

THE MATTHEW STUDY

BIBLE STUDY LESSONS

ANOTHER:



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

These lessons were originally created for a group study at a church where I pastored. While I taught the lessons, I had so much help from others gathering information, writing, and editing the content. A HUGE thank you goes out to **Julie Haupt**, **Jennifer Stair**, and **Lisa Hall** for their help in creating this study.

INSTRUCTIONS:

The Matthew Study is a chapter-by-chapter study of the gospel of Matthew. It was originally created in 2018 for a mid-week small-group study with 30-40 participants. I modeled that original class in the format used by Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) classes. Each week the participants completed their individual lessons prior to our meeting time. When we gathered, participants would first discuss their answers in small “discussion groups”. We then gathered everyone together and I presented my teaching. The teaching videos, and all the other resources for this study are available for free.

To access resources for this study visit:
RethinkingScripture.com/Matthew-Study-Resources

Links to all the available resources are also provided below.

1. **[Chapter by Chapter Lessons](#)** – Each chapter in Matthew has a lesson with 8-10 questions covering the text. These lessons were originally designed to be completed during the week prior to the class. Participants discussed their responses in a small group setting just prior to the lectures. But these lessons could be utilized in many different ways. Go ahead and get creative!
2. **[Teaching Videos](#)** / **[Teaching Audio](#)** – Each chapter in Matthew also has an approximately 30-45 min lecture. These teachings are available in both video and audio formats. All the videos are also available on the **[Rethinking Scripture YouTube Channel](#)**.
3. **[Bible Study Links & Excerpts for Further Study](#)** - In addition to each chapter lesson, various internet links and excerpts from other sources have been gathered to supplement your study of the Biblical text. These are provided to give additional, and sometimes very different, perspectives of the text. Look through at your own risk... there are many theological rabbit holes here! A special thanks to Julie Haupt for compiling this information for the study.
4. **[Matthew Study Blog](#)** – I've included blog posts for some of the chapters. These further discuss some aspects of each chapter that I discuss in the lectures.
5. **[Rethinking Scripture Podcast Episodes](#)** – In Jan of 2024, I began walking through the book of Matthew on the Rethinking Scripture Podcast (beginning with episode 86). These podcast episodes introduce additional information not covered in the Teaching Videos/Audio (see #2 above).

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Answer the following questions in the space provided. Where applicable, include the verses in which you find your answers. Since translations can vary, consider reading two English translations.

To access all resources for this study visit: RethinkingScripture.com/Matthew-Study-Resources

Answer the following questions for Matthew 1:1-17

1. In verses 1-6, several fathers are listed in the genealogy of Jesus, and four mothers are also mentioned. What are the names of the women that Matthew includes?

2. What do you learn about each of the women (from question #1) from the following Old Testament stories?
 - a. Genesis 38

 - b. Joshua 2, 6:22-25

 - c. Ruth 4

 - d. 2 Samuel 11

3. Mary is mentioned in vs 16. Besides their role in the line of Jesus, what do the stories of all five women, included in the genealogy, also have in common?

4. From the genealogy, what male names do you recognize from the stories of the Old Testament?

5. In vs. 17, the generations from Abraham to the Messiah are divided into three different groupings of 14 generations (Abraham to David, David to the exile, exile to Jesus). Why do you think Matthew divides the genealogy in this way?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 1:18-25

6. Matthew's account of Jesus' birth fills the remainder of chapter 1. List all the facts given about Mary in verses 18-25.

7. What facts does Matthew include about Joseph in verses 18-25?

8. According to verses 22-23, what prophecy was fulfilled and where can that prophecy be found in the Old Testament? As far as you can determine, was everything in verse 23 fulfilled in the story told in verses 18-25?

9. In Matthew 1, what are the names/titles used to describe Jesus and how many times are each of those names repeated?

10. Matthew provides a lot of information in this chapter about Jesus' family. What did you observe that might be comparable or applicable to you or your family?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 2:1-12:

1. List the different people mentioned in vs. 1-12. Include descriptions and/or titles given for each.

2. By whom is the word “worship” used in these opening verses?

a. Who is the object of worship?

3. Note everything the text says about the star that the magi saw.

a. Does this differ at all from the way the Christmas story is often told?

4. For whom were the wise men looking, and how did Herod respond to them?

a. Why might he have responded this way?

5. According to 1 Samuel 16:1-13, what OT event also happened in Bethlehem?

a. What does John 7:42 contribute to this discussion?

6. What lessons might one learn about “worship” ... reading only the story of the wise men?

a. Might any of your observations cause you to change how you worship?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 2:13-23:

7. How did Joseph know how to take care of his family?

a. What does his response say about his relationship with God?

8. If one of Matthew’s objectives is to show Jesus as the new Moses. Are there any details from verses 13-23 that might remind you of Moses’ story in Exodus 1-2?

9. Compare Matthew’s birth narrative (Matthew 1:18-2:23) with the details that Luke (see Luke 2:1-40) records in his narrative.

a. What similarities do you find in the two accounts?

b. What differences do you notice?

5. John uses two analogies to warn of the coming “judgment”. What analogies are used and what details do you notice about this “judgment” from:

a. verse 10 -

b. verse 12 -

6. Who were the people in your life who prepared you for repentance or pointed you to Jesus?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 3:13-17:

7. What might it mean, in verse 15, when Jesus says to John, “... for in this way it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness”?

8. Throughout Chapter 3, John preaches “repentance.” What have you noticed about how that word is used in this chapter?

9. List the verse numbers and include words or phrases where the Triune God is mentioned throughout Chapter 3.

a. The Father -

b. The Son -

c. The Holy Spirit -

10. John spent much of his time “preparing the way of the Lord”. What might it look like to do this today in your life?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 4:1-11:

1. What had Jesus just experienced before he was led into the wilderness?
 - a. How might this have prepared him for His wilderness experience?

2. What characters are involved in the wilderness temptation and what are their names?

3. With each of Jesus' responses, how did He respond and on whom did He keep the focus?

4. From Jesus' perspective, what appeal/justification might each of these temptations have?
 - a. Which of these temptations would have been the most difficult for you?

5. How do you prepare yourself for the trials/temptations of this world?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 4:12-17:

6. When Jesus learned John had been put in prison, what did he do?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 4:18-22:

7. Was this the first time these four fishermen encountered Jesus? Support your answer with examples from the other gospels. (See: Mark 1:16–20; Luke 5:2–11; John 1:40–42)

8. From your knowledge of the rest of the New Testament, what did others gain or lose as a result of the disciples' choice to follow Jesus?

In Summary:

9. From this chapter, list some similarities and differences you observe between Jesus' ministry and John the Baptist's?

a. Similarities:

b. Differences:

10. Jesus offered people practical help and relief from temporary suffering so they could learn about the kingdom of God and be saved from eternal suffering. What practical help do you offer to suffering people as an ambassador of Christ?

6. According to verses 17-18, what relationship does Jesus have with the Old Testament Law (and the Prophets)?

7. What do you think Jesus' disciples thought when they heard Jesus' words in verse 20?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 5:21-48: (Note: English translations usually identify Old Testament quotations with different type or formatting. Some examples would be capital letters, italics, indented, or centered).

8. Briefly list the laws Jesus quotes from the Old Testament Scriptures in verses 21-48.

9. Jesus follows each law, by saying, "But I say to you." What does this suggest about his authority and relationship with the law?

10. Which of Jesus' words in verses 21-48 most challenge you?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 6:1-15:

1. What does Jesus say about the motivation of the hypocrites when giving to the needy (vs.2) and praying (vs. 5)?

2. Compare the Lord's prayer in Matthew 6:9-13 to the one recorded in Luke 11:2-4. What differences do you notice?

3. Do you notice any literary structure (and/or repetition) in Matthew's version of the Lord's prayer?

4. How do you explain the conditions God places on forgiveness in verses 12,14 and 15?

a. When has forgiveness been difficult for you?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 6:16-24:

5. List some of the belongings you currently have that can be destroyed by moths, rust, or can be stolen by thieves.

6. In verses 22-23, two types of “eyes” are mentioned.

a. What does the text say about each?

b. What might this mean?

7. What does Jesus say about serving both God and money (or wealth)?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 6:25-34:

8. What are the examples and promises Jesus provides his audience about the things people commonly worry about?

9. What does God’s care for the birds, lilies, and grass of the field teach you?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 7:1-6:

1. How might John 7:24 give more perspective to Matthew's presentation of "judging"?

2. What do verses 1-5 assume about our tendencies as humans?

3. Is the pearl in Matthew 7:6 and the pearl discussed in Matthew 13:45-46 the same thing?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 7:7-12:

4. Jesus gives the example of a son who asks for a loaf of bread in verse 9.

a. To what part of the Lord's prayer (chapter 6) does this correspond?

b. What verses in the beginning of chapter 4 (similar to Matthew 7:9) also mention "bread" and "stones"? What was Jesus' response in the Matthew 4 conversation?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 7:13-23:

5. Compare and contrast the gates mentioned in verses 13 & 14.

6. What did Jesus tell his disciples to notice, so they could discern whether someone was a false prophet?

7. How might the discussion in Galatians 5:19-24 bring some clarification to the good/bad fruit discussion in verses 16-20.

Answer the following questions for Matthew 7:24-29:

8. What are the characteristics of the two houses described in this section?

9. What is the crowd's response to Jesus' teaching?

10. What have been some of your responses to the teaching of Jesus in this discourse (Matthew 5:1-7:29)?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 8:1-17:

1. Briefly describe the miracles of healing and the people involved in verses 1-17. Note any similarities and differences regarding how Jesus healed these people and their responses.

2. What did you notice about Jesus' instructions to the leper after he had been healed?

3. Jesus marveled at the Centurion. In what ways were you impressed by the Centurion?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 8:18-27:

4. Why is it noteworthy that a scribe said he would follow Jesus?

5. What did the disciples learn about themselves and Jesus during the storm?

6. What have you learned about yourself and the Lord during the hardships and “storms” in your life?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 8:28-34:

7. What did the demons know about Jesus?

8. Why do you think the townspeople reacted the way they did after Jesus cast out the demons?

In Summary:

9. What can we learn about Jesus’ authority from this chapter?

10. How do you acknowledge Jesus’ authority in your life?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 9:1-8:

1. In Jesus' own city, people brought a paralytic to him. Regarding this, whose faith did Jesus recognize?

a. Who was healed?

2. Describe, in your own words, the discussion Jesus has with the scribes.

Answer the following questions for Matthew 9:9-13:

3. What was Matthew's occupation?

4. By what other name does Matthew go? See Mark 2:14 & Luke 5:27

5. Jesus and his disciples dine with "tax collectors and sinners". When the Pharisees questioned this, what was Jesus' response?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 9:14-17:

6. What three analogies does Jesus use to answer the question posed in vs. 14?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 9:18-38:

7. Jesus performed many miracles of healing in verses 18-34. Use the columns below to list each request, miracle, any instructions from Jesus, and any response by people.

Request by Who	Miracle for Who	Jesus' Instructions	People's responses

8. Pick one of these miracles that is especially encouraging to you and explain why.

9. Jesus has compassion for the people because they were like "sheep without a shepherd". How might Numbers 27:15-20 relate to this passage?

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Answer the following questions in the space provided. Where applicable, include the verses in which you find your answers. Since translations can vary, consider reading two English translations.

To access all resources for this study visit: RethinkingScripture.com/Matthew-Study-Resources

Answer the following questions for Matthew 10:1-4:

1. What did Jesus give the twelve disciples authority to do?

2. The twelve apostles are listed in Matthew 10:2-4; Mark 3:16-19; Luke 6:13-16; and Acts 1:13. Note any similarities and differences in how they are listed.

Answer the following questions for Matthew 10:5-15:

3. Jesus gave these disciples specific instructions. List some of these in the appropriate columns from verses 5-15.

Where Not to Go or Stay	Where to Go/ Where to Stay	What to Say	What to Do	What Not to Do

4. Do the “lost sheep” in verse 6 and those described in Jeremiah 50:6 have anything in common?

5. Read through the story of Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 19. What perspective does this give you for the statement Jesus makes in verse 15?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 10:16-23:

6. In verses 16-23, what encouragement or promises do you find?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 10:24-42:

7. In verses 24-39, what warnings of future suffering do you find?

8. Compare Matthew 10:32-33 with 2 Timothy 2:10-13. What similarities do you notice?

In Summary:

9. What fresh perspective does Matthew 10 bring to you in your service to the Lord?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 11:1-6:

1. In this passage we find John the Baptist in prison. According to Mark 6:17-20, why was John imprisoned?

2. What was Jesus' answer to the question he was asked in Matthew 11:3? What two passages from Isaiah does Jesus reference in his answer?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 11:7-19:

3. Verse 11 makes two statements. Given the first statement, how do you understand the second statement to be true?

4. Verse 16 mentions "this generation." To what generation is Jesus referring? How do the following verses add to your understanding of this phrase? (Matthew 12:39, 12:41-42, 12:45, 16:4, 17:17, 23:36, 24:24)

Answer the following questions for Matthew 11:20-24:

5. What three cities of Jesus' day are mentioned in these verses? From your general Bible knowledge, what do you know about these cities?

6. To which Old Testament cities are the three cities (from question #5) compared? From your general Bible knowledge, what do you know about those Old Testament cities?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 11:25-30:

7. Who do you think the "wise and intelligent" and the "infants" are in verse 25? Into which category would you place yourself?

8. To what kind of "rest" do you think Jesus is referring in verses 28-30?

9. When you feel weary and heavy-laden, how do you find "rest for your soul" in Jesus?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 12:1-7:

1. According to Deuteronomy 23:24-25, what was “permitted” and “not permitted” for those traveling in Biblical times? Were the Pharisees applying the Deuteronomy scripture correctly with the law?

2. How does the priest in 1 Samuel 21:6, respond differently to David and his hungry men than the authorities questioning Jesus and his hungry disciples? Why do you think they respond so differently?

3. Jesus rebukes the Pharisees three times in verses 3-7. What phrases does he use to begin his challenges? How do you think this was received by the Pharisees?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 12:8-21:

4. What do you think Jesus means when He says, “the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath?”

5. What parts of the extensive quote from Isaiah (in Matthew 12:19-21) remind you of different aspects of Jesus' overall ministry?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 12:22-37:

6. In verse 29, Jesus mentions a "strong man" and that man's "house" and "property". Based on the preceding passage (verses 22-28), who is the "strong man"? What are his "house" and "property"?

7. There have been many divergent opinions about the meaning of verses 30-32. Look up the definition of "blasphemy" and then share how you understand these verses.

Answer the following questions for Matthew 12:38-50:

8. In verses 41-42, Jesus says "something greater than _____ is here". Who does Jesus mention in these statements? How might these be related to the statement in Matthew 12:6?

9. In verses 43-45, Jesus gives an analogy about a man, a house, and unclean spirits. To what do you think Jesus was referring?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 13:1-9 & 18-23:

1. For each kind of soil in 13:3-8, tell where the seed fell and what happened to it.

2. What questions do you have after reading Jesus' explanation (verses 13:19-23)?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 13:10-17:

3. According to Matthew 13:11-15, why does Jesus teach in parables?

4. In this section Jesus quotes Isaiah 6:9-10. This Isaiah passage is also referenced (at least in part) in Mark 4:12, Luke 8:10, John 12:40, Acts 28:26-27, and Romans 11:8. Do any of these references help your understanding of this passage?

5. What part of this teaching is confusing and/or comforting to you?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 13:24-43:

6. Describe one of several problems presented in the parable of the tares among wheat (verses 24-30)?

7. From verses 36-43, what is Jesus explanation of this parable?

8. Do the two parables in verses 31-35 have any thematic connection? If so, what is that theme?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 13:44-52:

9. What do the two parables in verses 44-46 have in common?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 13:53-58:

10. Did Jesus perform any miracles in His hometown? Explain.

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 14:1-12:

1. Compare Matthew 14:1-12 with Mark 6:14-29 and Luke 9:7-9. In your own words give a short summary of the story of John the Baptist's death.

2. What do you discover about the character traits of Herod the tetrarch from the above references?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 14:13-21:

3. What do you imagine the disciples experienced emotionally, mentally, physically, and spiritually as Jesus commands them to feed the crowd in verses 15-21?

4. List all the actions of Jesus mentioned in Matthew 14:19.

5. Matthew 14:20 tells us, “they all ate and were satisfied”. What does this tell you about God’s care for people?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 14:22-36:

6. After reading Matthew 14:22-33, what additional details does one learn when reading the other accounts of the same story in Mark 6:45-52 and John 6:15-21?

7. What caused the disciples to be afraid, what did Jesus say to them, and how did they respond?

8. In 14:34-36 who came to Jesus, for what purpose did they come, and what did they want to do?

In Summary:

9. Jesus seemed to know when to serve others and when to take time to be alone. How do you decide when you need time alone and how do you care for your wellness and reconnect with God?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 15:1-14:

1. When some of the Pharisees and scribes asked Jesus about his disciples breaking the tradition of the elders, how does Jesus respond?

2. How does Jesus' quote of Isaiah in verses 8 and 9 further clarify His beliefs about the traditions of the Pharisees and scribes?

3. How might the truth of Isaiah be relevant to your personal worship and corporate worship in today's church?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 15:15-20:

4. In verses 15-20 Jesus explains the parable about what defiles a man. What's the main point in Jesus' explanation and why do you think it was difficult for the disciples to understand?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 15:21-28:

5. What did you notice about the Canaanite woman in verses 21-28?

6. In 1 Kings 17:7-24, the prophet Elijah visits a woman from the area of Sidon. Are there any details you notice from that story that might connect with this passage... or the rest of Matthew 15?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 15:29-31:

7. Verse 31 says the crowds marveled and glorified the God of Israel when they saw Jesus' healing ministry. What has caused you to marvel at God and glorify Him this past week?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 15:32-39:

8. How does the feeding of the 4000 in verses 32-39 differ from the feeding of the 5000 in Matthew 14:13-21?

9. In what ways is God feeding you until you are satisfied?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 16:1-12:

1. Jesus replies to the religious leaders, saying that “an evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign.” Where have we seen this before in Matthew’s account?

2. What warning did Jesus give the disciples in Matthew 16:6 (and Luke 12:1)?

a. What do 1 Corinthians 5:6-8 and Galatians 5:7-9 add to your understanding of this analogy?

b. How might this relate to the church today?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 16:13-20:

3. Jesus responds to Simon Peter with three important statements. What do you think is the significance of each?

a. “Flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.”

b. "You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it."

c. "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven."

Answer the following questions for Matthew 16:21-23:

4. Jesus informs his disciples of his impending death. What do you think about the interaction between Peter and Jesus?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 16:24-28:

5. In your own words explain verses 24-25.

6. What have verses 24-26 meant in your life and journey with Christ?

7. How do you understand the statement Jesus makes in verses 27-28?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 17:1-13:

1. Use an outside resource to find the meaning of “transfiguration”. What does it mean for something to be transfigured?

2. The transfiguration of Christ is told in all three synoptic gospels. What details do we learn from the other two that Matthew does not include?

a. Mark 9:2-8:

b. Luke 9:28-36

3. In verse 3, Moses and Elijah appeared on the top of the mountain with Jesus. Who are these characters and why might they be significant to this story?

4. In verse 5, the voice out of the cloud speaks. Compare what is said in Isaiah 42:1 and Deuteronomy 18:14-15. Are there any similarities?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 17:14-23:

5. What additional details do Mark 9:14-28 and Luke 9:37-42 offer to this story of Jesus healing a boy with a demon?

6. According to verse 20 who lacked the faith for the boy to be healed?

7. What application does “faith the size of a mustard seed” have for you life?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 17:24-27:

8. What do you learn about the tax in verses 17:24 by reading Exodus 30:13-14 & 38:26?

9. What are the three types of taxes mentioned in verses 24-25?

10. In vs. 27, Jesus says, “However, so that we do not offend them...” Who is it that Jesus is not wanting to offend? Why do you think this is the case?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 18:1-11:

1. What does the statement in Matthew 19:1 (“When Jesus had finished these words...”) tell us about Jesus’ teaching in Matthew 18?

2. What do you think the disciples are trying to understand when they ask Jesus, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

3. What do you learn from Jesus’ answer?

4. Are the instructions in verses 7-9 to be taken literally? How seriously should we take our actions of causing another to sin?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 18:12-14:

5. What do you think is the main point of the parable of the lost sheep?

6. How does the parable of the lost sheep relate to the instructions given in verses 15-17?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 18:15-20:

7. List the steps in verses 15-17 for how believers should respond when a “brother” (another believer) sins against them.

Answer the following questions for Matthew 18:21-35:

8. How do the following passages give additional clarity about how forgiveness should function in the church?

a. Luke 17:1-4 -

a. Colossians 3:12-13 -

9. Are there any situations in your life to which you need to apply Jesus’ instruction on forgiveness?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 19:1-12:

1. What was the motivation behind the Pharisees' question in verse 2?

2. What do you observe about Jesus' teaching on marriage and divorce?

3. What does Deuteronomy 24:1-4 teach about divorce?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 19:13-15:

4. What do we learn about the disciples' view of children versus Jesus' view?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 19:16-26:

5. In 19:17 Jesus says “There is only one who is good.” According to Mark 10:18 & Luke 18:19 who is the only one who is good?

6. The rich young ruler had some questions about eternal life. List the young man’s questions and Jesus’ answers.

7. What does the young man’s behavior reveal about his heart and priorities?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 19:27-30:

8. The disciples are feeling insecure about their future. What reassurances does Jesus give them?

In summary:

9. What in this chapter has challenged you?

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 20:1-16:

1. What do you think are the parallels between the kingdom of heaven and a landowner who hired laborers for his vineyard?

2. If you had been hired in the morning, what would you feel like at the end of the day when wages were paid?

3. What is your response to the landowner's answer to the grumbling laborers in verses 13-15?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 20:17-19:

4. Compare and contrast Matthew 20:17-19 with Jesus' previous announcement in Matthew 16:21 about what would soon happen in Jerusalem.

Answer the following questions for Matthew 20:20-28:

5. What do you notice about what the sons of Zebedee and their mom “say” and “do” in verses 20-23?

6. Verse 28 says that the “Son of Man” did not come to be served, but to serve. The “Son of Man” reference refers readers back to Daniel 7:13-14. What do you notice about the Son of Man in those verses?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 20:29-34:

7. What differences are there between Jesus giving sight to the blind in verses 29-34 and the earlier time He healed two blind men in Matthew 9:27-31?

8. Jesus asked the blind men, “What do you want Me to do for you?” How would you answer that question today?

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Answer the following questions in the space provided. Where applicable, include the verses in which you find your answers. Since translations can vary, consider reading two English translations.

To access all resources for this study visit: RethinkingScripture.com/Matthew-Study-Resources

Answer the following questions for Matthew 21:1-11:

1. What elements in Jesus' instruction (verses 2-3) help Him fulfill the Zechariah 9:9 prophecy?

2. What new details does one discover by reading the other gospels' accounts of this event?

a. Mark 11:1-10

b. Luke 19:29-38

Answer the following questions for Matthew 21:12-17:

3. Verse 12 mentions Jesus disrupted the "money changers" and those who were "selling doves". What do the instructions in Leviticus 5:6-7 & 12:6-8 tell us about the offering of doves?

4. We find "temple cleansing stories" in all four gospels. (Mark 11:15-18, Luke 19:45-47, John 2:13-16). What differences do you notice in the other accounts?

5. In verse 16, Jesus says, "...have you never read...". Where have we seen statements similar to this? What does Jesus mean when he says this?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 21:18-22:

6. How does this story of the barren fig tree differ from Mark's version (Mark 11:12-24)?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 21:23-27:

7. In what way does Jesus' question (verse 25) place the chief priests and the elders in a dilemma?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 21:28-32:

8. The parable of the two sons tells the story of two very different responses to God. Have you ever given one of these responses to God? Explain.

Answer the following questions for Matthew 21:33-46:

9. The parable of the landowner recalls the story of Naboth's vineyard (see 1 Kings 21:1-19.) What parallels do you see in the two stories?

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 22:1-14:

1. List the cast of characters mentioned in this parable. Mention who each of the characters might represent.

2. Compare this parable with a similar parable found in Luke 14:16-24. What excuses are given in the two parables for why people were not able to attend?

3. In the past, what has distracted you from focusing on something that was ultimately more important?

4. What are your thoughts about the king's two responses given in verses 7 and 13?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 22:15-22:

5. Describe how the Pharisees try and trap Jesus with a political question.

Answer the following questions for Matthew 22:23-33:

6. Search the internet for information about the Sadducees. Share some of the things you found that might speak to this passage.

7. To what Old Testament passages (see verses 24 & 32) do the Sadducees and Jesus refer in their dialogue?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 22:34-46:

8. Why did the Pharisees come back to Jesus with yet another question?

9. In this passage, Jesus identifies the two greatest commandments found in the Old Testament scriptures. Which of these commands do you find most difficult to obey in your life?

10. Jesus eventually asks the Pharisees a series of questions (see verses 42, 43-44, & 45). Describe the dilemma Jesus presents in His questioning that the Pharisees were not able to answer?

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 23:1-12:

1. In verses 1-7, Jesus tells people about the deeds and motivations of the Pharisees. What are their motivations?

2. According to verses 8-12, if someone wants to avoid repeating these ungodly motivations, what must we avoid, and what must we choose to do?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 23:13-36:

3. Summarize in a few words each “Woe” in verses 13-33 and provide one potential modern-day application. (*this question continues onto the next page).

Verse(s)	Woe	Possible Modern-Day Equivalent
13		
14		
15		
16-22		
23-24		

25-26		
27-28		
29-33		

4. Which of these sins ascribed to the religious leaders seem the most troubling to you? Why?

5. Which of these condemnations of Jesus against the religious elite make you feel personally convicted because you may have participated in the modern equivalent at one time or another?

6. In your own words, summarize verses 34-35.

7. What do you think Jesus means when he says, “all these things will come upon this generation,” in verse 36?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 23:37-39:

8. To what “house” in Jerusalem do you think Jesus is referring in verse 38?

Matthew Chapter 24

The Matthew Study

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Answer the following questions in the space provided. Where applicable, include the verses in which you find your answers. Since translations can vary, consider reading two English translations.

To access all resources for this study visit: RethinkingScripture.com/Matthew-Study-Resources

Answer the following questions for Matthew 24:1-14:

1. After Jesus predicted the destruction of temple buildings (verse 2) ... what questions do the disciples ask regarding that event?

2. List several of the things (from verses 5-14) that Jesus said would happen.

Answer the following questions for Matthew 24:15-28:

3. In verse 15, Jesus mentions the “abomination of desolation” spoken of through Daniel the prophet.

a. Using cross-references or an internet search, list the passages from the book of Daniel to which Jesus is referring? What questions do you have about these passages?

b. How does the Luke 21:20 help readers better understand what Jesus was saying in the Matthew passage?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 24:29-41:

4. Jesus uses some Old Testament language to describe the “tribulation of those days”. How might Ezekiel 32:2-15... give some context to what might it mean for the sun and moon to be “darkened” and the stars to fall from the sky?

5. Jesus mentions the “coming of the Son of Man” several times in this chapter (See verses 30, 37, 39, 44). How does Daniel 7:13-14 give some insight into Jesus’ use of this term?

6. According to verse 34 (see also Matthew 10:23, 16:28, & 23:36) what time constraints does Jesus give for the completion of the events of which He has been speaking?

7. In verse 37-41, Jesus likens the “coming of the Son of Man” to the time of Noah and the flood in Genesis 6-7. What connection might Jesus be trying to make with this comparison?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 24:42-51:

8. In your own words, describe the parable of the slave and the master Jesus tells in verses 45-51.

9. How do Jesus’ predictions make you feel about the time in which you live?

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Answer the following questions in the space provided. Where applicable, include the verses in which you find your answers. Since translations can vary, consider reading two English translations.

To access all resources for this study visit: RethinkingScripture.com/Matthew-Study-Resources

Answer the following questions for Matthew 25:1-13:

1. What do you learn about the kingdom of heaven from the “parable of the ten virgins”?

2. Who do you think the 10 virgins represent and who does the bridegroom represent?

3. In Matthew 24:36-41, Jesus says that “the coming of the Son of Man will be just like the days of Noah.” What similarities does this parable have to the description found in those verses?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 25:14-30:

4. How much money did each servant receive and what did they do with it?

5. What do you notice about the first two servants and the master’s response to them?

6. How does fear sometimes paralyze you when it comes to using resources God has entrusted to you?

7. The statement in verse 29 has appeared before (see Matthew 13:12) and similar ideas can be found in the other gospels (Mark 4:25, Luke 8:18, & John 15:2). Do those passages help explain the context of this parable?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 25:31-46:

8. Who do you think the “sheep” and the “goats” represent (verses 32-33)?

9. Who are the Lord’s “brothers,” (v.40) and “the least of these” (verses 40 & 45)?

10. How are you currently involved in ministering to the needs of others?

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

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To access all resources for this study visit: RethinkingScripture.com/Matthew-Study-Resources

Answer the following questions for Matthew 26:1-13:

1. In verses 2 and 5 we see references to important, overlapping events that are celebrated annually by Jewish people.

a. Skim Exodus 12 and describe what the Jews are commemorating as Jesus and his disciples enter Jerusalem.

b. Use commentaries (or the internet) to find a timeline of how the Jewish feasts overlapped with the events surrounding the last portion of Jesus' ministry.

2. Compare Matthew 26:6-13 to the following passages and briefly mention the additional information the other gospels provide.

a. Mark 14:3-9 -

b. Luke 7:36-50 -

c. John 12:1-8 -

Answer the following questions for Matthew 26:14-35:

3. What was the deal that Judas Iscariot made with the chief priests? What other details do you notice about Judas' betrayal in verses 14-35?

4. In verse 28, Jesus says the cup represents, "My blood of the covenant..." Describe the significance of this in light of Exodus 24:7-8 and Hebrews 9:18-25.

5. List each of the predictions Jesus made at this "last supper".

Answer the following questions for Matthew 26:36-56:

6. Revisit Matthew 20:20-23 in light of Jesus' statement in verse 39. How does this influence your own understanding of what it means to be identified with Jesus?

7. In verses 47-56, which of Jesus recent predictions and what other Scriptures are fulfilled?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 26:57-75:

8. In verses 57-75, which of Jesus recent predictions and what other Scriptures are fulfilled?

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Answer the following questions in the space provided. Where applicable, include the verses in which you find your answers. Since translations can vary, consider reading two English translations.

To access all resources for this study visit: RethinkingScripture.com/Matthew-Study-Resources

Answer the following questions for Matthew 27:1-10

1. What do you think about how the chief priests and elders responded to Judas and the money he returned?

2. What are several different motivations that could make you “feel remorse”?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 27:11-26

3. Summarize how each of the following attempt to influence Jesus’ trial?

a. Pilate (the governor)

b. Pilate’s wife

c. Chief Priests and Elders

d. Crowd

4. What injustices take place in these proceedings?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 27:27-56

5. List the cast of characters in verses 33-44 and describe what they are doing and/or saying.

6. While on the cross, Jesus quotes the first line of King David's Psalm 22. Read Psalm 22:1-31 and answer the following:

a. Compare David's statements about God from the beginning of the psalm through to his conclusions about God at the end of the psalm.

b. What similarities do you notice between Psalm 22 and the scene of the crucifixion from Matthew's gospel?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 27:57-66

7. What do you admire about Joseph as a Christ follower and how he interacts with others?

8. What does Jesus' death mean to you?

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

Answer the following questions in the space provided. Where applicable, include the verses in which you find your answers. Since translations can vary, consider reading two English translations.

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 28:1-15

1. The story of the empty tomb is included in all four gospel accounts. After reading the Matthew passage, read the other gospel accounts and list any additional details you discover there.

a. Mark 16:1-8 -

b. Luke 24:1-10 -

c. John 20:1-18 -

2. Two women named Mary are the first to come visit the tomb. From Luke 8:1-3, else do we know about Mary Magdalene (i.e., Mary from the town of Magdala)?

3. Both the angel (in verse 5) and Jesus (in verse 10) begin by saying, "Do not be afraid."

a. Why do you think they both began their address with these words?

b. What similarities does this situation have with Matthew 14:27 and Revelation 1:17 where the same instruction is given?

4. Why might Jesus have planned to meet with his disciples in Galilee... instead of just meeting in Jerusalem?

5. From verses 11-15, describe the deal made between the soldiers and the chief priests & elders.

Answer the following question for Matthew 28:16-20

6. According to verse 17, the disciples saw Jesus and worshiped Him... but some were "doubtful". What do you think this means?

7. Describe the statements and instructions Jesus gives to his disciples.

8. Compare the statement in verse 18 with the description of the vision described in Daniel 7:13-14. What similarities do you notice?

9. How have the instructions given by Jesus to His disciples influenced your faith and actions?

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

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Answer the following questions for Matthew 1-2

1. Skim through the first two chapters of Matthew (which include the genealogy & birth narrative). What in these first two chapters now seems significant to you?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 3-4

2. Comment on Matthew's use of Old Testament scripture passages to highlight the beginning of Jesus' ministry.

Answer the following questions for Matthew 5-7 & 23-25

3. Matthew presents 5 major discourses that all end with the phrase, "When Jesus had finished..." What connections or impressions do you notice from the first (Matthew 5-7) and the last (Matthew 23-25) of these discourses?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 10 & 28

4. Compare the instructions for service given to the 12 disciples in Matthew 10 to the instructions given in Matthew 28:16-20. Can these passages complement each other?

Answer the following questions for Matthew 11:20-12:45

5. Skim the above passage where Jesus gives warnings, an offer of Sabbath rest, and several promises that He is greater than Old Testament shadows. What do you notice about the words of Jesus in these chapters?

Answer the following general questions for Matthew 13-22

6. What miracles in these chapters stand out to you as particularly significant?

7. Which parable from this section speaks to your personal walk of faith?

8. Which of Jesus' teachings in these chapters challenge you the most?