	Miracle: Jesus and Peter Walk on Water
☐ Matthew 15:1-20	Jesus Describes the Pharisees and the Law
☐ Matthew 15:21-28	Miracle: Canaanite Woman's Faith
☐ Matthew 15:29-31	Miracles: Miscellaneous Healings
☐ Matthew 15:32-39	Miracle: Feeding the 4,000
☐ Matthew 16:1-12	Beware of the Scribes and Pharisees
☐ Matthew 16:13-20	Peter Confesses Jesus as Messiah
☐ Matthew 16:21-23	Get Behind me Satan!
☐ Matthew 16:24-28	Take up Your Cross Daily and Follow
☐ Matthew 17:1-13	The Transfiguration
☐ Matthew 17:14-23	Disciples Can't Drive a Demon Out
☐ Matthew 17:24-27	Jesus Takes Tax from Fish's Mouth
☐ Matthew 18:1-6	Who Ranks Highest in the Kingdom
☐ Matthew 18:7-11	If Your Hand Makes You Stumble...
☐ Matthew 18:12-14	Parable: Lost Sheep
☐ Matthew 18:15-20	Take Two Witnesses; Where Two are Gathered
☐ Matthew 18:21-35	Parable: Ungrateful Servant
☐ Matthew 19:1-12	Teaching: Divorce/Remarriage
☐ Matthew 19:13-15	Jesus Blesses the Children
☐ Matthew 19:16-26	Easier to Thread a Needle With a Camel
☐ Matthew 19:27-30	The First will be Last; The Last First
☐ Matthew 20:1-16	Parable: Laborers in the Vineyard
☐ Matthew 20:17-19	Jesus Foretells his Death and Resurrection
☐ Matthew 20:20-28	Whoever Is First Will be a Slave
☐ Matthew 20:29-34	Healing: Two Blind Men
☐ Matthew 21:1-11	Triumphal Entry: Palm Sunday Story
☐ Matthew 21:12-17	Jesus Cleanses the Temple
☐ Matthew 21:18-22	Miracle: Jesus Curses the Fig Tree

MATTHEW | 01 NT



Matthew, also known as Levi, was one of Jesus' disciples. He was a tax collector who was so joyful when Jesus showed him attention that he signed on quickly to full-time duty. Matthew was writing to Jews as opposed to Gentiles, which is why his gospel often quotes the Old Testament to show how prophecies were fulfilled. The other gospels don't do that.

The book contains a genealogy of Jesus that dates back to Abraham, showing that many Old Testament prophecies about this bloodline came true in his birth. Other passages it is famous for include the Christmas story of the Magi (Wise Men) and the Great Commission.



BREAKDOWNS

● = Classic Bible Stories

✓ BOOK/CHAPTER/VERSES SUBJECT

☐	Matthew 21:23-27	Jesus' Authority Challenged
☐	Matthew 21:28-32	Parable: Two Sons
☐	Matthew 21:33-46	Parable: The Landowner
☐	Matthew 22:1-14	Parable: The Marriage Feast
☐	Matthew 22:15-22	Give to Caesar
☐	Matthew 22:23-46	People Will be Like Angels in Heaven
☐	Matthew 23:1-12	Jesus Reveals Crimes of Scribes and Pharisees
☐	Matthew 23:13-36	Eight Woes to the Scribes and Pharisees
☐	Matthew 23:37-38	Jesus Laments Over Jerusalem
☐	Matthew 24:1-14	Signs of Christ's Return
☐	Matthew 24:15-28	The Abomination of Desolation
☐	Matthew 24:29-31	The Second Coming Described
☐	Matthew 24:32-41	Know the Signs of the Times
☐	Matthew 24:42-51	Be Ready, for you Do Not Know the Hour
☐	Matthew 25:1-13	Parable: Ten Virgins
☐	Matthew 25:14-30	Parable: Different Measures of Talents
☐	Matthew 25:31-46	If you Did it For the Least of These....
☐	Matthew 26:1-5	Plot to Kill Jesus
☐	Matthew 26:6-13	The Poor You Will Always Have With You
☐	Matthew 26:14-19	Judas Agrees to 30 Pieces of Silver
☐	Matthew 26:20-35	The Last Supper
☐	Matthew 26:36-46	The Garden of Gethsemane
☐	Matthew 26:47-56	Jesus' Betrayal and Arrest
☐	Matthew 26:57-68	Jesus Before Caiaphas
☐	Matthew 26:69-75	Peter Denies Jesus Three Times
☐	Matthew 27:1-10	Judas' Suicide
☐	Matthew 27:11-26	Jesus Before Pilate
☐	Matthew 27:27-32	Mocking of Jesus; Simon Carries the Cross
☐	Matthew 27:33-44	The Crucifixion
☐	Matthew 27:45-56	Eclipse, Torn Curtain, Dead Raised, Earthquake
☐	Matthew 27:57-66	The Burial, Stone, and Guards
☐	Matthew 28:1-15	The Resurrection
☐	Matthew 28:16-20	The Great Commission

Most Popular Verses

✓ BOOK/CHAPTER/VERSES RANK

☐	Matthew 5:17	Matthew Rank: 5, Overall: 73
☐	Matthew 6:33	Matthew Rank: 6, Overall: 75
☐	Matthew 11:28	Matthew Rank: 2, Overall: 37
☐	Matthew 16:18	Matthew Rank: 3, Overall: 69
☐	Matthew 25:31	Matthew Rank: 4, Overall: 72
☐	Matthew 28:19	Matthew Rank: 1, Overall: 4

MATTHEW

ORDER IN NEW TESTAMENT

NUMBER OF CHAPTERS

TYPE

128

GOSPEL, SYNOPTIC



OVERVIEW

One of the Gospels, this book is an account and testimony of Jesus Christ. It was written by Matthew, an educated tax collector who was one of the original Twelve Apostles. His account is unique in that it was written for the Jewish people, to persuade them that Jesus was the promised Messiah. Matthew understood the importance of supporting his testimony with Old Testament prophecy, which he cited more than 50 times. The book is a balance of stories, teachings, miracles, and prophecies.



WRITTEN
50-60 AD



TIME PERIOD COVERED
7 BC to 26 AD



AUTHOR
Matthew the Apostle

1

THE BIRTH OF
CHRIST
SINGULAR TO
THIS GOSPEL

MATTHEW 1-2

Matthew gives the genealogy of Jesus Christ going back to Abraham. When Joseph is hesitant to wed Mary, an angel appears to him and tells him not to fear taking her as his wife. Matthew also tells of the Magi, Herod's slaughter of babies, the escape to Egypt, and Jesus's family's return to Nazareth.

2

THE TEACHINGS
OF CHRIST
SINGULAR TO THIS
GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3-25

Matthew shares the Sermon on the Mount. Of the 23 parables included, nine are original and include the Parable of the Sower, the Parable of the Ten Virgins, and the Parable of the Sheep and the Goats.

3

THE MIRACLES OF
CHRIST SINGULAR
TO THIS GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3-25

Of the 18 miracles mentioned, Matthew tells of two that are unique: Peter walking on the sea, and the coin found in the fish to pay the temple tax. A healing of two blind men may also be unique.

4

THE PROPHECIES
OF CHRIST
SINGULAR TO THIS
GOSPEL

MATTHEW 3-25

Matthew's account refers to Peter as the Rock of the future church. He also shares Christ's prophecies that the kingdom would be handed over to the Gentiles, that the destruction of the Temple would occur in less than 50 years, and a famous description of the End Times.

5

THE DEATH,
RESURRECTION,
AND ASCENSION
DETAILS
SINGULAR TO THIS
GOSPEL

MATTHEW 26-28

Matthew recounts the 30 pieces of silver and suicide of Judas, Pilate's wife's disturbing dream, the earthquake at the Resurrection, and the great commission to share Christ's teachings with the world.