

Matthew

Adult Discipleship

Sunday Morning Bible Study

Matthew
“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Lesson Plan

	Lesson	Passage	Title
	Jesus' Advent		
09/10/2023	1	Matthew 1	Jesus' Genealogy and Virgin Birth
09/17/2023	2	Matthew 2	Jesus' Infancy
	Jesus' Preparation		
09/24/2023	3	Matthew 3	Jesus' Baptism by John
10/01/2023	4	Matthew 4	Jesus' Temptation and Power
	Jesus' Public Ministry		
10/08/2023	5	Matthew 5:1-16	Sermon on the Mount-Part 1
10/15/2023	6	Matthew 5:17-48	Sermon on the Mount-Part 2
10/22/2023	7	Matthew 6	Sermon on the Mount-Part 3
10/29/2023	8	Matthew 7	Sermon on the Mount-Part 4
11/05/2023	9	Matthew 8	Jesus' Authority-Part 1
11/12/2023	10	Matthew 9:1-34	Jesus' Authority-Part 2
11/19/2023	11	Matthew 9:35-10:42	Jesus' Harvest Field Workers
11/26/2023	12	Matthew 11-12	Evidence for Christ Demands a Choice
12/03/2023	13	Matthew 13:1-43	Parables-Part 1
12/10/2023	14	Matthew 13:44-58	Parables-Part 2
01/07/2024	15	Matthew 14	Who is This Jesus
01/14/2024	16	Matthew 15	Jesus Trains His Disciples
01/21/2024	17	Matthew 16	Jesus Continues Training His Disciples
01/28/2024	18	Matthew 17	Jesus' Glory, Power and Authority
02/04/2024	19	Matthew 18	Life in the Kingdom
02/11/2024	20	Matthew 19	Jesus' Love for People
	Jerusalem Teachings		
02/18/2024	21	Matthew 20:1-21:17	Jesus' Travel to Jerusalem
02/25/2024	22	Matthew 21:18-22:14	Jesus and the Jewish Leaders – Part 1
03/03/2024	23	Matthew 22:15-23:39	Jesus and the Jewish Leaders – Part 2
03/10/2024	24	Matthew 24	Mount of Olives Discourse – Part 1
03/17/2024	25	Matthew 25	Mount of Olives Discourse – Part 2
	Jesus' Arrest, Trials, and Crucifixion		
03/24/2024	26	Matthew 26:1-46	Jesus' Time with Disciples Before His Arrest
04/07/2024	27	Matthew 26:47-27:31	Jesus' Jury
04/14/2024	28	Matthew 27:32-66	Crucifixion, Death, and Burial
	Jesus' Resurrection and Commission		
04/21/2024	29	Matthew 28	Jesus' Resurrection and Commission

Matthew

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Introduction

Author

The author is Matthew, the tax collector then called by Jesus to be an apostle (Matthew 9:9-13). His name means “gift of the Lord” and he was known as Levi in Mark and Luke. However, some modern scholars contend that Matthew was not the writer since the book allegedly relies so heavily on the Gospel of Mark. But others claim the similarity of Mark and Matthew show that the Apostles were not divided. Matthew was an eye witness to events in Jesus’ life.

Date of Writing

The date of writing is between 50-70AD. The Gospel is written in Greek. Therefore, the early readers were most likely Greek Jews.

Theme

The basic theme is to prove to Jews that Jesus is their Messiah predicted in the Old Testament. Matthew quotes many Old Testament verses and some of them are listed below.

Matthew 1:22-23

“The virgin will be with child and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.” (Isaiah 7:14)

Matthew 2:15

“Out of Egypt I called my son.” (Hosea 11:1)

Matthew 2:17-18

“A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping.” (Jeremiah 31:15)

Matthew 2:23

He will be called a Nazarene (Not a direct quote but where Jesus is despised)

Matthew 4:14-16

“In the past he humbled the land of Naphtali, but in the future he will honor Galilee of the Gentiles.” (Isaiah 9:1)

Matthew 8:17

“Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows.” (Isaiah 53:4)

Matthew 12:17-21

“Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise his voice in the streets. A bruised reed he will not break, and a moldering wick he will not snuff out.” (Isaiah 42:1-4)

Matthew 13:35

“I will open my mouth in parables” (Psalm 78:2)

Matthew

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Matthew 27:9-10

Speaks about potter's field (Jeremiah 32:6-9)

While not specifically quoted, Matthew 27 and 28 see many parts of Psalm 22 and Isaiah 53 fulfilled.

Structure

The Gospel is arranged around 5 great discourses of Jesus and not necessarily in chronological order.

Matthew 5-7: Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 10: Commissioning of His disciples

Matthew 13: Kingdom of heaven parables

Matthew 18: Life in the Kingdom

Matthew 24-25: End of the age and Kingdom of Heaven (Olivet Discourse)

Chapters 1-2 give us a prologue of Jesus Jewish genealogy and birth, while Matthew 28:16-20, gives today's believers a great challenge and good work to do.

Matthew
Lesson 1
Jesus' Advent

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*As we begin our study of Matthew, this first lesson will cover Jesus' **Advent** in two divisions: **Jesus' Genealogy** and **Jesus' Virgin Birth**.*

Jesus' Genealogy

Read Matthew 1:1-17, Genesis 12:1-3, Genesis 22:15-18, and 2 Samuel 7:11b-16.

1. As Matthew writes to the Jews of his day, what is the significance of tracing Jesus' genealogy back to Abraham and through David?

2. How did Matthew organize the genealogy? Why is that significant?

3. It is unusual to mention women in genealogies. Give the background of each woman mentioned in the genealogy.
 - a. Tamar (see Genesis 38)

 - b. Rahab (see Joshua 2 and 6:17)

 - c. Ruth (see Ruth 1 and 4:13-17)

 - d. Wife of Uriah (see 2 Samuel 11, 12:15, 18, 24)

 - e. Mary (see Luke 1:26-56)

4. How does the Genealogy of Jesus in Luke 3:23-38 compare or contrast to Matthew's genealogy?

5. How does this genealogy help you to see God's redemptive plan for His people?

Lesson: _____

Matthew
Lesson 1
Jesus' Advent

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Jesus' Virgin Birth

Read Matthew 1:18-25, Isaiah 7:14 and 9:6.

6. What was Joseph's initial reaction to Mary's pregnancy?

7. What did an angel of the Lord say to Joseph?

8. What was the significance of naming the child Jesus? See Isaiah 53:4-6.

9. Does a virgin birth seem plausible to you? If so, what is its significance?

10. What do you learn from Joseph and Mary and their actions?

11. What good work has God prepared in advance for you to do? Did you accept it or reject it at first?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you continue to thank God for sending Jesus to save you from sin?

Matthew

Lesson 2

Jesus' Infancy

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time we covered Jesus' **Advent** in two divisions: **Jesus' Genealogy and Jesus' Virgin Birth**. In this lesson we will study **Jesus' Infancy as God Directs the Magi to the King of the Jews and God Directs Joseph to Protect Jesus**. We will see that nothing can stop God from completing His salvation plan.*

God Directs the Magi to the King of the Jews

Read Matthew 2:1-12.

1. Who were the Magi and what were they seeking?
2. Why were the Magi following a star from the east and wanting to worship the King of the Jews?
3. Who was Herod and why was he disturbed?
4. Who are the chief priests and teachers of the law and what did they tell Herod? See Micah 5:1-5.
5. Who is the king of Jews that the Magi were seeking? Who is the Christ that Herod asked about? What do the following verses tell you about him?
 - a. 2 Samuel 7:11b-13
 - b. Isaiah 11:1-5
 - c. Psalm 110:1 and Matthew 22:41-46
 - d. Isaiah 9:6-7
 - e. Jeremiah 31:31-34
6. Notice that the star led the Magi to worship the child? Describe the star and the Magi's worship.
7. How has God directed you to Jesus? See Luke 19:10.

Lesson: _____

Matthew
Lesson 2
Jesus' Infancy

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

God Directs Joseph to Protect Jesus

Read Matthew 2:13-23.

8. What does the angel tell Joseph to do? Why is that significant?

9. What is Herod's response to being outwitted by the Magi? Why is that significant?

10. An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream a second time. What were the instructions and Joseph's actions.

11. “He will be called a Nazarene” is not found in the Old Testament. What do you think Matthew meant when he said that? See Psalm 22:6, Isaiah 53:3, and John 1:44-46.

12. In Matthew 1 and 2 an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream to give direction to Joseph? How does God give you instructions today?

13. What do you learn about God and His plans?

Challenge: How will you worship and praise God for sending His Son Jesus to save sinners

Matthew Lesson 3 Jesus' Baptism by John

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*In lesson 2 we studied **Jesus' Infancy as God Directs the Magi to the King of the Jews and God Directs Joseph to Protect Jesus**. We will see that nothing can stop God from completing His salvation plan that He promised. Matthew does not give any details of Jesus' life from His infancy to His baptism. Only Luke 2:41-52 gives a few details of Jesus' boyhood. So between lesson 2 and lesson 3 there is a time gap close to 30 years. In the next two lessons we will discover Jesus' preparation for His public ministry. In this lesson we will see **Jesus' Baptism by John** in three divisions: **Baptism of Repentance, Baptism of Holy Spirit, and Baptism of Jesus**.*

Baptism of Repentance

Read Matthew 3:1-10, Malachi 3:1, and Malachi 4:5.

1. What would the readers of the Old Testament understand about the coming of the Messiah?

2. How was John's birth miraculous and what do you learn about John from Luke 1:5-17.

3. What was John's message? How might it have been different to the Jews?

4. What do you think it means to repent?

5. When have you repented?

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Baptism of Holy Spirit Read Matthew 3:11-12.

6. In what ways is the one coming after John, greater than him?

7. What does verse 12 tell you about the one coming after John? See Matthew 25:31-45

Matthew
Lesson 3
Jesus' Baptism by John

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

8. Describe the three baptisms in these two verses.
 - a. John's baptism with water (Matthew 3:11)
 - b. Baptism of Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4)
 - c. Baptism with fire (2 Peter 3:10-16)
9. Why did God wait to baptize with Holy Spirit? Have you been baptized with Holy Spirit?

Lesson: _____

Baptism of Jesus

Read Matthew 3:13-17.

10. As John was baptizing, Jesus now appears on the scene after 30 years of private life. Why would the sinless Jesus present himself for baptism to "fulfill all righteousness?" See Hebrews 7:11-28 and Luke 3:21-23.
11. What is John the Baptists testimony in John 1:32-34?
12. In what way is Jesus your great high priest? See Isaiah 53:4-12 and Luke 19:10.

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you be like John and point others to Jesus?

Matthew

Lesson 4

Jesus' Temptation and Power

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

*Matthew's purpose in Chapters 1-4 is 1) to present Jesus as the Savior promised by God in the Old Testament and 2) that Jesus perfectly fulfilled the Old Testament expectations and prophecies. In Chapters 1 and 2, we saw Jesus' human and divine origins with his virgin birth. In Chapter 3 last time, we studied the **Baptism of Repentance, Baptism of Holy Spirit, and Baptism of Jesus**. Now in Matthew 4 we will see **Jesus' Temptation and Power** in two divisions: **Jesus' Victory in Temptation** and **Jesus' Power in Ministry**.*

Jesus' Victory in Temptation

Read Matthew 4:1-11 and Mark 1:11-12.

1. What differences do you see between the Matthew and Mark passages?
2. The devil is a created being and a person. His personal name is "Satan" which means adversary. His main title is the devil which means "Accuser." What do you learn about the devil from the following verses or other verses you might know?
 - a. Luke 10:18
 - b. Genesis 3:1-5
 - c. 1 Corinthians 7:5
 - d. 1 Peter 5:8-9
 - e. Job 1:6-12
 - f. 2 Corinthians 11:14
3. Why was Jesus led or sent into the desert to be tempted by the devil?
4. Describe the first temptation in vs. 2-4. How have you been tempted in a similar way? See Psalm 91 and 1 Corinthians 10:13.
5. Describe the second temptation in vs. 5-7. How have you been tempted in a similar way? See Deuteronomy 6:16.

Matthew

Lesson 4

Jesus' Temptation and Power

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

6. Describe the third and final temptation in vs. 8-10. How have you been tempted in a similar way? See Luke 4:5-7.
7. In verse 11, the devil left Jesus. Why is that significant? See Hebrews 4:15 and Hebrews 5:8.
8. How does temptation allow you to grow in humility, trust, and obedience?

Jesus' Power in Ministry

Read Matthew 4:12-25

9. Between verses 11 and 12 there is a time gap of about 1 year. Skim John 1-4 and list some events that happened before Jesus went to live in Capernaum.
10. Notice that Jesus' moved to Capernaum to fulfill Isaiah 9. What did Jesus preach and why is that so important? Is that message for people today?
11. It appears that Jesus may have called His first disciples three times. What is the cost of following Jesus to Peter, Andrew, James, and John? What is the cost to you of following Jesus?
12. What are the three primary ministries of Jesus' before the cross?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: Flee from the temptation of sin and follow Jesus this week.

Matthew
Lesson 5
Sermon on the Mount-Part 1

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*In Matthew 4 we saw **Jesus’ Temptation and Power** in two divisions: **Jesus’ Victory in Temptation** and **Jesus’ Power in Ministry**. Jesus is ready to begin His public ministry. For the next four lessons we will study what is commonly known as the **Sermon on the Mount**. In this lesson Jesus teaches about **Christian Character, Christian Conduct, and Christian Influence**.*

Christian Character

Read Matthew 5:1-6.

1. What do you think the word “blessed” means? See Psalm 1:1-3 and Revelation 1:3.

2. What does Jesus mean “poor in spirit?” How are you poor in Spirit? See Luke 6:20.

3. What does “Blessed are those who mourn” mean? In what way to you mourn and how are you comforted? See Romans 6:23.

4. What does it to be meek? How are you meek and what will you inherit? See Romans 8:17 and Ephesians 1:13-14.

5. What does it mean “who hunger and thirst for righteousness?” How do you hunger and thirst and how are you filled? See Romans 3:10.

6. How have you experienced the blessing of a heart change?

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Matthew
Lesson 5
Sermon on the Mount-Part 1

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Christian Conduct

Read Matthew 5:7-12.

7. What does it mean to be merciful? How have you been shown mercy? See Matthew 18:21-22.

8. What does it mean to be “pure in heart?” How do you expect to see God? See Philippians 3:14.

9. What does it mean to be a peacemaker? How will you be a son of God? See Matthew 28:19-20 and Ephesians 1:5.

10. What does it mean to be persecuted for righteousness? How have you been persecuted for righteousness? See 2 Timothy 3:12.

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Christian Influence

Read Matthew 5:13-16.

11. Salt is a healing agent but it hurts. How can you be the salt of the earth?

12. Light dispels darkness and brings warmth and cheer. How can you be the light of world?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will your Christian character and conduct influence a wounded and sinful world?

Matthew Lesson 6 Sermon on the Mount-Part 2

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time we began a four-lesson series about the **Sermon on the Mount**. In that first lesson Jesus teaches about **Christian Character, Christian Conduct, and Christian Influence**. This time we will learn about **Jesus and the Law, Jesus and Religion, and Jesus and Righteousness**.*

Jesus and the Law

Read Matthew 5:17-20.

1. What are the Law and the Prophets that Jesus is referring to?

2. Explain each of the three parts to the Law listed below. How did Jesus fulfill each of them?
 - a. Moral Law (See Exodus 20:2-17)
 - b. Civil Law (See Exodus 21-23 and more)
 - c. Ceremonial Law (See Leviticus)

3. How did Jesus fulfill the prophets? Give examples from anywhere in the Old Testament.

4. Last week when we studied the Beatitudes, we saw that it was our heart attitude that was important. The Pharisees and teachers of the Law were righteous on the outside but not with the heart (see Isaiah 29:13-14). How can your righteousness surpass that of the Pharisees and teachers of the Law?

Lesson: _____

Jesus and Religion

Read Matthew 5:21-47.

In this section, Jesus gives 6 examples of rules that the Pharisees and Teachers of the Law had said. They taught that if you do these things God will count you as righteous. We do the same thing by showing our outward religion, even though on the inside our heart is different. Now, from these examples, let's find out how you can be more righteous than the Pharisees and Teachers of the Law.

5. How does Jesus relate murder of and anger with someone? Have you ever been angry with someone without reconciling? See Matthew 18:15-17.

Matthew
Lesson 6
Sermon on the Mount-Part 2

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

6. Adultery is wrong. What is the best way to prevent from committing adultery in the heart?

7. Divorce was rampant in Jesus' day as it is today. Some may have been divorced before becoming a Christian while others might be victims of divorce. What are your thoughts about divorce?

8. How have you made a promise that you could not keep or didn't mean to keep? How have you embellished your promise? How will you ask the Lord to convict you of any area of untruthfulness? See 1 John 1:9.

9. Have you ever wanted to retaliate against another person? What is Jesus telling you to do about that?

10. It may be easy to love your neighbor or someone you like. Why should you and how can you love your enemies?

Lesson: _____

Jesus and Righteousness
Read Matthew 5:48.

11. How can you be perfect as Jesus says? See Romans 3:9-34 and Ephesians 2:8-10.

12. How can you be purified from all unrighteousness? See 1 John 1:8-10.

Lesson: _____

Challenge: Remember each day “...that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

Matthew

Lesson 7

Sermon on the Mount-Part 3

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time we discussed our second lesson about the **Sermon on the Mount**. In that lesson we studied **Jesus and the Law**, **Jesus and Religion**, and **Jesus and Righteousness**.*

*This time we will continue with Jesus’ Sermon where He reveals **Heart Content regarding Works, Heart Content Regarding Wealth, and Heart Content Regarding Worry**.*

Heart Content Regarding Works

Read Matthew 6:1-18 and Ephesians 2:10.

1. Notice in Matthew 6:1, Jesus says, “be careful not to do your acts of righteousness before men, to be seen by them.” But in Mathew 5:16, He says, “let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” Are those statements contradictory? How do you square each of His statements?
2. Jesus expects believers to give to the needy. How are you not to give and how are you to give? What is your motive in giving? See Matthew 6:2-4.
3. How are you not to pray and how are you to pray? See Matthew 6:5-8.
4. Describe for yourself each of the verses of in the example of prayer that Jesus gives below. See Matthew 6:9-13.
 - a. “Our Father in heaven”
 - b. “Hallowed be your name”
 - c. “Your kingdom come”
 - d. “Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven”
 - e. “Give us our daily bread”
 - f. “Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors”
 - g. “Lead us not into temptation”
 - h. “But deliver us from the evil one”
5. Do you have an active and daily prayer life? Please explain. See 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18.
6. Jesus didn’t command fasting, commend fasting or forbid fasting. What is His point in verses 16-18?

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Matthew
Lesson 7
Sermon on the Mount-Part 3

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Heart Content Regarding Wealth
Read Matthew 6:19-24.

7. In Jesus day the religious leaders had wealth and were materialistic. How is our society materialistic today? How are you materialistic?
8. What is the danger of loving the things you listed in question 7 above everything else?
9. Jesus gives us a metaphor of “good eye” and “bad eye”. What do you learn from that?
10. Jesus never says that material wealth is bad. What spiritual treasures are you storing up in heaven? See Ephesians 2:10.

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Heart Content Regarding Worry
Read Matthew 6:25-34.

11. The King James Bible uses the words “take no thought” rather than “worry”. Some believe that means you shouldn’t make any plans about future provision like saving for children’s college or planning for retirement years. But, Jesus commands us, “do not worry.” What do you think He means?
12. Why should we not worry? How can we put into practice verse 33? See Philippians 4:6-7.

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How is your heart drawing closer to God regarding your work, wealth and worry?

Matthew
Lesson 8
Sermon on the Mount-Part 4

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time we continued with Jesus’ Sermon where He reveals **Heart Content** regarding **Works, Heart Content Regarding Wealth, and Heart Content Regarding Worry**. In this lesson we will finish our fourth lesson on the Sermon on the Mount. Here we will see Jesus’ calling for a **Humble Heart, Dependent Heart, and Honest Heart**.*

Humble Heart

Read Matthew 7:1-6.

1. As we what is happening in the world around us, we see that sin is not just approved of, but it is encouraged. Are we not supposed to make judgments about things clearly spelled out in the Bible?
2. What do you think Jesus is telling us today about making judgments?
3. What insights does Jesus give in the following verses?
 - a. Verse 2
 - b. Verses 3-5
 - c. Verse 6
4. In the last lesson, Jesus talked about seeking the praise of men. In these verses, Jesus talks about having a critical spirit. How can you recover from seeking the praise of people and having a sin-inspector spirit?

Lesson: _____

Dependent Heart

Read Matthew 7:7-12.

5. What do you think Jesus means by each of the three words below? How would you incorporate them into your prayer life?
 - a. Ask
 - b. Seek
 - c. Knock

Matthew
Lesson 8
Sermon on the Mount-Part 4
“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

6. How do verses 6-11 encourage you?
7. How will you depend on God to put verse 12 into practice?

Lesson: _____

Honest Heart
Read Matthew 7:13-29.

8. Notice in verse 24, Jesus is now calling people to action and to put His teaching into practice. His call to action is illustrated by three different pictures. How do the following verses show the life and death urgency of making the right choice?
 - a. Two Gates and Two Roads (13-14)
 - b. Two Kinds of Prophets (15-23)
 - c. Two Houses (24-27)
9. How has Jesus' sermon called you to action and where is your heart for God lagging behind your behavior before people?
10. After finishing the Sermon on the Mount, how are you amazed at Jesus' teaching and His authority? See John 1:1-2 and Romans 10:9.

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you stop resisting God from giving you a humble, dependent and honest heart?

Matthew

Lesson 9

Jesus' Authority-Part 1

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time we finished our fourth lesson on the Sermon on the Mount. That lesson ended with a statement that the crowds were amazed at His teaching because "it was taught with one who had authority." This time we will begin a two-lesson study showing the evidence of **Jesus' Authority**. In this lesson, we will see Jesus' **Authority over Disease, Authority over Disciples, Authority over Disasters, and Authority over Demons**.*

Authority over Disease

Read Matthew 8:1-17.

1. What impresses you about the man with leprosy?
2. What impresses you about the Gentile Roman Centurion? See Hebrews 11:1.
3. What impresses you about the healing of Peter's mother-in-law?
4. Jesus then healed many who were sick and demon possessed. What point is Matthew wanting to prove? See Isaiah 53:4.

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Authority over Disciples

Read Matthew 8:18-22.

5. What do you learn about following Jesus from the teacher of the law that wanted to follow Him?
6. What do you learn about following Jesus from the second disciple?
7. Are you one of Jesus' disciples? If so, what has been the cost? What has been the joy?

Lesson: _____

Matthew
Lesson 9
Jesus' Authority-Part 1
"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

Authority over Disasters
Read Matthew 8:23-27.

8. When has a sudden storm come up in your life?

9. Notice that Jesus didn't rebuke the disciples for being in a storm, waking Him up, but for forgetting the evidence of His power and authority. How have you been reminded of Jesus' power and authority during a storm in your life?

Lesson: _____

Authority over Demons
Read Matthew 8:28-34.

10. Demons are fallen angels cast out of heaven with Satan during their rebellion against God. What do you learn about demons from this passage?

11. What do you learn about the townspeople's faith after the two demon-possessed men were healed?

12. How have you submitted to the authority of Jesus over your life? See Matthew 28:18.

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you eagerly submit to Jesus' authority?

Matthew Lesson 10 Jesus' Authority-Part 2

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time we studied the first of a two-lesson study showing the evidence of **Jesus' Authority**. We saw **Jesus' Authority over Disease, Authority over Disciples, Authority over Disasters, and Authority over Demons**. In this lesson we continue to see **Jesus' Authority** through an **Unexpected Visitor, Unexpected Disciple, Unacceptable Banquet, and Unparalleled Miracles**.*

Unexpected Visitor

Read Matthew 9:1-8, Mark 2:3-12 and Luke 5:18-26.

1. Mark and Luke give more detail about this event. From Mark and Luke, try to set the stage in your mind by describing the beginning of this event.

2. What do you learn about the four men bringing the paralytic? What do you think the paralytic was thinking?

3. Besides the unexpected person coming through the roof, what unexpected thing did Jesus do and why?

4. What was the crowd's reaction to this event? What is your reaction? See 1 John 1:8-9.

Lesson: _____

Unlikely Disciple

Read Matthew 9:9 and Mark 2:13-14.

5. Matthew also known as Levi was a tax collector. What do you know about tax collectors in Jesus' day?

6. How unlikely was Matthew to become a follower of Jesus? How unlikely were you to become a follower of Jesus?

Lesson: _____

Matthew
Lesson 10
Jesus' Authority-Part 2

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Unacceptable Banquet

Read Matthew 9:9-17 and Mark 2:14-17.

7. After getting up and following Jesus, describe the big change that occurred in Matthew?
8. The Pharisees thought that the banquet at Matthew's house was unacceptable. What do you learn from Jesus' response to them? See Hosea 6:6 and Luke 19:10.
9. John's disciples saw the banquet as unacceptable but were asking an honest question. What was Jesus teaching them in His answer in verses 14-17? See John 3:26-30.

Lesson: _____

Unparalleled Miracles

Read Mathew 9:18-34.

10. Following Jesus' teaching there are five people that received new lives. Describe the new lives each received.
 - a. Jairus the synagogue ruler and sick woman. See Luke 8:40-56.
 - b. Two blind men (see Isaiah 35:5)
 - c. Demon possessed mute man
11. In what ways have you been given unparalleled miracles by Jesus?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How do you thank Jesus for calling you, forgiving your sins, and giving you a new life?

Matthew Lesson 11

Jesus' Harvest Field Workers

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

*In our last lesson we saw **Jesus' Authority** through an **Unexpected Visitor, Unexpected Disciple, Unacceptable Banquet, and Unparalleled Miracles**. Compare Matthew 4:23 to 9:35, which are almost word for word. Those verses seem to cap off chapters 5-9 where Jesus preached and healed while His disciples watched. Now in this lesson we will see a transition as **Jesus' Harvest Field Workers** are called and taught by Him. His teaching will be in four divisions: **Jesus' Compassion, Jesus' Call and Commission, Conditions of Service, and Costs and Comforts**.*

Jesus' Compassion

Read Matthew 9:35-38.

1. Some scholars estimate there were 200 cities in Galilee with a population of about 3 million people. Crowds followed Him everywhere. From chapters 5-9, what type of people followed Him? What was Jesus' attitude toward the crowds?
2. What did Jesus say to His disciples? What do you learn from His words?
3. In today's world there are so many people without Jesus. Do you think Jesus feels that same compassion today? Do you feel that same compassion? If so, how will you respond to the harvest field? See Luke 6:12-13.

Lesson: _____

Jesus' Call and Commission

Read Matthew 10:1-16.

4. In verses 1-2, how would you define the words "called", "disciple", and "apostle"? What do those words mean today?
5. Interestingly, the 12 apostles are listed four times in scripture in Matthew, Mark, Luke and Acts. Each time they seem to be listed in three groups of four. In each group of four the one person is always listed first and perhaps the leader of four. What do you know about apostles who were flawed ordinary men called by Jesus.
 - a. Peter, Andrew, James Zebedee, and John
 - b. Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew
 - c. James, Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon, and Judas Iscariot

Matthew
Lesson 11
Jesus' Harvest Field Workers

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

6. List the instructions for their first missionary trip.

7. How are you called to be Jesus' witness right where you are? See Acts 1:8.

Lesson: _____

Conditions of Service

Read Matthew 10:17-25.

8. In verses 5-16, Matthew talks about their first missionary journey. What time frame is Jesus talking about in verses 17-20 and then 21-25? Explain your reasoning.

9. How would you interpret verse 23b? There are many interpretations. See Matthew 24.

Lesson: _____

Costs and Comforts

Read Matthew 10:26-42.

10. These verses apply to ministry in every age. What message does Jesus repeat in verses 26, 28, and 31? How is that message important?

11. How are verses 32-42 comforting or challenging to you?

12. How are you putting into practice Matthew 28:19-20?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: Each day will you ask for the Lord of the harvest to send you into the harvest field?

Matthew
Lesson 12
Evidence that Demands a Choice

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*In our previous lesson **Jesus’ Harvest Field Workers** are called and taught by Him. His teaching was in four divisions: **Jesus’ Compassion, Jesus’ Call and Commission, Conditions of Service, and Costs and Comforts.** In this lesson Jesus presents **Evidence That Renders a Decision.** We will study chapters 11 and 12 in four sections: **John’s Doubts, Cities Denounced, Call to Discipleship, and Israel Decides.***

John’s Doubts

Read Matthew 11:1-19.

1. What do you think was the reason for John’s question and doubt? See Matthew 3:7-10.
2. How did Jesus answer John’s doubts? Have you ever had doubts about Jesus? If so, how were your doubts answered?
3. How does Jesus commend John publicly?
4. How do you interpret verse 12?

Lesson: _____

Cities Denounced

Read Matthew 11:20-24.

5. Why does Jesus say it will be more bearable for Sodom and Gomorrah than for Capernaum on judgment day?
6. Today, much of the world and especially western Europe and the US have heard about Jesus. How do people reject Jesus today, even though they have heard? See 1 Peter 2:6-8.

Lesson: _____

Matthew
Lesson 12
Evidence that Demands a Choice

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Call to Discipleship

Read Matthew 11:25-30.

7. Who are the wise and learned and who are the little children? Why had the Father hidden these things from the wise? See Matthew 5:3-7.

8. What is the great invitation that Jesus gives to the little ones? What is your view of Christianity?

Lesson: _____

Israel Decides

Read Matthew 12:1-50.

9. In verses 12:1-21, Jesus is challenged by the Pharisees for breaking the Sabbath rules. What do you learn about Jesus and the Pharisees?

10. In verses 22-32, the Pharisees claim that Jesus healed a demon possessed man by Beelzebub. What did Jesus tell them and what did He say about an unforgiveable sin?

11. In verses 33-37, what does Jesus teach to the Pharisees about the day of judgment?

12. In verses 38- 45, how does Jesus condemn the Pharisees and the teachers of the law?

13. In verses 46-50, how does Jesus describe His brother, sister, and mother?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: Have you done the will of the Father and rendered a decision for Jesus?

Matthew
Lesson 13
Parables-Part 1

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time in chapters 11 and 12, we looked at **Evidence that Demands a Choice** in four sections: **John’s Doubts, Cities Denounced, Call to Discipleship, and Israel Decides**. In the next two lessons, we will study the Parables in chapter 13. A parable is a story taken from everyday life with a main point or truth. They also have a key idea which can be a likeness or comparison. These parables provide a revelation of who God is. As the revelation goes forward there becomes a separation among people: people that really follow Him and the religious Jewish leaders that want to kill Him. For this week we will study the **Parable of the Sower**, the **Purpose of Parables**, and the **Parable of the Weeds**.*

Parable of the Sower

Read Matthew 13:1-9; 18-23.

1. There was a large crowd so that Jesus taught them many things in parables. Who is the sower and what is the seed in Jesus’ day and now?

2. Explain the seed that is sown along the path where birds came and ate it up.

3. Explain the seed that is sown along rocky places without much soil, and sprang up quickly.

4. Explain the seed that is sown among the thorns, which grew up and choked the plants.

5. Explain the seed that is sown in the good soil. See Philippians 1:6.

Lesson: _____

Matthew
Lesson 13
Parables-Part 1

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Purpose of Parables

Read Matthew 13:10-17; 34-35.

6. Why did the disciples ask Jesus why He was speaking parables?

7. What is Jesus' answer about speaking in parables?

8. What encouragement does Jesus give to the disciples? How does that encourage you?

Lesson: _____

Parable of the Weeds

Read Matthew 13:24-30; 36-43.

9. The disciples had to ask Jesus what He meant in this parable. Describe Jesus' explanation.

10. How are you concerned about this great separation?

11. The devil will bring forward people that look like true Christians, whether in the church or out. As believers, how should we handle people we suspect as a weed or disagree with?

12. What do you know about judgement for
 - a. Believers (see 2 Corinthians 5:10)

 - b. Unbelievers (Revelation 20:11-15)

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you pray for a friend that needs to have their ears opened to Jesus?

Matthew Lesson 14 Parables-Part 2

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*In the previous lesson we began our study of parables with the **Parable of the Sower**, the **Purpose of Parables**, and the **Parable of the Weeds**. Remember that a parable is a story taken from everyday life with a main point or truth. They also have a key idea which can be a likeness or comparison. These parables provide a revelation of who God is. As the revelation goes forward there becomes a separation among people: people that really follow Him and the religious Jewish leaders that want to kill Him. For this lesson we will study the **Parables of the Mustard Seed and Yeast**, the **Parables of Hidden Treasure and Pearl**, and the **Parables of the Net and Householder**. After finishing the parables, we will see Jesus as **Prophet Without Honor**.*

1. Matthew doesn't normally order his writing in a time sequence. However, from chapter 12 and the sign of Jonah, through chapter 13, seems to be one day. Check out the following time markers and see if you agree. I so, how should we view these parables?
 - a. Matthew 12:22; 12:38
 - b. Matthew 12:46
 - c. Matthew 13:1
 - d. Matthew 13:36
 - e. Matthew 13:53

Parables of the Mustard Seed and Yeast

Read Matthew 13:31-33.

2. What is the Kingdom of Heaven? When is it coming? See Romans 11:25-28.
3. When Jesus taught the parable of the mustard seed it was new information. But with 2,000 years of history how would you interpret this parable? How would you interpret the birds?
4. How do you interpret the parable of the yeast?
5. Why does God allow sin in the world and in the church?

Lesson: _____

Matthew
Lesson 14
Parables-Part 2

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Parables of Hidden Treasure and Pearl

Read Matthew 13:44-46.

6. How do you interpret the parable of the hidden treasure?

7. Pearls were not valued highly by Jews but they were by Gentiles. How do you interpret the parable of the pearl?

Lesson: _____

Parables of the Net and Householder

Read Matthew 13:47-52.

8. How do you interpret the parable of the net? What do you learn from this parable? See John 3:18.

9. How do you interpret verse 52? How encouraging is that to you?

Lesson: _____

Prophet Without Honor.

Read Matthew 13:53-58.

10. After a long day of teaching parables, Jesus returns to His hometown. Describe what happened there?

11. Why did the people in His hometown take offense take offense at Him? What was the result of their offense?

12. Do you have faith in Jesus? If so, have you ever become too familiar to ignore His Lordship?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you thank Jesus for calling you into the Kingdom of Heaven?

Matthew Lesson 15 Who is this Jesus?

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*The last time we finished **Parables of the Mustard Seed and Yeast**, the **Parables of Hidden Treasure and Pearl**, and the **Parables of the Net and Householder**. After finishing the parables, we saw Jesus as **Prophet Without Honor**. In His own hometown, people were amazed but asking where He got this wisdom, and surprisingly took offense at Him. Let's find out in this lesson **Who is this Jesus?** We will find out by looking at three sections of Scripture: **A Murderous King**, **An Overwhelming Need**, and **An unanticipated Storm**. All of this happened in one day and then late into the night.*

A Murderous King

Read Matthew 14:1-12.

1. Who is Herod the Tetrarch?

2. Who did Herod think Jesus was and why did he think that?

3. It seems like Herodias may have orchestrated this event in order to kill John. Notice in verse 9 that Herod was distressed. Why do you think he was distressed?

4. How did John's disciples respond to his death? How do you respond to devastating news or changes to worldly thinking?

Lesson: _____

An Overwhelming Need

Read Matthew 14:13-21 and John 6:1-15.

5. Notice after hearing that John was murdered, Jesus withdrew to a solitary place to pray with His disciples? What do you think Jesus was praying about?

6. It was getting late and the disciples suggest that Jesus send the crowds away to eat. But Jesus says, “You give them something to eat.” Describe the dilemma.

Matthew
Lesson 15
Who is this Jesus?

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

7. Describe the how Jesus solves the dilemma. What do you learn about this?

8. Who is this Jesus? What did the people say; what did the disciples think? What do you say? See John 1:1-14.

Lesson: _____

An Unanticipated Storm

Read Matthew 14:22-36 and John 6:14-15.

9. After feeding the 5,000 what did Jesus do and why did He do it?

10. Meanwhile the disciples encounter a storm not because of their disobedience but because of their obedience. When have you encountered a storm that was not a result of disobedience?

11. What does Jesus do? How does that encourage you to deal with a future storm in your life?

12. Describe what happened with Peter? What do you learn about Jesus from that incident?

13. Who did those in the boat say that Jesus was? Who is this Jesus for you?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How can you encourage others to ask, “who is this Jesus?”

Matthew

Lesson 16

Jesus Trains His Disciples

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time we spent one day in the life of Jesus to understand **Who is this Jesus?** We looked at three sections of Scripture: **A Murderous King, An Overwhelming Need, and An unanticipated Storm.** In this lesson we will see **Jesus Training His Disciples** as He prepares them for ministry to have a heart like His. First, we see His **Condemnation of Pharisees** with hard hearts, His **Commendation of a Canaanite Women** with a heart of persistent faith, and finally His **Compassion for Crowds** with needy hearts.*

Condemnation of Pharisees

Read Matthew 15:1-20.

1. Why were the Pharisees and teachers of the law gathered around Jesus? What did they question Him on? See Mark 7:1-5.
2. How does Jesus respond to the Pharisees? How did He respond to the crowd? See Mark 7:9-14.
3. What teaching does Jesus give to His disciples and to Peter?
4. What did the disciples learn from this incident? What did you learn?

Commendation of a Canaanite Woman

Read Matthew 15:21-28.

5. Why did Jesus leave the area and go to Tyre and Sidon?
6. How does the Canaanite women address Jesus? Why is that significant?
7. Describe their conversation.

Matthew
Lesson 16
Jesus Trains His Disciples

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

8. What do you think the disciples learned from this? What do you learn about Jesus' answer to prayer?

Lesson: _____

Compassion for Crowds

Read Matthew 15:29-39.

9. Jesus left the region of Tyre and Sidon for Decapolis, according to Mark. He heals a deaf person in this Gentile area. How do these Gentiles respond to Jesus?

10. Explain Jesus' compassion for these people.

11. How is this feeding different than that in Matthew 14? What did the disciples learn?

12. When have you been slow to learn about Jesus and change your heart for Him?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you have compassion for others that are seeking Jesus?

Matthew Lesson 17

Jesus Continues Training His Disciples

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*In our last lesson, Jesus and His disciples were in Gentile territory, and we saw **Jesus Training His Disciples** as He prepares them for ministry to have a heart like His. First, we saw His **Condemnation of Pharisees** with hard hearts, His **Commendation of a Canaanite Women** with a heart of persistent faith, and finally His **Compassion for Crowds** with needy hearts. In this lesson **Jesus Continues to Train His Disciples**. We will see the **Disciples’ Confusion**, **Peter’s Confession**, and **Believer’s Cross**.*

Disciples Confusion

Read Matthew 16:1-12.

1. As Jesus and His disciples leave Gentile territory, they meet the Pharisees and Sadducees. Who are they and why did they come to Jesus? See Matthew 12:14.
2. The Pharisees and Sadducees want to see a sign from heaven. What is Jesus’ response?
3. It is ominous that Jesus left them and went away. Jesus teaches His disciples to “guard against the yeast of the Pharisees and Sadducees. What did the disciples learn and what do you learn?
4. How are you encouraged that Jesus will continue to open the minds of believers? What miraculous signs have you seen in your life?

Lesson: _____

Peter’s Confession

Read Matthew 16:13-20.

5. Caesarea Philippi is another Gentile area. As they come to that area, Jesus asks them, “Who do people say that I am?” Then He asks, “who do you say I am?” Describe Peter’s interaction with Jesus.
6. Who do you say Jesus is? See John 1:1-14. What authority and responsibility does that give you? See Matthew 28:16-20.

Lesson: _____

Matthew
Lesson 17
Jesus Continues Training His Disciples
“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Believer's Cross

Read Matthew 16:21-28.

7. What does “from that time on Jesus began to explain” mean?
8. What did Jesus tell them must happen?
9. What was Peter's reaction and Jesus' rebuke of Peter?
10. After rebuking Peter, what training does Jesus give His disciples?
11. How would you interpret verse 28?
12. What cost have you paid for becoming a disciple of Jesus? What joy have you received?

Challenge: How will you tell others that following Jesus is a miraculous sign from heaven.

Matthew
Lesson 18
Jesus' Glory, Power, and Authority
"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time Jesus Continues to Train His Disciples. We saw the **Disciples' Confusion**, **Peter's Confession**, and **Believer's Cross**. Six days later some disciples will see **Jesus' Glory**. Afterwards, Jesus will display His **Power** and **Authority**.*

Glory

Read Matthew 17:1-13 and Luke 9:28-36.

1. Previously, Jesus had told the disciples and His death and resurrection. Describe what occurred in Matthew 16:28 and 17:1-3. What do you think is happening?
2. Notice that Peter is interrupted by God the Father. Why do the disciples fall face down and what does Jesus do?
3. Have you been transformed by Jesus? Has Jesus touched you and said don't be afraid? Are you wrapped in Jesus' righteousness.
4. Coming down the mountain Jesus tells the disciples not to talk about this until He is raised up. How does He answer their question about Elijah?

Lesson: _____

Power

Read Matthew 17:14-23 and Mark 9:14-32.

5. After showing His divinity and glory in the previous section, how does Jesus show His humanity?
6. Notice that the disciples ask Jesus why they couldn't drive out the demon. What does Jesus teach them? What is He teaching you?

Matthew
Lesson 18
Jesus' Glory, Power, and Authority
"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

7. What is faith to you? See Hebrews 11:1 and Romans 4:3.

8. How do verses 22-23 tie into verse 17?

Lesson: _____

Authority

Read Matthew 17:24-27.

9. What do you know about the temple tax?

10. Notice that when Peter returns to the house, Jesus speaks first asking him a question. What does the phrase "sons are exempt" mean?

11. Why did Jesus pay the temple tax for Himself and Peter, when He was exempt as God's Son and they didn't have the money?

12. How do you see Peter obediently trusting in Jesus' authority? Do you obediently trust in Jesus' authority?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you glorify Jesus with His power and authority to forgive sins?

Matthew
Lesson 19
Life in the Kingdom

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time we saw **Jesus’ Glory** at His Transfiguration. Afterwards, Jesus displayed His **Power and Authority**. This time Jesus gives His discourse on **Life in the Kingdom** and calls believers to have **A Humble Heart, A Compassionate Heart, A Reconciling Heart, and A Merciful Heart**.*

A Humble Heart

Read Matthew 18:1-4 and Luke 9:46-48.

1. What do you think about asking the question about who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?
2. The word “change” in Greek means repent. How does Jesus describe greatness?

Lesson: _____

A Compassionate Heart

Read Matthew 18:5-14.

3. How have you had compassion for a little child? How have you welcomed them in Jesus’ name?
4. How does Jesus expand the thought of “little ones” beginning in verse 7?
5. How do you interpret verse 10?
6. How do verses 12-14 reinforce verse 10? How do those verses encourage you? See Isaiah 53:6 and John 10:28-29.

Lesson: _____

A Reconciling Heart

Read Matthew 18:15-20.

7. Are these verses calling believers to point out sins of others? What do you think the main theme of these verses are? See Matthew 7:1-5.

Matthew
Lesson 19
Life in the Kingdom

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

8. What should happen when there is a serious sin that the relationship is actually broken?
See Galatians 6:1.
9. What is the authority that Jesus is promising to believers?

Lesson: _____

A Merciful Heart

Read Matthew 18:21-35.

10. The Jewish Rabbis thought that you should forgive a person 3 times. So, Peter more than doubles it when he asks how many times we should forgive a brother. What is Jesus' response?
11. Jesus goes on to explain by giving a parable. In Jesus day ten thousand talents was an astronomically large sum. The annual tax revenue collected by Rome in the area was 900 talents. The second servant owed 900 denarii which was about three months wages. What do you learn from this parable? See 1 John 1:8-9.
12. What happens when we refuse to forgive others?
13. How many times has Jesus forgiven you?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you allow God to change your heart to one of humility, compassion, reconciliation, and mercy?

Matthew
Lesson 20
Jesus' Love for People

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*In our last lesson Jesus gives His discourse on **Life in the Kingdom** and calls believers to have **A Humble Heart, A Compassionate Heart, A Reconciling Heart, and A Merciful Heart**. In this lesson we will see **Jesus' Love for People**. He loves **Married People, Single People, Little People, and Wealthy People**.*

Married People

Read Matthew 19:1-9 and Deuteronomy 24:1-4.

1. During this time, the Jews had two opposing views of divorce and those views were hotly debated. The debate was not about divorce itself, but instead the grounds for divorce. One view was that divorce was permitted for something indecent only. The other view was not only something indecent but also for something displeasing to the man. As Jesus came to Judea and large crowds followed Him to be healed, what do you think the Pharisees motive was?
2. Describe Jesus' answer in verses 4-6. See Genesis 1:27, 2:24, and 5:2.
3. The Pharisees continue with their test by asking why Moses allowed divorce? Describe Jesus' answer in verse 8.
4. How does Jesus clarify divorce in verse 9?
5. How do you view Jesus' teaching as relevant in today's world? See Malachi 2:16.

Lesson: _____

Single People

Read Matthew 19:10-12.

6. Apparently, Jesus' teaching on divorce was difficult for the disciples as they ask, perhaps it is better to remain single. What is Jesus' answer? See 1 Corinthians 7:8-9.
7. Whether married or single, how will you joyfully do the work God has called you to do?

Lesson: _____

Matthew
Lesson 20
Jesus' Love for People

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Little People

Read Matthew 19:13-15 and Matthew 18:5-6.

8. Like the disciples, have you tended to disregard little people?

9. When should you begin teaching little people?

Lesson: _____

Wealthy People

Read Matthew 19:16-30, and Luke 18:18-30.

10. Describe the man that came to Jesus.

11. What was Jesus' response to the young man? See Mark 10:21. Why did Jesus tell him to sell everything?

12. The disciples were greatly astonished and wondered who could be saved. What did Jesus teach them and how is that encouraging to you? See Ephesians 2:8-10.

Lesson: _____

Challenge: Jesus loves people that are married, single, children, and wealthy. How will you love them too?

Matthew Lesson 21

Jesus' Travel to Jerusalem

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time we saw **Jesus' Love for People**. He loves **Married People, Single People, Little People, and Wealthy People**. In this lesson, we see **Jesus' Travel to Jerusalem**. But first we will see **Believers' Rewards** for Jesus' humble servants. Next, His disciples will learn about **Jesus' Suffering Servant Lordship**, and finally, we will see Jesus' **Triumphal Entry and Temple Cleansing**.*

Believers' Rewards

Read Matthew 19:30-20:16.

1. Jesus taught this parable in response to Peter's question in Matthew 19:27. In verse 30, Jesus explains about the last being first and the first last. Jesus further explains what He means by a parable. What does each represent?
 - a. Landowner
 - b. Vineyard
 - c. Working men
2. Notice that all workers received the same pay, even though some came to work later in the day. How do you interpret what Jesus is saying?
3. What good work has God prepared for you to do? See Ephesians 2:10.

Lesson: _____

Jesus' Suffering Servant Lordship

Read Matthew 20:17-34 and Isaiah 52:13-53:12.

4. As they are travelling to Jerusalem, Jesus predicts His death and resurrection for a third time. What additional information does He give compared to Matthew 16:21 and Matthew 17:22-23.
5. How is Jesus God's Servant Leader?
6. Just after this James, John and their mother ask to sit at Jesus' right and left. Describe that question and answer with Jesus.

Matthew
Lesson 21
Jesus' Travel to Jerusalem

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

7. When the 10 other disciples learned about James' and John's request, they were indignant with the two brothers. What did Jesus teach them?

8. How did Jesus serve the two blind men as they left Jericho to Jerusalem?

9. What do you learn about servant leadership in your church, home and work?

Triumphal Entry and Temple Cleansing

Read Matthew 21:1-17.

10. Now we begin Jesus' last week in His earthly life. It is just before Passover and the population of Jerusalem swelled exponentially to celebrate and remember Passover. What strikes you about Jesus' entry? See Zechariah 9:9.

11. Why did Jesus enter the temple area and overturn the tables of the money changes and the benches of those selling doves?

12. Jesus healed many at the temple. What did the chief priests think and say?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you humble yourself before God's Suffering Servant who bore your sins?

Matthew
Lesson 22
Jesus and the Jewish Leaders-Part 1
“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time we saw **Jesus’ Travel to Jerusalem for Passover**. Before His arrival He teaches about **Believers’ Rewards** and about His **Suffering Servant Lordship**. Then we learn about His **Triumphal Entry and Temple Cleansing** as Jesus begins His final week. In the next two lessons we will see encounters between **Jesus and the Jewish Leaders**. In this lesson we will study four parables giving **Warning about Hypocrisy, Warning about Authority, Warning about Fruitlessness, and Warning about Rejection**.*

Warning about Hypocrisy

Read Matthew 21:18-22, Isaiah 29:13 and Romans 11:25-29.

1. Jesus’ miracles have been ones of restoration. Jesus does a miracle of destruction in front of His disciples? Has He changed?
2. What is this miracle teaching?
3. What do you learn about faith from these verses?

Lesson: _____

Warning about Authority

Read Matthew 21:23-32.

4. The chief priests and elders of the people challenge Jesus’s authority to teach and heal. How does Jesus respond and what is the result of His response?
5. What does Jesus go on to tell the chief priests and elders?
6. Do you share authority over your life with Jesus? If so, how can you learn to submit to His authority completely? See Matthew 28:18.

Lesson: _____

Matthew
Lesson 22
Jesus and the Jewish Leaders-Part 1
“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Warning about Fruitlessness

Read Matthew 21:33-46 and Isaiah 5:1-7.

7. What does each of the following represent in this parable? Why would the chief priests and elders understand this?
 - a. Landowner
 - b. Vineyard
 - c. Farmers/Tenants
 - d. Servants
 - e. Landowners Son
8. What are Jesus' comments to the chief priests and elders after they answer? How do they respond? See Psalm 118:22-23 and Acts 4:11.
9. How will you produce spiritual fruit? See Ephesians 2:8-10.

Lesson: _____

Warning about Rejection

Read Matthew 22:1-14.

10. Jesus speaks again to the chief priests and elders. What is Jesus warning them about in verses 1-7?
11. Describe what Jesus is saying in verses 8-14. See Isaiah 61:10.
12. Revelation 19:6-9 reveals an event future to us. How will you be dressed for the “wedding of the lamb?” See Galatians 3:27.

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you be one of God's servants and share the good news of Jesus with someone?

Matthew Lesson 23

Jesus and the Jewish Leaders-Part 2

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time Jesus had several encounters with the Jewish leaders and gave them four parables. Jesus gave them **Warning about Hypocrisy, Warning about Authority, Warning about Fruitlessness, and Warning about Rejection.** In this lesson Jesus has His final encounters with the Jewish Leaders before His arrest and trial. First **Jesus Answers Three Questions**, second **Jesus Asks His Own Questions**, and finally, **Jesus Pronounces Woes and Warnings.***

Jesus Answers Three Questions

Read Matthew 22:15-40.

1. This first question to trap Jesus was a political one. Jerusalem was ruled by the Romans. Some people supported the Roman rule and the Pharisees did not. It may have been as contentious as it is today. What do you learn from Jesus' answer.
2. The second question is doctrinal. It is interesting that the Sadducees ask about the resurrection because they don't believe in the resurrection. What do you learn from Jesus' answer?
3. The third question is ethical or legal as the Pharisees hoped to outdo the Sadducees which failed. The scribes had identified 613 separate commandments to keep, so which is the most important. How do you love God and how do you love your neighbor?
4. What questions have you asked of Jesus?

Lesson: _____

Jesus Asks His Own Question

Read Matthew 22:41-46 and Psalm 110.

5. Why did Jesus ask this question of the Pharisees who had been trying to trap Him?
6. What is significant about Jesus' question about whose son Christ (Messiah) is?

Matthew
Lesson 23
Jesus and the Jewish Leaders-Part 2
“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

7. David wrote Psalm 110. How do you answer Jesus’ question about David calling the Messiah Lord and Him being David’s son? See John 1:1-14.

Lesson: _____

Jesus Pronounces Woes and Warnings

Read Matthew 23:1-39.

8. Finished with leaders, Jesus now speaks to the crowds and His disciples. What is Jesus teaching them in verses 1-12.
9. Summarize the seven woes Jesus pronounces on the teachers of the law and Pharisees.
- a. Verses 13-14:
 - b. Verse 15:
 - c. Verses 16-22:
 - d. Verses 23-24:
 - e. Verses 25-26:
 - f. Verses 27-28:
 - g. Verses 29-32:
10. How can you avoid being a hypocrite? See Matthew 7:1-5.
11. What is the final warning that Jesus gives? See Romans 11:25-29.
12. How do you escape God’s judgment? See John 3:16-18.

Challenge: How will you humble yourself before the Lord each day?

Matthew Lesson 24

Mount of Olives Discourse – Part 1

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*In our last lesson, Jesus has His final encounters with the Jewish Leaders before His arrest and trial. First **Jesus Answers Three Questions**, second **Jesus Asks His Own Questions**, and finally, **Jesus Pronounces Woes and Warnings**. In this lesson we will begin the first of two lessons as Jesus sits with His disciples giving them His **Mount of Olives Discourse**, known as the Olivet Discourse. In this lesson we will see **Signs Preceding Jerusalem’s Destruction**, **Signs Preceding Christ’s Return**, **Signs Accompanying Christ’s Return**, and **Significance for Today**.*

Signs Preceding Jerusalem’s Destruction

Read Matthew 24:1-3 and Luke 21:20-24.

Note: Passover and Jesus crucifixion is just two days away according to Matthew 26:1-2.

1. Jesus tells the disciples that the temple will be destroyed. Notice that the disciple’s first of three questions is when will this happen? Matthew does not answer the first question, but how does Luke tell us the answer?
2. Interestingly the disciples ask three questions about the timing of the temple’s destruction, Jesus’ return, and the end of the age. How do you see their view of these events versus your view of these events?
3. How do you view prophecies that are future to us? What to you learn about God?

Lesson: _____

Signs Preceding Christ’s Return

Read Matthew 24:4-29.

4. The end times began with Jesus’ resurrection and will end with His return. From verses 4-14, what are signs preceding Christ’s return? Which of those have occurred?
5. What are four specific signs that the end is near from verses 14-29? Have any of those signs occurred?
6. What source of truth do you rely on for your present and future? Explain why? See John 1:1-14.

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Matthew
Lesson 24
Mount of Olives Discourse – Part 1
“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Signs Accompanying Christ’s Return

Read Matthew 24:30-35. See 1 Thessalonians 4:13-19 and Revelation 19:11-16.

7. What are the signs that will accompany Christ’s return and how do you understand them?

8. Explain the parable of the fig tree in verses 32-34.

Lesson: _____

Significance for Today

Read Matthew 24:36-51.

9. Do you look for the time of the end? Why or why not?

10. How are you to live as you wait for Jesus’ coming? See 1 Peter 1:3-9.

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you joyfully go and make disciples until Jesus comes for you?

Matthew
Lesson 25
Mount of Olives Discourse – Part 2

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time we began our two-part series about Jesus’ **Mount of Olives Discourse**, known as the Olivet Discourse. We saw **Signs Preceding Jerusalem’s Destruction, Signs Preceding Christ’s Return, Signs Accompanying Christ’s Return, and Significance for Today**. As we study Part 2, Jesus will teach us to be ready in three ways: **Ready in Relationship, Ready in Responsibility, and Ready in Righteousness**.*

Ready in Relationship

Parable of 10 Virgins

Read Matthew 25:1-13.

1. What is represented by the following in this parable?
 - a. Bridegroom
 - b. Wise Virgins
 - c. Foolish Virgins
 - d. Lamps
 - e. Oil
 - f. Wedding banquet
2. Were the wise virgins selfish by not giving oil to the foolish ones? Explain why or why not.
3. What made all of the difference between the wise and the foolish virgins? What does that mean for you? See Ephesians 1:11-14.
4. What is the main point of this parable?

Lesson: _____

Ready in Responsibility

Parable of Talents

Read Matthew 25:14-30.

5. In Jesus’ time a “talent” was a measure of weight and between 58 to 80 pounds of copper, silver, or gold. Today talent can mean gift or ability, but in this passage it means wealth. What wealth is Jesus talking about in this parable?
6. What did the first two servants do with their talents? What was their reward when the man came back after a long time for the accounting?

Matthew
Lesson 25
Mount of Olives Discourse – Part 2
“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

7. Why did the third servant bury his talent in the ground? What happened to him on accounting day?
8. How do you interpret this parable and how does it make you ready for Jesus coming for you? See Ephesians 2:8-9 and then 10.

Lesson: _____

Ready in Righteousness
Sheep and Goats
Read Matthew 25:31-46

9. These verses are not strictly a parable because it tells about a real event future to us. Who is being judged and by whom? See Psalm 110:1.
10. What are the destinations of the sheep and of the goats? What do you learn from this?
11. Notice that both the sheep and the goats are surprised by what they did or didn't do? Are these works or lack of works the basis of salvation? What do you think Jesus means? See Ephesians 2:8-9 and James 2:26.
12. How have you been made ready for righteousness?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How are you ready for Christ's return?

Matthew
Lesson 26
Jesus' Time with Disciples Before His Arrest
"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

*Last time, Jesus finished the Mount of Olives Discourse. He taught His disciples to be ready for His return in three ways: **Ready in Relationship, Ready in Responsibility, and Ready in Righteousness.** Now, we will see **Jesus' Time with Disciples Before His Arrest.** We will see His **Anointing at Bethany, Betrayal by Judas, Last Passover Supper, and Prayer at Gethsemane.***

Anointing at Bethany

Read Matthew 26:1-13 and John 12:1-11.

1. As Jesus finishes His Mount of Olives Discourse, He predicts His death a fourth time and as Caiaphas and chief priests plot not if to kill Him but how to kill Him so there will be no riot from the people. From the John passage describe Jesus' anointing in Bethany.

2. What was Judas and the disciple's complaint about anointing Jesus with expensive perfume? Describe the contrast between Judas and Mary.

3. What does Jesus say about Mary's anointing?

4. Without sharing with the group what beautiful and sacrificial commitment have you made to Jesus?

Lesson: _____

Betrayal by Judas

Read Matthew 26:14-16.

5. In verse 4, the Caiaphas and chief priests were trying to figure out a sly way of killing Jesus. What were they thinking when Judas came to them?

6. Why do you think Judas decided to betray Jesus?

Lesson: _____

Matthew
Lesson 26

Jesus' Time with Disciples Before His Arrest

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

Last Passover Supper

Read Matthew 26:17-35.

7. What is Passover and interesting to you about Jesus' instructions for preparing the Passover meal? See Mark 14:12-16.

8. During the evening meal how were the disciples shocked by Jesus and what was their response? See John 13:18-30.

9. John tells us that Judas left. After Judas left what does Jesus teach His disciples? See Revelation 19:9.

10. After the Passover meal they sang a hymn and went out to the mount of Olives. What other shocking thing did Jesus tell them that night? What was Peter's response?

Lesson: _____

Prayer at Gethsemane

Read Matthew 26:36-46.

11. What do you think caused Jesus' soul to be overwhelmed to the point of death?

12. What did Jesus pray for? What is the significance of that prayer?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you constantly remember that Jesus is the lamb of God that takes away the sins of many?

Matthew Lesson 27 Jesus' Jury

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

*Jury trials consist of three parts: First an arrest with charges filed; second evidence is presented for evaluation; then a verdict is rendered. What if you were on a jury and went through all the stages, but at the end you are the one actually on trial. Your fate would be determined on how you judged the case and the verdict you rendered. And based on your verdict the one accused would pass judgment on you. That would be a chilling thought for a juror. But that is exactly what is facing **Jesus' Jury** as they participate in **Jesus' Arrest in the Garden, Charges by the Sanhedrin, Denial by Peter, and Condemnation by Pilate.***

Arrest in the Garden

Read Matthew 26:47-56 and John 18:1-11.

1. Remember from our last lesson that Jesus had been praying at Gethsemane, woke up His disciple and told them His betrayer was coming. Describe the arrest of Jesus.
2. Why would Peter try defend Jesus with a sword? What is Jesus' reaction to Peter?
3. What did Jesus say to the crowd? Why is that significant?

Lesson: _____

Charges by the Sanhedrin

Read Matthew 26:57-68.

4. Now we seem to be at the trial stage at the house of Caiaphas. What is the evidence that is presented against Jesus so they can put Jesus to death?
5. Without any evidence, what does the high priest ask of Jesus and what is the high priest's reaction to Jesus' answer?
6. What was Jesus actually saying to Caiaphas? See Daniel 7:13-14. What is Jesus saying to you?

Lesson: _____

**Matthew
Lesson 27
Jesus' Jury**

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

Denial by Peter

Read Matthew 26:69-27:10 and Luke 22:54-62.

7. Remember that Peter fled the arrest scene, but “followed Him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome.” Describe Peter’s progressive denials. What do you learn from that?

8. In Matthew we see the failure of Judas with his betrayal and the failure of Peter with his denial. How are Peter and Judas the same in their failures? Why was their outcome different? See John 17:12 and Luke 22:31-32.

9. Have you had failures in your life? What has been the outcome? How does John 17:20-26 encourage you?

Lesson: _____

Condemnation by Pilate

Read Matthew 27:11-31 and John 18:28-40.

10. Describe Jesus’ interaction with Pilate.

11. As the trial is going on Pilate was sitting at the judge’s seat. How did Pilate deal with the crowd knowing Jesus was innocent?

12. Everyone present was on Jesus’ Jury during that day standing before Jesus. As you stand before Jesus have you weighed the evidence. What is your verdict on Jesus?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: What is your evidence about Jesus? How has your verdict about Him allowed Him to judge you as not guilty?

Matthew
Lesson 28
Crucifixion, Death, and Burial

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

In the last lesson we saw Jesus’ Arrest in the Garden, Charges by the Sanhedrin, Denial by Peter, and Condemnation by Pilate. In this lesson, we will see Jesus’ Crucifixion, Death and Burial. Make sure you attend the next lesson to see the amazing conclusion to the story.

Jesus’ Crucifixion

Read Matthew 27:32-44 and Psalm 22.

1. Why was Simon the Cyrene forced to carry the cross to Golgotha for Jesus? See Matthew 27:26-31 and Isaiah 52:13-14.
2. Describe the scene after they arrived at Golgotha. See Psalm 22:14-18.
3. What was the reaction of the people around Him?
 - a. Two robbers. See Luke 23:39-43.
 - b. Passers by. See Psalm 22:6-7.
 - c. Chief priests, teachers of the law and elders.
4. What would have happened if Jesus had saved Himself and come down from the cross? See Isaiah 53:12b.

Lesson: _____

Jesus’ Death

Read Matthew 27:45-56.

5. Darkness came over all the land from 6th hour (noon) until the 9th hour (3:00PM). What caused the darkness, what did it mean, and why did Jesus cry out, “My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?” See Psalm 22:1-2 and 2 Corinthians 5:21.
6. Matthew says that Jesus cried out in a loud voice. What do John and Luke say about Jesus’ last words? What do you learn?

Matthew
Lesson 28
Crucifixion, Death, and Burial

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations” (Matthew 28:19)

7. Did Jesus die from crucifixion? Explain your answer? See John 10:17-18.
8. What amazing events occurred after Jesus gave up His spirit? What is the significance of each?

Lesson: _____

Jesus' Burial

Read Matthew 27:57-66.

9. What do you know about Joseph of Arimathea from Matthew, Mark, Luke and John?
10. After going to Pilate what did Joseph and Nicodemus do? See John 19:38-42 and Isaiah 53:8-9.
11. What were the Pharisees and chief priests concerned about? How did they deal with their concerns?
12. Do you or others believe the facts of Jesus' crucifixion, death and burial?

Lesson: _____

Challenge: How will you thank God daily for Jesus' death on the cross that saved you from past, present, and future sins?

Matthew
Lesson 29
Jesus' Resurrection and Commission
"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)

A Great Lie

Read Matthew 28:11-15.

7. What did the guards do that morning?

8. What was the plan of the chief priests?

9. Was the plan believable? Was it effective? What lies do you see today?

Lesson: _____

A Great Commission

Read Matthew 28:16-20.

Note: Some think that this mountain may have been where He preached the Beatitudes in chapter 5. Also, it may have occurred when He appeared to 500 (1 Corinthians 15:6). Perhaps Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea were there. The Bible doesn't tell us, but interesting to speculate. The main thing is the plain thing: what did He tell His disciples and what is He telling you.

10. What authority was given to Jesus? What authority does He have over you?

11. What did He call His disciples to do? What has He called you to do?

12. How are you able to do what He has called you to do? See Ephesians 2:10.

Lesson: Jesus has all authority and enables you to carry out the great commission He has for you.

Challenge: If you believe in Jesus' resurrection, how will you go and make disciples this week and each week for the rest of your life?

Matthew
Lesson 29

Jesus' Resurrection and Commission

"Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations" (Matthew 28:19)