

MASTER THE CONTENT OF SCRIPTURE



The Book of Matthew

(Observe, Interpret, Apply & Go)

Armando Rodríguez

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

In our studies of the Bible, we will be using an inductive approach. This approach is a fun and exciting way to study the Bible! It's like being a detective. Instead of starting with a conclusion, you look at the details and clues in the text to discover the meaning for yourself.

Here's how you can do it:

1. **Observation:** First, you look closely at the Bible passage. You pay attention to:

- a. Who is in the story
- b. What is happening
- c. Where it is taking place
- d. When it is happening
- e. Why things are happening
- f. How they are happening.

You write down or make a mental note of all the details you notice.

2. **Interpretation:** Next, you try to understand what those details mean.

- a. You think about why the characters did what they did
- b. You think about what the important words and phrases mean.
- c. You may need to look up some words or ask questions to understand better.

3. **Application:** Finally, you think about how the story applies to our lives. What truth does it communicate?

- a. **What does it teach us about God?**
- b. What does it teach us about ourselves?
- c. What action (s) does it call us to take?

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER ONE

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 1 of the Book of Matthew in the New Testament begins with the genealogy of Jesus Christ, tracing his lineage from Abraham through David to Joseph, the husband of Mary. The chapter emphasizes Jesus' legal right to the throne of David. It also recounts the divine announcement of Jesus' birth to Joseph in a dream, explaining that Mary conceived by the Holy Spirit. Joseph obediently takes Mary as his wife, and the chapter concludes with the birth of Jesus, fulfilling the prophecy of the virgin birth.

Opening Question

How does understanding the genealogy of Jesus in Matthew 1 help us appreciate His significance and fulfill biblical prophecies?

Outline

1. Genealogy of Jesus (Matthew 1:1-17)
 - From Abraham to David (vv. 1-6)
 - From David to the Babylonian exile (vv. 7-11)
 - From the exile to Jesus (vv. 12-16)
 - Summary of the generations (v. 17)

Possible Application Question: How does Jesus' genealogy strengthen your faith in God's promises?
2. Birth of Jesus Christ (Matthew 1:18-25)
 - Mary's miraculous conception (v. 18)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Joseph's initial reaction and angelic visitation (vv. 19-21)
- Fulfillment of prophecy (vv. 22-23)
- Joseph's obedience and Jesus' birth (vv. 24-25)

Possible Application Question: What can we learn from Joseph's response to God's message?

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 1:21: "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the scene where the angel appears to Joseph in a dream, discussing his initial feelings and ultimate obedience.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the significance of Jesus' genealogy and how it connects to Old Testament prophecies.
-

Quiz

1. What is the first verse of Matthew 1 about?

- Genealogy of Jesus
- Birth of Jesus
- Ministry of Jesus
- Resurrection of Jesus

2. From whom does Matthew trace Jesus' genealogy?

- Moses
- Noah

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Abraham
 - Adam
3. Who was the husband of Mary?
- David
 - Joseph
 - John
 - Peter
4. How did Joseph learn about Mary's conception?
- From Mary
 - From an angel in a dream
 - From a prophet
 - From his parents
5. What was Joseph's reaction to the angel's message?
- Doubtful
 - Obedient
 - Angry
 - Indifferent
6. Which prophecy does Jesus' birth fulfill?
- Virgin birth
 - Bethlehem birth
 - Star in the east
 - Resurrection
7. How many generations are listed from Abraham to David?
- 12
 - 14
 - 16
 - 18
8. What name was Joseph instructed to give Mary's son?
- Emmanuel
 - Joshua

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Jesus
 - John
9. What does the name "Jesus" mean?
- God is with us
 - The Lord saves
 - Prince of Peace
 - King of Kings
10. Who was the father of Joseph?
- David
 - Jacob
 - Solomon
 - Isaac

Answers: 1. Genealogy of Jesus 2. Abraham 3. Joseph 4. From an angel in a dream 5. Obedient
6. Virgin birth 7. 14 8. Jesus 9. The Lord saves 10. Jacob

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus is referred to as the son of _____ and the son of _____.
2. Mary was pledged to be married to _____.
3. Joseph was a _____ man and did not want to expose Mary to public disgrace.
4. An _____ of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream.
5. The angel told Joseph to name the child _____.

Answers: David, Abraham; Joseph; righteous; angel; Jesus

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Vocabulary Words

1. Genealogy

- Definition: A line of descent traced continuously from an ancestor.
- Greek: γενεαλογία (genealogia)

2. Immanuel

- Definition: God with us.
- Greek: Ἐμμανουήλ (Emmanouel)

3. Virgin

- Definition: A woman who has never had sexual intercourse.
- Greek: παρθένος (parthenos)

4. Righteous

- Definition: Morally right or justifiable; virtuous.
- Greek: δίκαιος (dikaios)

5. Conceive

- Definition: To become pregnant with a child.
- Greek: συλλαμβάνω (syllambano)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER TWO

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 2 of the Book of Matthew recounts the visit of the Magi from the East who come to worship the newborn King of the Jews, Jesus. King Herod, feeling threatened, deceitfully inquires about Jesus' location. The Magi are divinely warned not to return to Herod, and Joseph is warned in a dream to flee to Egypt with Mary and Jesus. Herod orders the massacre of all male infants in Bethlehem, but Jesus is safe in Egypt. After Herod's death, Joseph, Mary, and Jesus return and settle in Nazareth, fulfilling various prophecies.

Opening Question

Why do you think King Herod was so troubled by the news of Jesus' birth?

Outline

1. Visit of the Magi (Matthew 2:1-12)
 - Arrival of the Magi in Jerusalem (vv. 1-2)
 - Herod's reaction and inquiry (vv. 3-4)
 - Consultation with the chief priests and teachers of the law (vv. 5-6)
 - Herod's deceptive instructions to the Magi (vv. 7-8)
 - The Magi's visit to Jesus and their worship (vv. 9-12)

Possible Application Question: How can we seek and worship Jesus in our own lives like the Magi did?
2. Escape to Egypt (Matthew 2:13-15)
 - Joseph's divine warning and immediate action (v. 13)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- The family's flight to Egypt (v. 14)

- Fulfillment of prophecy (v. 15)

Possible Application Question: What can we learn from Joseph's obedience to God's guidance?

3. Massacre of the Innocents (Matthew 2:16-18)

- Herod's anger and cruel order (v. 16)

- The fulfillment of prophecy through the lamentation (vv. 17-18)

Possible Application Question: How do we respond to the injustices we see in the world?

4. Return to Nazareth (Matthew 2:19-23)

- Death of Herod and another divine message to Joseph (vv. 19-20)

- The family's return and settlement in Nazareth (vv. 21-23)

Possible Application Question: How can we find and follow God's direction in our lives?

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 2:6: "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the scene of the Magi visiting Jesus and presenting their gifts, discussing their significance.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the reasons Herod might have felt threatened by Jesus and how different people today might react to the message of Jesus.
-

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Quiz

1. Who visited Jesus after His birth in Bethlehem?
 - Shepherds
 - Magi
 - Priests
 - Romans
2. What did the Magi follow to find Jesus?
 - A dream
 - A star
 - A map
 - Angels
3. Who was troubled by the news of Jesus' birth?
 - The Magi
 - King Herod
 - Joseph
 - The shepherds
4. Where did the angel tell Joseph to take Mary and Jesus to escape Herod?
 - Nazareth
 - Egypt
 - Jerusalem
 - Galilee
5. What gifts did the Magi present to Jesus?
 - Gold, silver, and bronze
 - Gold, frankincense, and myrrh
 - Silver, spices, and myrrh
 - Gold, oil, and wine
6. How did Herod react when he realized he had been outwitted by the Magi?
 - He rejoiced
 - He sent soldiers to Bethlehem

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- He went to see Jesus
 - He ignored it
7. What prophecy was fulfilled by the family's escape to Egypt?
- “Out of Egypt I called my son”
 - “He shall be called a Nazarene”
 - “A voice is heard in Ramah”
 - “The virgin will conceive and give birth”
8. What did Herod order after the Magi did not return?
- The capture of Jesus
 - The massacre of all boys in Bethlehem
 - A search for the Magi
 - A census
9. How did Joseph know when it was safe to return to Israel?
- He saw a sign in the sky
 - He had a dream
 - He was told by Mary
 - He received a letter
10. Where did Joseph take his family to live after returning from Egypt?
- Jerusalem
 - Nazareth
 - Bethlehem
 - Capernaum

Answers: 1. Magi 2. A star 3. King Herod 4. Egypt 5. Gold, frankincense, and myrrh 6. He sent soldiers to Bethlehem 7. “Out of Egypt I called my son” 8. The massacre of all boys in Bethlehem 9. He had a dream 10. Nazareth

Fill in the Blank

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

1. The _____ came from the East to worship Jesus.
2. They followed a _____ to find Jesus.
3. King _____ was troubled by the news of Jesus' birth.
4. Joseph was warned in a _____ to flee to Egypt.
5. Herod ordered the massacre of all male infants in _____.

Answers: Magi; star; Herod; dream; Bethlehem

Vocabulary Words

1. Magi

- Definition: Wise men from the East who visited Jesus.
- Greek: μάγοι (magoi)

2. Prophecy

- Definition: A prediction made under divine inspiration.
- Greek: προφητεία (propheteia)

3. Frankincense

- Definition: A fragrant resin used in incense and perfumes.
- Greek: λίβανος (libanos)

4. Myrrh

- Definition: A resin used for anointing and embalming.
- Greek: σμύρνα (smyrna)

5. Nazareth

- Definition: A town in Galilee where Jesus grew up.
- Greek: Ναζαρέτ (Nazaret)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER THREE

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 3 of the Book of Matthew introduces John the Baptist, who preaches repentance and the coming of the Kingdom of Heaven. John baptizes many in the Jordan River, including Jesus. When Jesus is baptized, the heavens open, and the Spirit of God descends like a dove, with a voice from heaven declaring Jesus as God's beloved Son. John emphasizes the importance of genuine repentance and warns the Pharisees and Sadducees about the need for true change, rather than relying on their heritage for salvation.

Opening Question

Why do you think John the Baptist emphasized repentance before baptizing people in the Jordan River?

Outline

1. John the Baptist's Ministry (Matthew 3:1-6)
 - John's message of repentance (vv. 1-2)
 - Prophecy of Isaiah fulfilled (v. 3)
 - John's appearance and lifestyle (v. 4)
 - Baptizing in the Jordan River (vv. 5-6)

Possible Application Question: How can we practice repentance in our daily lives?
2. Confrontation with Pharisees and Sadducees (Matthew 3:7-10)
 - John's rebuke of the religious leaders (vv. 7-8)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Warning about judgment (vv. 9-10)
Possible Application Question: What does it mean to bear fruit in keeping with repentance?
 - 3. John's Testimony about Jesus (Matthew 3:11-12)
 - John's role in baptizing with water (v. 11)
 - Jesus' future baptism with the Holy Spirit and fire (v. 12)
Possible Application Question: How can we prepare our hearts for Jesus' transformative work?
 - 4. Baptism of Jesus (Matthew 3:13-17)
 - Jesus comes to John for baptism (v. 13)
 - John's initial reluctance (v. 14)
 - Jesus' insistence and baptism (vv. 15-16)
 - God's declaration of Jesus as His Son (v. 17)
Possible Application Question: How does Jesus' baptism inspire your faith journey?
-

Possible Activities

1. **Memory Verse Challenge**
 - Memorize Matthew 3:17: "And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased.'"
 2. **Role Playing Activity**
 - Students act out the baptism of Jesus, including John's initial hesitation and God's declaration from heaven.
 3. **Discussion Activity**
 - Discuss the significance of repentance in our lives and how we can show genuine change in our actions.
-

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Quiz

1. Who was preaching in the wilderness of Judea?
 - Peter
 - John the Baptist
 - Paul
 - Andrew
2. What was John the Baptist's main message?
 - Love one another
 - Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near
 - Follow the law
 - Be baptized
3. Which prophet's words are fulfilled by John the Baptist's ministry?
 - Elijah
 - Jeremiah
 - Isaiah
 - Ezekiel
4. What did John the Baptist wear?
 - Linen garments
 - Camel's hair
 - Silk robes
 - Woolen clothes
5. What food did John the Baptist eat?
 - Fish and bread
 - Honey and locusts
 - Grapes and figs
 - Meat and wine
6. Where did John the Baptist baptize people?
 - Red Sea
 - Dead Sea

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Jordan River
 - Sea of Galilee
7. How did John address the Pharisees and Sadducees?
- Children of Abraham
 - Brood of vipers
 - Faithful servants
 - Lost sheep
8. What did John say would happen to trees that do not bear good fruit?
- Pruned
 - Grafted
 - Cut down and burned
 - Fertilized
9. Who did John say would baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire?
- Moses
 - Elijah
 - Jesus
 - Himself
10. What descended like a dove when Jesus was baptized?
- A cloud
 - The Spirit of God
 - A star
 - An angel

Answers: 1. John the Baptist 2. Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near 3. Isaiah 4. Camel's hair 5. Honey and locusts 6. Jordan River 7. Brood of vipers 8. Cut down and burned 9. Jesus 10. The Spirit of God

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Fill in the Blank

1. John the Baptist preached in the wilderness of _____.
2. He wore clothing made of _____ hair.
3. John ate _____ and wild honey.
4. John baptized people in the _____ River.
5. Jesus was baptized by _____.

Answers: Judea; camel's; locusts; Jordan; John

Vocabulary Words

1. Repentance

- Definition: The act of feeling remorse for one's sins and changing one's ways.
- Greek: μετάνοια (metanoia)

2. Baptism

- Definition: A Christian sacrament of initiation and purification involving water.
- Greek: βάπτισμα (baptisma)

3. Prophecy

- Definition: A prediction made under divine inspiration.
- Greek: προφητεία (propheteia)

4. Pharisee

- Definition: A member of an ancient Jewish sect known for strict observance of law.
- Greek: Φαρισαῖος (Phariseaios)

5. Sadducee

- Definition: A member of a Jewish sect that denied the resurrection of the dead.
- Greek: Σαδδουκαῖος (Saddukaíos)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER FOUR

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 4 of the Book of Matthew details Jesus' 40 days of fasting and temptation in the wilderness, where He resists the devil's temptations. Afterward, Jesus begins His ministry in Galilee, preaching about the Kingdom of Heaven. He calls His first disciples—Peter, Andrew, James, and John. Jesus also travels through Galilee, teaching in synagogues, proclaiming the gospel, and healing various diseases and afflictions, gaining a large following.

Opening Question

How do you think Jesus' time of temptation prepared Him for His ministry?

Outline

1. Temptation of Jesus (Matthew 4:1-11)

- Jesus is led by the Spirit into the wilderness (v. 1)
- Jesus fasts for 40 days and nights (v. 2)
- The devil's three temptations (vv. 3-10)
 - Turn stones into bread (v. 3-4)
 - Jump from the pinnacle of the temple (v. 5-7)
 - Worship Satan for worldly kingdoms (v. 8-10)
- Angels minister to Jesus (v. 11)

Possible Application Question: How can we rely on Scripture to resist temptation in our own lives?

2. Beginning of Jesus' Ministry (Matthew 4:12-17)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Jesus moves to Capernaum (vv. 12-13)
 - Fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy (vv. 14-16)
 - Jesus preaches, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (v. 17)
Possible Application Question: What does it mean to repent and how can we practice it daily?
3. Calling of the First Disciples (Matthew 4:18-22)
- Jesus calls Peter and Andrew (vv. 18-20)
 - Jesus calls James and John (vv. 21-22)
Possible Application Question: How can we respond to Jesus' call to follow Him in our lives?
4. Jesus' Teaching and Healing Ministry (Matthew 4:23-25)
- Teaching in synagogues and proclaiming the gospel (v. 23)
 - Healing various diseases and afflictions (vv. 24-25)
 - Large crowds follow Jesus (v. 25)
Possible Application Question: How can we bring the healing and teaching of Jesus into our communities?
-

Possible Activities

1. **Memory Verse Challenge**
 - Memorize Matthew 4:4: "Jesus answered, 'It is written: Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"
 2. **Role Playing Activity**
 - Students act out the three temptations of Jesus in the wilderness, emphasizing how He used Scripture to respond.
 3. **Discussion Activity**
 - Discuss the significance of Jesus choosing ordinary fishermen as His first disciples and what that means for us today.
-

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Quiz

1. How long did Jesus fast in the wilderness?
 - 10 days
 - 20 days
 - 30 days
 - 40 days
2. Who tempted Jesus in the wilderness?
 - Pharisees
 - Sadducees
 - Satan
 - Angels
3. What was the first temptation Jesus faced?
 - Turn stones into bread
 - Jump from the temple
 - Worship Satan
 - Perform a miracle
4. What was Jesus' response to turning stones into bread?
 - "Do not put the Lord your God to the test"
 - "Worship the Lord your God and serve him only"
 - "Man shall not live on bread alone"
 - "Get away from me, Satan"
5. Where did Jesus move to begin His ministry?
 - Nazareth
 - Jerusalem
 - Capernaum
 - Bethlehem
6. Which prophecy did Jesus' move to Capernaum fulfill?
 - Prophecy of Elijah
 - Prophecy of Isaiah

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Prophecy of Jeremiah
 - Prophecy of Daniel
7. What was Jesus' main message as He began His ministry?
- Love one another
 - Believe in God
 - Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand
 - Keep the commandments
8. Who were the first two disciples Jesus called?
- James and John
 - Peter and Andrew
 - Matthew and Thomas
 - Philip and Bartholomew
9. What were Peter and Andrew doing when Jesus called them?
- Preaching
 - Fishing
 - Collecting taxes
 - Praying
10. What did Jesus do throughout Galilee?
- Teaching, preaching, and healing
 - Building houses
 - Writing books
 - Leading an army

Answers: 1. 40 days 2. Satan 3. Turn stones into bread 4. "Man shall not live on bread alone" 5. Capernaum 6. Prophecy of Isaiah 7. Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand 8. Peter and Andrew 9. Fishing 10. Teaching, preaching, and healing

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus was led by the _____ into the wilderness.
2. Jesus fasted for _____ days and nights.
3. The devil tempted Jesus to turn stones into _____.
4. Jesus moved to _____ to begin His ministry.
5. Jesus called _____ and _____ as His first disciples.

Answers: Spirit; 40; bread; Capernaum; Peter, Andrew

Vocabulary Words

1. Temptation

- Definition: The desire to do something, especially something wrong or unwise.
- Greek: πειρασμός (peirasmos)

2. Repent

- Definition: To feel or express sincere regret or remorse about one's wrongdoing or sin.
- Greek: μετανοέω (metanoeo)

3. Kingdom of Heaven

- Definition: The reign of God, both in the present and future.
- Greek: βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν (basileia ton ouranon)

4. Disciple

- Definition: A follower or student of a teacher, leader, or philosopher.
- Greek: μαθητής (mathetes)

5. Gospel

- Definition: The teaching or revelation of Christ.
- Greek: εὐαγγέλιον (euangelion)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER FIVE

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 5 of the Book of Matthew is the beginning of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. It includes the Beatitudes, which are blessings on those who exhibit certain virtues and sufferings. Jesus also teaches about being salt and light, the fulfillment of the Law, and the importance of inner righteousness over mere external compliance. He addresses topics such as anger, adultery, divorce, oaths, retaliation, and love for enemies, emphasizing a higher standard of righteousness that focuses on the heart and intentions.

Opening Question

How do the Beatitudes challenge our understanding of what it means to be blessed?

Outline

1. The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)
 - Introduction to the Beatitudes (vv. 1-2)
 - Blessings for the poor in spirit, those who mourn, the meek, those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, and the persecuted (vv. 3-10)
 - Encouragement for those who are reviled and persecuted (vv. 11-12)
Possible Application Question: How can we embody the virtues described in the Beatitudes in our daily lives?
2. Salt and Light (Matthew 5:13-16)
 - The role of believers as salt of the earth (v. 13)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- The role of believers as light of the world (vv. 14-16)
Possible Application Question: In what ways can we be salt and light in our communities?
- 3. Fulfillment of the Law (Matthew 5:17-20)
 - Jesus' purpose to fulfill the Law and the Prophets (vv. 17-18)
 - Call for greater righteousness than the Pharisees and teachers of the law (vv. 19-20)
Possible Application Question: How can we pursue a righteousness that exceeds mere rule-following?
- 4. Teachings on Anger and Reconciliation (Matthew 5:21-26)
 - Anger and its consequences (vv. 21-22)
 - Importance of reconciliation (vv. 23-26)
Possible Application Question: How can we handle anger and seek reconciliation in our relationships?
- 5. Teachings on Adultery and Lust (Matthew 5:27-30)
 - Adultery of the heart (vv. 27-28)
 - Radical measures to avoid sin (vv. 29-30)
Possible Application Question: What steps can we take to maintain purity in our thoughts and actions?
- 6. Teachings on Divorce (Matthew 5:31-32)
 - Permissible grounds for divorce (vv. 31-32)
Possible Application Question: How can we support marriages and uphold the sanctity of the marriage covenant?
- 7. Teachings on Oaths (Matthew 5:33-37)
 - Integrity in speech (vv. 33-37)
Possible Application Question: How can we practice honesty and integrity in our words?
- 8. Teachings on Retaliation (Matthew 5:38-42)
 - Turning the other cheek (vv. 38-39)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Going the extra mile (vv. 40-42)

Possible Application Question: How can we respond to wrongdoing with grace rather than revenge?

9. Teachings on Love for Enemies (Matthew 5:43-48)

- Loving enemies and praying for persecutors (vv. 43-44)
- Being perfect as the Heavenly Father is perfect (vv. 45-48)

Possible Application Question: How can we show love to those who oppose or mistreat us?

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 5:16: "In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out scenarios demonstrating the application of the Beatitudes in modern-day situations.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss how the teachings of Jesus in this chapter contrast with societal norms and what it means to live out these teachings.
-

Quiz

1. What is the first Beatitude?

- Blessed are the meek
- Blessed are the merciful
- Blessed are the poor in spirit
- Blessed are the pure in heart

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

2. What are believers compared to in verses 13-16?
 - Water and bread
 - Salt and light
 - Earth and sky
 - Fire and air
3. Jesus came to _____ the Law and the Prophets.
 - Abolish
 - Ignore
 - Fulfill
 - Change
4. What is said about those who are angry with a brother or sister?
 - They are justified
 - They will face judgment
 - They should be praised
 - They should be ignored
5. What radical measure does Jesus suggest to avoid sin?
 - Ignore it
 - Hide from it
 - Remove the cause of sin
 - Accept it
6. On what grounds does Jesus permit divorce?
 - Financial trouble
 - Unfaithfulness
 - Disagreement
 - Boredom
7. What should be our response if someone strikes us on the right cheek?
 - Strike back
 - Turn the other cheek
 - Run away
 - Report it

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

8. Jesus teaches to love your _____.
 - Friends
 - Family
 - Neighbors
 - Enemies
9. How should believers let their light shine before others?
 - By boasting
 - By showing good deeds
 - By being quiet
 - By staying hidden
10. Jesus calls believers to be _____ as the Heavenly Father is.
 - Happy
 - Perfect
 - Wealthy
 - Famous

Answers: 1. Blessed are the poor in spirit 2. Salt and light 3. Fulfill 4. They will face judgment
5. Remove the cause of sin 6. Unfaithfulness 7. Turn the other cheek 8. Enemies 9. By showing
good deeds 10. Perfect

Fill in the Blank

1. Blessed are the _____ in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
2. You are the _____ of the earth.
3. Let your _____ shine before others.
4. Anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed _____ with her in his heart.
5. Love your _____ and pray for those who persecute you.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Answers: poor; salt; light; adultery; enemies

Vocabulary Words

1. **Beatitude**

- Definition: Supreme blessedness or happiness.
- Greek: μακαρισμός (makarismos)

2. **Righteousness**

- Definition: The quality of being morally right or justifiable.
- Greek: δικαιοσύνη (dikaiosyne)

3. **Reconciliation**

- Definition: The restoration of friendly relations.
- Greek: καταλλαγή (katallage)

4. **Adultery**

- Definition: Voluntary sexual intercourse between a married person and someone who is not their spouse.
- Greek: μοιχεία (moicheia)

5. **Perfection**

- Definition: The condition, state, or quality of being free or as free as possible from all flaws or defects.
- Greek: τελειότης (teleiotes)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER SIX

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 6 of the Book of Matthew continues Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, focusing on the practice of righteousness. Jesus teaches about giving to the needy, prayer, and fasting, emphasizing the importance of sincerity and secrecy in these acts. He introduces the Lord's Prayer as a model for prayer. Jesus also discusses the proper perspective on wealth, urging His followers to store treasures in heaven rather than on earth. He concludes with teachings on not worrying, encouraging trust in God's provision and seeking His kingdom first.

Opening Question

How can we ensure our motives are pure when performing acts of righteousness, such as giving, praying, and fasting?

Outline

1. Giving to the Needy (Matthew 6:1-4)
 - Warning against performing righteous acts to be seen by others (v. 1)
 - Encouragement to give in secret (vv. 2-4)

Possible Application Question: How can we practice generosity without seeking recognition?
2. Prayer (Matthew 6:5-15)
 - Avoiding hypocritical prayer (vv. 5-6)
 - The Lord's Prayer as a model (vv. 7-13)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Emphasis on forgiveness (vv. 14-15)
Possible Application Question: How does the Lord's Prayer guide us in our personal prayer life?
 - 3. Fasting (Matthew 6:16-18)
 - Fasting in secret, not for show (vv. 16-18)
Possible Application Question: What are some ways we can fast that honor God and not seek attention from others?
 - 4. Treasures in Heaven (Matthew 6:19-24)
 - Storing treasures in heaven rather than on earth (vv. 19-21)
 - The eye as the lamp of the body (vv. 22-23)
 - Serving God versus serving money (v. 24)
Possible Application Question: How can we shift our focus from earthly possessions to heavenly treasures?
 - 5. Do Not Worry (Matthew 6:25-34)
 - Encouragement to trust in God's provision (vv. 25-30)
 - Seeking God's kingdom first (vv. 31-34)
Possible Application Question: What steps can we take to trust God more with our daily needs and concerns?
-

Possible Activities

1. **Memory Verse Challenge**
 - Memorize Matthew 6:33: "But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."
2. **Role Playing Activity**
 - Students act out different scenarios of giving, praying, and fasting, emphasizing the importance of sincerity and humility.
3. **Discussion Activity**

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Discuss the impact of worry on our faith and practical ways to shift our focus to trusting in God's provision.
-

Quiz

1. What should you not do when giving to the needy?
 - Keep it secret
 - Do it in public to be honored
 - Do it with a joyful heart
 - Be generous
2. Where does Jesus instruct us to pray?
 - In public places
 - In synagogues
 - In our rooms with the door closed
 - In the streets
3. What is the first petition in the Lord's Prayer?
 - Give us today our daily bread
 - Forgive us our debts
 - Hallowed be your name
 - Lead us not into temptation
4. How should we fast, according to Jesus?
 - By looking somber
 - By announcing it to others
 - In secret, without drawing attention
 - By boasting about it
5. Where should we store our treasures?
 - On earth
 - In banks
 - In our homes

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- In heaven
- 6. What does Jesus say about serving two masters?
 - It is possible
 - It is easy
 - You will hate one and love the other
 - You can serve both equally
- 7. What is the eye compared to in Matthew 6?
 - A window
 - A lamp
 - A mirror
 - A door
- 8. Why should we not worry about our life, according to Jesus?
 - Worry is a sin
 - It shows lack of faith
 - God will provide for our needs
 - Worry makes us unhealthy
- 9. Who does Jesus say we should seek first?
 - Ourselves
 - Our family
 - Our friends
 - God's kingdom and his righteousness
- 10. What will be given to us if we seek God's kingdom first?
 - Wealth
 - All these things
 - Power
 - Honor

Answers: 1. Do it in public to be honored 2. In our rooms with the door closed 3. Hallowed be your name 4. In secret, without drawing attention 5. In heaven 6. You will hate one and love the

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

other 7. A lamp 8. God will provide for our needs 9. God's kingdom and his righteousness 10.
All these things

Fill in the Blank

1. When you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your _____ hand is doing.
2. Go into your room, close the door, and pray to your _____.
3. Our Father in heaven, _____ be your name.
4. When you fast, put oil on your head and _____ your face.
5. Seek first his kingdom and his _____.

Answers: right; Father; hallowed; wash; righteousness

Vocabulary Words

1. **Righteousness**
 - Definition: The quality of being morally right or justifiable.
 - Greek: δικαιοσύνη (dikaiosyne)
2. **Hypocrite**
 - Definition: A person who pretends to have virtues, moral or religious beliefs, principles, etc., that he or she does not actually possess.
 - Greek: ὑποκριτής (hypokrites)
3. **Fasting**
 - Definition: Abstaining from all or some kinds of food or drink, especially as a religious observance.
 - Greek: νηστεία (nesteia)
4. **Mammon**

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Definition: Wealth regarded as an evil influence or false object of worship and devotion.
- Greek: μαμωνᾶς (mammonas)

5. **Forgiveness**

- Definition: The action or process of forgiving or being forgiven.
- Greek: ἄφεσις (aphesis)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER SEVEN

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 7 of the Book of Matthew concludes Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. It covers various teachings, including judging others, the effectiveness of prayer, the Golden Rule, and the narrow and wide gates. Jesus warns about false prophets and emphasizes the importance of doing God's will. He concludes with the parable of the wise and foolish builders, illustrating the importance of putting His teachings into practice to build a strong foundation.

Opening Question

How do you determine whether someone is a true follower of Jesus or a false prophet?

Outline

1. Judging Others (Matthew 7:1-6)
 - Do not judge, or you too will be judged (vv. 1-2)
 - The speck and the plank analogy (vv. 3-5)
 - Do not give what is sacred to dogs (v. 6)

Possible Application Question: How can we be more compassionate and less judgmental towards others?
2. Ask, Seek, Knock (Matthew 7:7-12)
 - Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find (vv. 7-8)
 - Good gifts from the Father (vv. 9-11)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- The Golden Rule (v. 12)
Possible Application Question: How can we apply the Golden Rule in our daily interactions?
 - 3. The Narrow and Wide Gates (Matthew 7:13-14)
 - Enter through the narrow gate (vv. 13-14)
Possible Application Question: What steps can we take to ensure we are on the narrow path that leads to life?
 - 4. True and False Prophets (Matthew 7:15-20)
 - Recognizing false prophets by their fruit (vv. 15-20)
Possible Application Question: How can we discern true teachings from false ones?
 - 5. True and False Disciples (Matthew 7:21-23)
 - Not everyone who says “Lord, Lord” will enter the kingdom (vv. 21-23)
Possible Application Question: What does it mean to truly do the will of the Father?
 - 6. The Wise and Foolish Builders (Matthew 7:24-27)
 - The parable of the wise man building on rock and the foolish man building on sand (vv. 24-27)
Possible Application Question: How can we build our lives on a solid foundation based on Jesus’ teachings?
 - 7. The Authority of Jesus’ Teachings (Matthew 7:28-29)
 - The crowds are amazed at Jesus’ authority (vv. 28-29)
Possible Application Question: How can we respond to Jesus’ teachings with the same amazement and commitment?
-

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Memorize Matthew 7:7: "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."
2. **Role Playing Activity**
- Students act out the parable of the wise and foolish builders, illustrating the importance of a strong foundation.
3. **Discussion Activity**
- Discuss the criteria Jesus provides for recognizing false prophets and how to apply these principles in our lives.
-

Quiz

1. What does Jesus say about judging others?
 - It is acceptable
 - It is forbidden
 - It is necessary
 - It is optional
2. What analogy does Jesus use to describe judging others?
 - The blind leading the blind
 - The speck and the plank
 - The sheep and the goats
 - The good tree and the bad tree
3. What are we encouraged to do in verses 7-8?
 - Give and take
 - Ask, seek, and knock
 - Pray and fast
 - Preach and teach
4. What is the Golden Rule?
 - Love your neighbor as yourself
 - Do to others what you would have them do to you

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- An eye for an eye
 - Turn the other cheek
5. How does Jesus describe the gate that leads to life?
- Wide and easy
 - Narrow and difficult
 - Hidden and secret
 - Broad and simple
6. How can we recognize false prophets?
- By their miracles
 - By their fruit
 - By their appearance
 - By their wealth
7. Who will enter the kingdom of heaven?
- Everyone who says “Lord, Lord”
 - Those who perform miracles
 - Those who do the will of the Father
 - Those who preach
8. What does Jesus compare to building on a solid foundation?
- Listening to His words
 - Hearing and doing His words
 - Reading the Bible
 - Praying regularly
9. What happened to the house built on sand?
- It stood firm
 - It was destroyed
 - It was rebuilt
 - It was blessed
10. How did the crowds react to Jesus’ teachings?
- They ignored Him
 - They argued with Him

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- They were amazed
- They laughed at Him

Answers: 1. It is forbidden 2. The speck and the plank 3. Ask, seek, and knock 4. Do to others what you would have them do to you 5. Narrow and difficult 6. By their fruit 7. Those who do the will of the Father 8. Hearing and doing His words 9. It was destroyed 10. They were amazed

Fill in the Blank

1. Do not judge, or you too will be _____.
2. Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will _____.
3. Enter through the _____ gate.
4. Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in _____ clothing.
5. Everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a _____ man who built his house on the rock.

Answers: judged; find; narrow; sheep's; wise

Vocabulary Words

1. Judge

- Definition: To form an opinion or conclusion about.
- Greek: κρίνω (krino)

2. Seek

- Definition: To attempt to find or obtain.
- Greek: ζητέω (zeteo)

3. Prophet

- Definition: A person regarded as an inspired teacher or proclaimer of the will of God.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Greek: προφήτης (prophetes)

4. **Foundation**

- Definition: The lowest load-bearing part of a building.
- Greek: θεμέλιος (themelios)

5. **Amazed**

- Definition: Greatly surprised; astonished.
- Greek: θαυμάζω (thaumazo)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER EIGHT

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 8 of the Book of Matthew showcases Jesus' authority through various miracles. He heals a man with leprosy, a centurion's servant, Peter's mother-in-law, and many others. Jesus calms a storm, demonstrating His power over nature. He also casts out demons from two men in the region of Gadarenes. These miracles illustrate Jesus' compassion and divine authority, prompting amazement and faith in those who witness them.

Opening Question

How do the miracles performed by Jesus in this chapter demonstrate His authority and compassion?

Outline

1. Healing of the Man with Leprosy (Matthew 8:1-4)
 - A man with leprosy approaches Jesus (v. 1-2)
 - Jesus heals him and instructs him to show himself to the priest (vv. 3-4)
Possible Application Question: How can we show faith in Jesus' power to heal us physically and spiritually?
2. Healing of the Centurion's Servant (Matthew 8:5-13)
 - A centurion asks Jesus to heal his servant (vv. 5-6)
 - Jesus marvels at the centurion's faith and heals the servant (vv. 7-13)
Possible Application Question: What can we learn from the centurion's faith and humility?

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

3. Healing of Peter's Mother-in-law and Many Others (Matthew 8:14-17)
 - Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law (vv. 14-15)
 - Jesus heals many others and drives out demons (vv. 16-17)

Possible Application Question: How can we serve others after experiencing Jesus' healing in our lives?
 4. The Cost of Following Jesus (Matthew 8:18-22)
 - Jesus teaches about the cost of discipleship (vv. 18-22)

Possible Application Question: What does it mean to follow Jesus wholeheartedly?
 5. Jesus Calms the Storm (Matthew 8:23-27)
 - Jesus calms a storm while in a boat with His disciples (vv. 23-27)

Possible Application Question: How can we trust Jesus in the midst of life's storms?
 6. Jesus Heals Two Demon-Possessed Men (Matthew 8:28-34)
 - Jesus encounters and heals two demon-possessed men (vv. 28-32)
 - The townspeople react to the miracle (vv. 33-34)

Possible Application Question: How should we respond when we witness Jesus' power at work?
-

Possible Activities

1. **Memory Verse Challenge**
 - Memorize Matthew 8:27: "The men were amazed and asked, 'What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!'"
2. **Role Playing Activity**
 - Students act out the story of Jesus calming the storm, discussing their feelings as the disciples and their amazement at Jesus' power.
3. **Discussion Activity**

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Discuss the significance of Jesus healing various people from different backgrounds and what that teaches us about His ministry.
-

Quiz

1. Who approached Jesus to be healed first in this chapter?
 - A blind man
 - A man with leprosy
 - A centurion
 - A paralytic
2. What did Jesus say to the centurion about his faith?
 - It was lacking
 - It was strong
 - It was greater than any in Israel
 - It was weak
3. Who did Jesus heal at Peter's house?
 - Peter's wife
 - Peter's daughter
 - Peter's mother-in-law
 - Peter's son
4. What did Jesus do to calm the storm?
 - Prayed
 - Commanded the wind and waves
 - Waved His hand
 - Spoke to the disciples
5. How did the disciples react to Jesus calming the storm?
 - They were scared
 - They were amazed
 - They were doubtful

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- They were angry
6. Where did Jesus cast out the demons from the two men?
- Capernaum
 - Jerusalem
 - Gadarenes
 - Nazareth
7. What happened to the demons after they were cast out?
- They disappeared
 - They entered a herd of pigs
 - They were destroyed
 - They entered the disciples
8. How did the townspeople react to Jesus healing the demon-possessed men?
- They welcomed Him
 - They were angry
 - They asked Him to leave
 - They praised Him
9. What did Jesus say about following Him?
- It is easy
 - It requires no sacrifice
 - It has a cost
 - It guarantees wealth
10. What did the centurion say to Jesus about healing his servant?
- He asked Jesus to come to his house
 - He said Jesus only needed to speak the word
 - He doubted Jesus could do it
 - He asked Jesus to lay hands on the servant

Answers: 1. A man with leprosy 2. It was greater than any in Israel 3. Peter's mother-in-law 4. Commanded the wind and waves 5. They were amazed 6. Gadarenes 7. They entered a herd of pigs 8. They asked Him to leave 9. It has a cost 10. He said Jesus only needed to speak the word

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Fill in the Blank

1. A man with _____ approached Jesus and was healed.
2. Jesus marveled at the _____ of the centurion.
3. Jesus healed Peter's _____-in-law.
4. Jesus calmed the _____ with a command.
5. The demons entered a herd of _____ after being cast out.

Answers: leprosy; faith; mother; storm; pigs

Vocabulary Words

1. **Leprosy**
 - Definition: A chronic infectious disease causing skin lesions and nerve damage.
 - Greek: λέπρα (lepra)
2. **Centurion**
 - Definition: A commander of a hundred soldiers in the Roman army.
 - Greek: ἑκατόνταρχος (hekatontarchos)
3. **Discipleship**
 - Definition: The state of being a disciple or follower of Jesus.
 - Greek: μαθητεία (matheiteia)
4. **Faith**
 - Definition: Complete trust or confidence in someone or something.
 - Greek: πίστις (pistis)
5. **Demon-Possessed**
 - Definition: Controlled or influenced by a demon.
 - Greek: δαιμονιζόμενος (daimonizomenos)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER NINE

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 9 of the Book of Matthew details several of Jesus' miracles and teachings. Jesus heals a paralyzed man, calls Matthew the tax collector, and answers questions about fasting. He performs more miracles, including raising a dead girl, healing a woman with a bleeding issue, restoring sight to two blind men, and casting out a demon from a mute man. The chapter concludes with Jesus' compassion for the crowds and His call for more workers to spread the gospel.

Opening Question

How do the various miracles performed by Jesus in this chapter reveal different aspects of His character and mission?

Outline

1. Healing of the Paralyzed Man (Matthew 9:1-8)
 - Jesus forgives and heals a paralyzed man (vv. 1-2)
 - Reaction of the scribes and the crowd (vv. 3-8)

Possible Application Question: How does Jesus' ability to forgive sins impact our understanding of His divinity?
2. Calling of Matthew (Matthew 9:9-13)
 - Jesus calls Matthew, the tax collector (v. 9)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Jesus dines with tax collectors and sinners (vv. 10-13)
Possible Application Question: What can we learn from Jesus' willingness to associate with those considered sinners?
 - 3. Question About Fasting (Matthew 9:14-17)
 - Disciples of John question Jesus about fasting (v. 14)
 - Jesus explains the newness of His message (vv. 15-17)
Possible Application Question: How does Jesus' teaching on fasting challenge our religious practices?
 - 4. Raising of a Dead Girl and Healing of a Sick Woman (Matthew 9:18-26)
 - A ruler's request to Jesus (v. 18)
 - Healing of a woman with a bleeding issue (vv. 19-22)
 - Raising of the ruler's daughter (vv. 23-26)
Possible Application Question: How do these miracles demonstrate Jesus' power over life and death?
 - 5. Healing of the Blind and the Mute (Matthew 9:27-34)
 - Jesus restores sight to two blind men (vv. 27-31)
 - Jesus heals a mute man possessed by a demon (vv. 32-34)
Possible Application Question: How can we trust Jesus to heal us in ways we might not expect?
 - 6. Compassion for the Crowds and Call for Workers (Matthew 9:35-38)
 - Jesus' ministry of teaching and healing (v. 35)
 - Jesus' compassion for the crowds (v. 36)
 - Call for more workers to spread the gospel (vv. 37-38)
Possible Application Question: How can we respond to Jesus' call for more workers in the mission field?
-

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Memorize Matthew 9:37-38: "Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.'"
2. **Role Playing Activity**
- Students act out the scene of Jesus healing the paralyzed man, focusing on the reactions of the scribes and the crowd.
3. **Discussion Activity**
- Discuss the significance of Jesus calling Matthew, a tax collector, and what it teaches us about inclusion and grace.
-

Quiz

1. What did Jesus first say to the paralyzed man?
 - "Get up and walk"
 - "Your sins are forgiven"
 - "You are healed"
 - "Go in peace"
2. Who did Jesus call to follow Him in this chapter?
 - Peter
 - James
 - Matthew
 - John
3. Why did the Pharisees criticize Jesus?
 - For healing on the Sabbath
 - For eating with tax collectors and sinners
 - For preaching in the temple
 - For performing miracles
4. What question did John's disciples ask Jesus?
 - Why do you heal?

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Why do you preach?
 - Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?
 - Why do you forgive sins?
5. What did the woman with the bleeding issue do to be healed?
- She asked Jesus to heal her
 - She touched the hem of Jesus' garment
 - She shouted for Jesus
 - She prayed silently
6. What did Jesus say to the ruler whose daughter had died?
- "She is only sleeping"
 - "Do not be afraid"
 - "Your faith has healed her"
 - "She will live again"
7. How many blind men did Jesus heal in this chapter?
- One
 - Two
 - Three
 - Four
8. What did the mute man have that caused his condition?
- A demon
 - An illness
 - A curse
 - A birth defect
9. What did Jesus feel for the crowds?
- Anger
 - Compassion
 - Indifference
 - Disappointment
10. What did Jesus say about the harvest?
- It is ready

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- It is small
- The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few
- It is not time

Answers: 1. "Your sins are forgiven" 2. Matthew 3. For eating with tax collectors and sinners 4. Why do we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast? 5. She touched the hem of Jesus' garment 6. "Do not be afraid" 7. Two 8. A demon 9. Compassion 10. The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus told the paralyzed man, "Take heart, son; your _____ are forgiven."
2. Jesus called Matthew, a _____ collector, to follow Him.
3. Jesus said, "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old _____."
4. The woman touched the _____ of Jesus' garment to be healed.
5. Jesus felt _____ for the crowds because they were harassed and helpless.

Answers: sins; tax; garment; compassion

Vocabulary Words

1. Paralysis

- Definition: The loss of the ability to move in part or most of the body.
- Greek: παραλύω (paralyo)

2. Tax Collector

- Definition: A person who collects taxes, especially one seen as corrupt in Jesus' time.
- Greek: τελώνης (telones)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

3. Faith

- Definition: Complete trust or confidence in someone or something.
- Greek: πίστις (pistis)

4. Compassion

- Definition: Sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.
- Greek: σπλαγχνίζομαι (splachnizomai)

5. Harvest

- Definition: The process or period of gathering in crops; metaphorically used for gathering believers.
- Greek: θερισμός (therismos)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER TEN

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 10 of the Book of Matthew details Jesus commissioning His twelve disciples to go and preach the gospel to the lost sheep of Israel. He gives them authority to heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, and cast out demons. Jesus instructs them on how to conduct their mission, including guidelines on what to take, how to respond to acceptance and rejection, and the challenges they will face. He warns them about persecution but encourages them with the promise of God's presence and reward for their faithfulness.

Opening Question

How do you think the disciples felt being given such authority and responsibility by Jesus?

Outline

1. The Twelve Disciples Commissioned (Matthew 10:1-4)
 - Jesus calls and names the twelve disciples (vv. 1-4)
Possible Application Question: How can we understand and accept our own callings and responsibilities in Christ?
2. Instructions for the Mission (Matthew 10:5-15)
 - Focus on the lost sheep of Israel (vv. 5-6)
 - Preach that the kingdom of heaven is near (v. 7)
 - Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons (v. 8)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Guidelines on what to take and how to proceed (vv. 9-15)

Possible Application Question: How can we rely on God's provision and guidance in our missions today?

3. Persecution and Suffering (Matthew 10:16-25)

- Warnings about being sent out as sheep among wolves (v. 16)
- Encouragement to be wise and innocent (vv. 16-17)
- Predictions of persecution and trials (vv. 18-22)
- Assurance of the Holy Spirit's help (v. 20)
- Comparisons to Jesus' own suffering (vv. 24-25)

Possible Application Question: How can we find courage in the face of opposition and persecution?

4. Fear and Trust in God (Matthew 10:26-33)

- Encouragement not to fear (vv. 26-27)
- Assurance of God's care (vv. 28-31)
- Importance of acknowledging Jesus before others (vv. 32-33)

Possible Application Question: What steps can we take to deepen our trust in God's care and protection?

5. Cost of Discipleship (Matthew 10:34-39)

- Jesus speaks about the division His message will cause (vv. 34-36)
- The necessity of prioritizing Jesus above all else (vv. 37-39)

Possible Application Question: How can we balance our commitment to Jesus with our other relationships and responsibilities?

6. Rewards of Discipleship (Matthew 10:40-42)

- Rewards for those who receive the disciples and their message (vv. 40-42)

Possible Application Question: How can we be more receptive and supportive of those who are spreading the gospel?

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 10:16: "I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves."

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out scenes of the disciples going out on their mission, including scenarios of both acceptance and rejection.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the challenges the disciples faced and compare them to the challenges faced by modern-day missionaries.
-

Quiz

1. Who gave the twelve disciples authority over unclean spirits?

- Peter
- John
- Jesus
- Paul

2. To whom were the disciples initially sent?

- Gentiles
- Samaritans
- Lost sheep of Israel
- Romans

3. What were the disciples instructed to proclaim?

- The end is near
- The kingdom of heaven is near
- Peace on earth
- A new covenant

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

4. What were the disciples told to take with them?
 - Extra money
 - Extra clothes
 - Nothing for the journey
 - Weapons
5. What should the disciples do if they are not welcomed in a town?
 - Keep trying
 - Call down fire from heaven
 - Shake the dust off their feet
 - Complain
6. What kind of persecution did Jesus warn the disciples about?
 - Imprisonment
 - Flogging
 - Hatred
 - All of the above
7. Who would speak through the disciples when they were arrested?
 - Angels
 - The Holy Spirit
 - John the Baptist
 - Jesus himself
8. What did Jesus say about those who find their life?
 - They will lose it
 - They will save it
 - They will prosper
 - They will be blessed
9. How should the disciples be as they are sent out?
 - Brave as lions
 - Shrewd as snakes and innocent as doves
 - Bold as eagles
 - Strong as oxen

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

10. What is promised to those who receive a prophet or a righteous person?

- Wealth
- Honor
- A prophet's reward
- Protection

Answers: 1. Jesus 2. Lost sheep of Israel 3. The kingdom of heaven is near 4. Nothing for the journey 5. Shake the dust off their feet 6. All of the above 7. The Holy Spirit 8. They will lose it 9. Shrewd as snakes and innocent as doves 10. A prophet's reward

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus called His twelve _____ to Him and gave them authority to drive out impure spirits.
2. The disciples were to proclaim that the _____ of heaven is near.
3. Jesus warned the disciples that they would be handed over to the _____.
4. Jesus said, "Do not be afraid; you are worth more than many _____."
5. Jesus promised that anyone who gives even a cup of cold _____ to one of His disciples will not lose their reward.

Answers: disciples; kingdom; authorities; sparrows; water

Vocabulary Words

1. **Commission**
 - Definition: An instruction, command, or duty given to a person or group.
 - Greek: ἐντολή (entole)
2. **Persecution**

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Definition: Hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of race or political or religious beliefs.
- Greek: διωγμός (diogmos)

3. Disciple

- Definition: A follower or student of a teacher, leader, or philosopher.
- Greek: μαθητής (mathetes)

4. Acknowledge

- Definition: Accept or admit the existence or truth of.
- Greek: ὁμολογέω (homologeō)

5. Reward

- Definition: A thing given in recognition of service, effort, or achievement.
- Greek: μισθός (misthos)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER ELEVEN

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 11 of the Book of Matthew begins with John the Baptist in prison sending his disciples to ask Jesus if He is the Messiah. Jesus affirms His identity through His works and praises John as the greatest born of women. Jesus then denounces unrepentant cities despite witnessing His miracles. He concludes with a call to those who are weary and burdened, inviting them to find rest in Him, highlighting His gentle and humble heart.

Opening Question

Why do you think Jesus emphasizes finding rest in Him, especially after discussing judgment and unrepentance?

Outline

1. John the Baptist's Inquiry (Matthew 11:1-6)
 - John's disciples question Jesus (vv. 1-3)
 - Jesus' response and affirmation of His works (vv. 4-6)

Possible Application Question: How can we find assurance in Jesus' works when we face doubts?
2. Jesus' Praise for John the Baptist (Matthew 11:7-15)
 - Jesus speaks to the crowd about John's role (vv. 7-11)
 - The greatness of John and the least in the kingdom of heaven (vv. 11-15)

Possible Application Question: What can we learn from John the Baptist's life and ministry?

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

3. Denouncement of Unrepentant Cities (Matthew 11:16-24)

- Comparison to children in the marketplace (vv. 16-19)
- Woe to Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum (vv. 20-24)

Possible Application Question: How does repentance play a role in our relationship with Jesus?

4. Jesus' Invitation to the Weary (Matthew 11:25-30)

- Jesus thanks the Father (vv. 25-26)
- Jesus declares His unique relationship with the Father (v. 27)
- Invitation to find rest in Jesus (vv. 28-30)

Possible Application Question: What steps can we take to find rest and peace in Jesus amid our busy lives?

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 11:28: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the interaction between Jesus and John the Baptist's disciples, focusing on Jesus' response and affirmations.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the reasons why some cities did not repent despite witnessing Jesus' miracles and what this teaches us about faith and repentance.
-

Quiz

1. Who sent disciples to question Jesus?

- Peter

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- John the Baptist
 - Pharisees
 - Sadducees
2. What was the question John's disciples asked Jesus?
- Are you the prophet?
 - Are you the Messiah?
 - Are you Elijah?
 - Are you Moses?
3. How did Jesus affirm His identity to John's disciples?
- By quoting scripture
 - By performing miracles
 - By listing His works
 - By praying
4. Who did Jesus say was the greatest born of women?
- Moses
 - Elijah
 - David
 - John the Baptist
5. What did Jesus compare the generation to?
- Lost sheep
 - Children in the marketplace
 - Blind guides
 - Wise builders
6. Which cities did Jesus denounce for their unrepentance?
- Jerusalem and Jericho
 - Nazareth and Bethlehem
 - Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum
 - Galilee and Samaria
7. What will be more bearable on the day of judgment than for the unrepentant cities?
- Sodom

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Gomorrah
 - Tyre and Sidon
 - Nineveh
8. Who does Jesus invite to come to Him?
- The rich
 - The wise
 - The weary and burdened
 - The young
9. What will Jesus give to those who come to Him?
- Wealth
 - Power
 - Rest
 - Knowledge
10. How does Jesus describe His heart?
- Proud and strong
 - Gentle and humble
 - Joyful and fearless
 - Bold and courageous

Answers: 1. John the Baptist 2. Are you the Messiah? 3. By listing His works 4. John the Baptist
5. Children in the marketplace 6. Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum 7. Sodom 8. The weary
and burdened 9. Rest 10. Gentle and humble

Fill in the Blank

1. John the Baptist sent his _____ to ask Jesus if He was the Messiah.
2. Jesus affirmed His identity by listing His _____.
3. Jesus said that among those born of women, no one was greater than _____.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

4. Jesus denounced the cities of Chorazin, Bethsaida, and _____ for their unrepentance.
5. Jesus invites all who are weary and burdened to find _____ in Him.

Answers: disciples; works; John the Baptist; Capernaum; rest

Vocabulary Words

1. Messiah

- Definition: The promised deliverer of the Jewish nation prophesied in the Hebrew Bible.
- Greek: Μεσσίας (Messias)

2. Repentance

- Definition: The action of repenting; sincere regret or remorse.
- Greek: μετάνοια (metanoia)

3. Burdened

- Definition: Carrying a heavy load.
- Greek: πεφορτισμένοι (pefortismenoi)

4. Humble

- Definition: Having or showing a modest or low estimate of one's importance.
- Greek: ταπεινός (tapeinos)

5. Gentle

- Definition: Having or showing a mild, kind, or tender temperament or character.
- Greek: πραῦς (praus)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER TWELVE

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 12 of the Book of Matthew describes several incidents where Jesus is confronted by the Pharisees. It starts with Jesus' disciples picking grain on the Sabbath and Jesus healing a man with a withered hand, both of which provoke criticism. Jesus then heals a demon-possessed man, leading to accusations of using Satan's power. Jesus teaches about the unforgivable sin, the sign of Jonah, and the importance of doing God's will. The chapter highlights Jesus' authority, compassion, and the increasing opposition He faces.

Opening Question

Why do you think the Pharisees were so critical of Jesus' actions on the Sabbath?

Outline

1. Jesus and the Sabbath (Matthew 12:1-14)
 - Disciples picking grain on the Sabbath (vv. 1-8)
 - Healing the man with a withered hand (vv. 9-14)
Possible Application Question: How can we prioritize compassion and mercy in our observance of religious practices?
2. Jesus' Healing Ministry (Matthew 12:15-21)
 - Jesus heals many and fulfills prophecy (vv. 15-21)
Possible Application Question: What can we learn from Jesus' example of serving others despite opposition?
3. Jesus and Beelzebul (Matthew 12:22-37)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Healing of a demon-possessed man (vv. 22-23)
- Accusation of using Satan's power and Jesus' response (vv. 24-30)
- Teaching on the unforgivable sin (vv. 31-32)
- The importance of words and deeds (vv. 33-37)

Possible Application Question: How can we be mindful of our words and actions, knowing they reflect our hearts?

4. The Sign of Jonah (Matthew 12:38-42)

- Pharisees and teachers ask for a sign (vv. 38-40)
- Jesus refers to Jonah and the queen of the South (vv. 41-42)

Possible Application Question: How can we recognize and respond to the signs of God's presence in our lives?

5. Return of an Unclean Spirit (Matthew 12:43-45)

- Teaching on the return of an unclean spirit (vv. 43-45)

Possible Application Question: What steps can we take to ensure our spiritual growth is ongoing and steadfast?

6. Jesus' True Family (Matthew 12:46-50)

- Jesus identifies His true family (vv. 46-50)

Possible Application Question: How can we cultivate a sense of spiritual family and community in our faith practice?

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 12:50: "For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the scenes of Jesus healing on the Sabbath, focusing on the reactions of the Pharisees and Jesus' response.

3. Discussion Activity

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Discuss the concept of the unforgivable sin and what it teaches us about the seriousness of our words and actions.
-

Quiz

1. What did Jesus' disciples do on the Sabbath that the Pharisees criticized?
 - Prayed
 - Picked grain
 - Healed the sick
 - Preached
2. Who did Jesus heal in the synagogue on the Sabbath?
 - A blind man
 - A deaf man
 - A man with a withered hand
 - A leper
3. How did the Pharisees react to Jesus healing on the Sabbath?
 - They praised Him
 - They were indifferent
 - They plotted to kill Him
 - They worshiped Him
4. Who did the Pharisees accuse Jesus of using to cast out demons?
 - God
 - Beelzebul
 - Angels
 - Prophets
5. What did Jesus say about a house divided against itself?
 - It will stand
 - It will not stand
 - It will prosper

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- It will be blessed
- 6. What is the unforgivable sin according to Jesus?
 - Lying
 - Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit
 - Stealing
 - Murder
- 7. What sign did Jesus say would be given to a wicked generation?
 - The sign of Jonah
 - The sign of Moses
 - The sign of Elijah
 - The sign of David
- 8. Who does Jesus refer to as His true family?
 - His disciples
 - His biological family
 - Those who do the will of His Father
 - The Pharisees
- 9. What happens to an unclean spirit when it returns to its house?
 - Finds it occupied
 - Finds it empty, swept, and put in order
 - Finds it destroyed
 - Finds it blessed
- 10. How does Jesus describe a good tree?
 - Produces bad fruit
 - Does not produce fruit
 - Produces good fruit
 - Is cut down

Answers: 1. Picked grain 2. A man with a withered hand 3. They plotted to kill Him 4. Beelzebul 5. It will not stand 6. Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit 7. The sign of Jonah 8. Those who do the will of His Father 9. Finds it empty, swept, and put in order 10. Produces good fruit

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus' disciples were criticized for picking _____ on the Sabbath.
2. Jesus healed a man with a _____ hand in the synagogue.
3. The Pharisees accused Jesus of using _____ to cast out demons.
4. Jesus said that a house divided against itself will not _____.
5. Jesus identifies those who do the will of His Father as His true _____.

Answers: grain; withered; Beelzebul; stand; family

Vocabulary Words

1. **Sabbath**
 - Definition: A day of religious observance and abstinence from work.
 - Greek: σάββατον (sabbaton)
2. **Blasphemy**
 - Definition: The act or offense of speaking sacrilegiously about God or sacred things.
 - Greek: βλασφημία (blasphemia)
3. **Unforgivable Sin**
 - Definition: Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.
 - Greek: ἀμαρτία ἀσυγχώρητος (amartia asynchoretos)
4. **Prophet**
 - Definition: A person regarded as an inspired teacher or proclaimer of the will of God.
 - Greek: προφήτης (prophetes)
5. **Compassion**

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Definition: Sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.
- Greek: *σπλαγχνίζομαι* (splanchnizomai)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 13 of the Book of Matthew contains a series of parables Jesus used to teach about the Kingdom of Heaven. These include the Parable of the Sower, the Weeds, the Mustard Seed, the Yeast, the Hidden Treasure, the Pearl, and the Net. Jesus explains some of these parables to His disciples, emphasizing the different responses to His message and the ultimate judgment. The chapter highlights the value of the Kingdom and the importance of understanding and responding to Jesus' teachings.

Opening Question

Why do you think Jesus used parables to teach about the Kingdom of Heaven, and how can we apply these lessons today?

Outline

1. The Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:1-23)
 - o Jesus teaches the parable to the crowd (vv. 1-9)
 - o Disciples ask Jesus why He uses parables (vv. 10-17)
 - o Jesus explains the parable (vv. 18-23)
Possible Application Question: How can we ensure our hearts are like the good soil, receptive to God's word?
2. The Parable of the Weeds (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43)
 - o Jesus teaches the parable to the crowd (vv. 24-30)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Jesus explains the parable to His disciples (vv. 36-43)
Possible Application Question: How can we remain faithful amid the presence of evil in the world?
 - 3. The Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Yeast (Matthew 13:31-35)
 - Jesus teaches about the mustard seed (vv. 31-32)
 - Jesus teaches about the yeast (v. 33)
 - Fulfillment of prophecy through parables (vv. 34-35)
Possible Application Question: What do these parables teach us about the growth and impact of the Kingdom of Heaven?
 - 4. The Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Pearl (Matthew 13:44-46)
 - Jesus teaches about the hidden treasure (v. 44)
 - Jesus teaches about the pearl of great value (vv. 45-46)
Possible Application Question: How can we prioritize the Kingdom of Heaven in our lives?
 - 5. The Parable of the Net (Matthew 13:47-50)
 - Jesus teaches about the net (vv. 47-50)
Possible Application Question: How does this parable remind us of the importance of preparing for the final judgment?
 - 6. A Prophet Without Honor (Matthew 13:51-58)
 - Jesus is rejected in His hometown (vv. 51-58)
Possible Application Question: How can we stay faithful even when our message is not accepted?
-

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 13:44: "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field."

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the Parable of the Sower, demonstrating the different types of soil and their responses to the seed.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss how the parables of the hidden treasure and the pearl illustrate the value of the Kingdom of Heaven and how we can seek it wholeheartedly.
-

Quiz

1. What does the seed in the Parable of the Sower represent?
 - Wealth
 - God's word
 - The Pharisees
 - Jesus
2. Why did Jesus use parables to teach?
 - To confuse people
 - To fulfill prophecy
 - To entertain the crowd
 - To shorten His teachings
3. In the Parable of the Weeds, who is the enemy that sows the weeds?
 - The Pharisees
 - Satan
 - The disciples
 - The Romans
4. What does the mustard seed represent?
 - Faith
 - The Kingdom of Heaven
 - The Pharisees
 - Wealth

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

5. What does the yeast symbolize in the parable?
 - Evil
 - The Kingdom of Heaven
 - Wealth
 - The Pharisees
6. What did the man do when he found treasure hidden in a field?
 - Left it
 - Sold everything to buy the field
 - Told everyone
 - Buried it deeper
7. What did the merchant do when he found a pearl of great value?
 - Kept searching for more pearls
 - Sold everything to buy it
 - Ignored it
 - Gave it away
8. What does the net in the Parable of the Net represent?
 - Wealth
 - The end of the age
 - The Pharisees
 - Jesus' disciples
9. How did Jesus' hometown react to His teachings?
 - Accepted Him
 - Rejected Him
 - Worshiped Him
 - Ignored Him
10. What did Jesus say about a prophet without honor?
 - Has honor everywhere
 - Is honored only in his hometown
 - Has no honor in his hometown
 - Is honored by everyone

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Answers: 1. God's word 2. To fulfill prophecy 3. Satan 4. The Kingdom of Heaven 5. The Kingdom of Heaven 6. Sold everything to buy the field 7. Sold everything to buy it 8. The end of the age 9. Rejected Him 10. Has no honor in his hometown

Fill in the Blank

1. The seed in the Parable of the Sower represents _____.
2. The enemy that sows the weeds in the Parable of the Weeds is _____.
3. The mustard seed represents the _____ of Heaven.
4. The man sold everything to buy the field with hidden _____.
5. Jesus' hometown _____ Him and His teachings.

Answers: God's word; Satan; Kingdom; treasure; rejected

Vocabulary Words

1. **Parable**
 - Definition: A simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson.
 - Greek: παραβολή (parabole)
2. **Sower**
 - Definition: A person who plants seeds.
 - Greek: σπείρων (speiron)
3. **Weeds**
 - Definition: Unwanted plants that grow among crops.
 - Greek: ζιζάνια (zizania)
4. **Mustard Seed**
 - Definition: The small seed representing the Kingdom of Heaven.
 - Greek: σίναπι (sinapi)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

5. Treasure

- Definition: A quantity of precious metals, gems, or other valuable objects.
- Greek: θησαυρός (thesauros)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 14 of the Book of Matthew details the events surrounding the death of John the Baptist, the feeding of the five thousand, and Jesus walking on water. Herod reluctantly orders John's beheading at the request of Herodias' daughter. Jesus feeds a large crowd with five loaves and two fish, demonstrating His miraculous provision. Later, He walks on water, inviting Peter to join Him. Peter's faith falters, but Jesus rescues him, leading the disciples to worship Jesus as the Son of God.

Opening Question

How do you think the miracles of feeding the five thousand and walking on water affected the disciples' understanding of Jesus' identity and power?

Outline

1. The Death of John the Baptist (Matthew 14:1-12)
 - Herod's fear of Jesus (vv. 1-2)
 - The reason for John's imprisonment (v. 3-4)
 - Herodias' daughter's request and John's execution (vv. 5-11)
 - John's disciples bury his body and inform Jesus (v. 12)

Possible Application Question: How can we stand firm in our faith even when facing persecution or opposition?
2. Feeding the Five Thousand (Matthew 14:13-21)
 - Jesus withdraws to a solitary place (v. 13)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Crowds follow Him, and He heals their sick (v. 14)
- The disciples express concern about feeding the crowd (vv. 15-17)
- Jesus multiplies five loaves and two fish to feed everyone (vv. 18-21)
Possible Application Question: How can we trust Jesus to provide for our needs, even when resources seem insufficient?

3. Jesus Walks on Water (Matthew 14:22-33)

- Jesus sends the disciples ahead and prays alone (vv. 22-23)
- The disciples encounter a storm; Jesus walks on water (vv. 24-26)
- Peter walks on water but starts to sink; Jesus rescues him (vv. 27-31)
- The disciples worship Jesus as the Son of God (vv. 32-33)
Possible Application Question: How can we maintain our faith in Jesus during life's storms and challenges?

4. Jesus Heals in Gennesaret (Matthew 14:34-36)

- Jesus and the disciples land at Gennesaret (v. 34)
 - People recognize Jesus and bring their sick to Him (vv. 35-36)
Possible Application Question: How can we bring others to Jesus for healing and restoration?
-

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 14:27: "But Jesus immediately said to them: 'Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid.'"

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the scene of Jesus walking on water and Peter's attempt to join Him, focusing on the lesson of faith and trust.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the significance of the miracles in this chapter and how they reveal Jesus' power and compassion.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Quiz

1. Who ordered the execution of John the Baptist?
 - Pontius Pilate
 - Herod
 - Caiaphas
 - Peter
2. What did Herodias' daughter ask for?
 - Wealth
 - Power
 - John the Baptist's head
 - A kingdom
3. How many loaves and fish did Jesus use to feed the five thousand?
 - Five loaves and two fish
 - Seven loaves and five fish
 - Ten loaves and four fish
 - Three loaves and three fish
4. What did Jesus do after feeding the five thousand?
 - Went to sleep
 - Sent the disciples ahead and prayed alone
 - Performed another miracle
 - Taught the crowd
5. How did the disciples react when they saw Jesus walking on water?
 - They rejoiced
 - They were afraid
 - They ignored Him
 - They worshiped Him
6. What happened to Peter when he walked on water?

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- He walked successfully
 - He sank when he doubted
 - He ran back to the boat
 - He flew
7. What did Jesus say to Peter when he started sinking?
- "Well done!"
 - "You of little faith, why did you doubt?"
 - "Come closer"
 - "Stay still"
8. How did the disciples respond after Jesus and Peter got into the boat?
- They laughed
 - They worshiped Jesus
 - They were silent
 - They argued
9. Where did Jesus and the disciples land after the storm?
- Nazareth
 - Gennesaret
 - Jerusalem
 - Galilee
10. What did the people do when they recognized Jesus in Gennesaret?
- Brought all their sick to Him
 - Ran away
 - Ignored Him
 - Asked Him to leave

Answers: 1. Herod 2. John the Baptist's head 3. Five loaves and two fish 4. Sent the disciples ahead and prayed alone 5. They were afraid 6. He sank when he doubted 7. "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" 8. They worshiped Jesus 9. Gennesaret 10. Brought all their sick to Him

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Fill in the Blank

1. Herodias' daughter asked for John the Baptist's _____.
2. Jesus fed the five thousand with five loaves and two _____.
3. Jesus walked on the _____ to reach His disciples.
4. Peter began to sink when he saw the _____ and was afraid.
5. The people of Gennesaret brought their _____ to Jesus for healing.

Answers: head; fish; water; wind; sick

Vocabulary Words

1. Execution

- Definition: The carrying out of a sentence of death.
- Greek: ἀποκεφαλίζω (apokephalizo)

2. Miracle

- Definition: An extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs.
- Greek: θαῦμα (thauma)

3. Faith

- Definition: Complete trust or confidence in someone or something.
- Greek: πίστις (pistis)

4. Doubt

- Definition: A feeling of uncertainty or lack of conviction.
- Greek: διστάζω (distazo)

5. Healing

- Definition: The process of making or becoming sound or healthy again.
- Greek: ἰασις (iasis)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 15 of the Book of Matthew highlights Jesus' teachings on inner purity versus external traditions. Jesus challenges the Pharisees and scribes regarding their traditions that contradict God's commandments. He emphasizes that what comes out of a person's mouth reflects their heart. Jesus heals the daughter of a Canaanite woman because of her great faith. He then heals many others and miraculously feeds four thousand men, plus women and children, with seven loaves and a few small fish, demonstrating His compassion and divine power.

Opening Question

How can we focus on inner purity rather than merely following external religious traditions?

Outline

1. Jesus Confronts the Pharisees and Scribes (Matthew 15:1-9)
 - Pharisees and scribes question Jesus about His disciples breaking traditions (vv. 1-2)
 - Jesus rebukes them for prioritizing traditions over God's commandments (vv. 3-6)
 - Jesus quotes Isaiah about hypocritical worship (vv. 7-9)
Possible Application Question: How can we ensure our worship and practices align with God's commandments rather than human traditions?
2. Teaching About Inner Purity (Matthew 15:10-20)
 - Jesus teaches the crowd about what defiles a person (vv. 10-11)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Disciples ask for clarification; Jesus explains (vv. 12-14)
 - Jesus elaborates that evil thoughts and actions come from the heart (vv. 15-20)
Possible Application Question: How can we guard our hearts to ensure our actions and words reflect purity?
 - 3. The Faith of the Canaanite Woman (Matthew 15:21-28)
 - A Canaanite woman begs Jesus to heal her demon-possessed daughter (vv. 21-22)
 - Jesus initially resists but commends her great faith and heals her daughter (vv. 23-28)
Possible Application Question: What can we learn from the persistence and faith of the Canaanite woman?
 - 4. Jesus Heals Many and Feeds the Four Thousand (Matthew 15:29-39)
 - Jesus heals many people by the Sea of Galilee (vv. 29-31)
 - Jesus feeds four thousand men, plus women and children, with seven loaves and a few fish (vv. 32-39)
Possible Application Question: How does Jesus' compassion for the crowds inspire us to care for others in need?
-

Possible Activities

1. **Memory Verse Challenge**
 - Memorize Matthew 15:11: "What goes into someone's mouth does not defile them, but what comes out of their mouth, that is what defiles them."
 2. **Role Playing Activity**
 - Students act out the encounter between Jesus and the Canaanite woman, emphasizing her persistence and faith.
 3. **Discussion Activity**
 - Discuss the importance of focusing on inner purity and how to identify and overcome hypocritical practices in our own lives.
-

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Quiz

1. Why did the Pharisees and scribes criticize Jesus' disciples?
 - For not washing their hands before eating
 - For working on the Sabbath
 - For not fasting
 - For healing on the Sabbath
2. What did Jesus say defiles a person?
 - Eating with unwashed hands
 - What comes out of their mouth
 - Not following traditions
 - Working on the Sabbath
3. What prophecy did Jesus quote to the Pharisees and scribes?
 - Isaiah
 - Jeremiah
 - Ezekiel
 - Daniel
4. Who asked Jesus to heal her demon-possessed daughter?
 - A Samaritan woman
 - A Canaanite woman
 - A Roman centurion
 - A Jewish woman
5. How did Jesus initially respond to the Canaanite woman's request?
 - He ignored her
 - He immediately healed her daughter
 - He praised her faith
 - He sent her away
6. What did Jesus say to the Canaanite woman that demonstrated her faith?
 - "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted."
 - "Your daughter is healed."

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- "Go in peace."
 - "You are forgiven."
7. How many men did Jesus feed with seven loaves and a few fish?
- Five thousand
 - Three thousand
 - Four thousand
 - Six thousand
8. How many baskets of leftovers were collected after feeding the four thousand?
- Twelve
 - Seven
 - Five
 - Nine
9. Where did Jesus go after feeding the four thousand?
- Nazareth
 - Jerusalem
 - Tyre and Sidon
 - Magadan
10. What did Jesus teach about the source of defilement?
- External actions
 - Traditions
 - The heart
 - Rituals

Answers: 1. For not washing their hands before eating 2. What comes out of their mouth 3. Isaiah 4. A Canaanite woman 5. He ignored her 6. "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." 7. Four thousand 8. Seven 9. Magadan 10. The heart

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Fill in the Blank

1. The Pharisees criticized Jesus' disciples for not _____ their hands before eating.
2. Jesus taught that what comes out of a person's mouth reflects their _____.
3. Jesus commended the _____ of the Canaanite woman.
4. Jesus fed _____ thousand men with seven loaves and a few fish.
5. After feeding the four thousand, Jesus went to _____.

Answers: washing; heart; faith; four; Magadan

Vocabulary Words

1. Defile

- Definition: To make unclean or impure.
- Greek: κοινόω (koinoo)

2. Tradition

- Definition: A long-established custom or belief passed down through generations.
- Greek: παράδοσις (paradosis)

3. Faith

- Definition: Complete trust or confidence in someone or something.
- Greek: πίστις (pistis)

4. Compassion

- Definition: Sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.
- Greek: σπλαγχνίζομαι (splachnizomai)

5. Healing

- Definition: The process of making or becoming sound or healthy again.
- Greek: ἰασις (iasis)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER SIXTEEN

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 16 of the Book of Matthew highlights key events and teachings in Jesus' ministry. The Pharisees and Sadducees demand a sign, which Jesus denies, except for the sign of Jonah. Jesus warns His disciples about the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees. Peter confesses Jesus as the Christ, and Jesus declares Peter the rock upon which He will build His church. Jesus predicts His suffering, death, and resurrection, and teaches about the cost of discipleship, emphasizing the need to take up one's cross and follow Him.

Opening Question

Why do you think Jesus emphasized the importance of taking up one's cross and following Him?

Outline

1. The Pharisees and Sadducees Demand a Sign (Matthew 16:1-4)
 - Demand for a sign from heaven (v. 1)
 - Jesus' response and reference to the sign of Jonah (vv. 2-4)
Possible Application Question: How can we recognize and respond to the signs of God's presence in our lives?
2. The Leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees (Matthew 16:5-12)
 - Jesus warns His disciples about the leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees (vv. 5-6)
 - Disciples misunderstand, thinking about bread (vv. 7-11)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Jesus clarifies, referring to the teachings of the Pharisees and Sadducees (v. 12)
Possible Application Question: What teachings or influences should we be cautious of in our spiritual lives?
 - 3. Peter's Confession of Christ (Matthew 16:13-20)
 - Jesus asks His disciples who people say He is (v. 13)
 - Peter's confession of Jesus as the Christ (vv. 14-16)
 - Jesus blesses Peter and speaks of building His church on this rock (vv. 17-20)
Possible Application Question: How can we boldly confess our faith in Jesus in our daily lives?
 - 4. Jesus Predicts His Death and Resurrection (Matthew 16:21-23)
 - Jesus begins to explain His upcoming suffering and death (v. 21)
 - Peter rebukes Jesus, and Jesus responds strongly (vv. 22-23)
Possible Application Question: How can we better understand and accept God's plans, even when they are difficult?
 - 5. The Cost of Discipleship (Matthew 16:24-28)
 - Jesus teaches about taking up one's cross and following Him (vv. 24-25)
 - The value of losing one's life for Jesus and finding true life (vv. 26-28)
Possible Application Question: What does it mean to take up our cross and follow Jesus in our own lives?
-

Possible Activities

1. **Memory Verse Challenge**
 - Memorize Matthew 16:24: "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.'"
2. **Role Playing Activity**
 - Students act out the conversation between Jesus and His disciples, focusing on Peter's confession and Jesus' teaching about His upcoming death.
3. **Discussion Activity**

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Discuss the meaning of taking up one's cross and how students can apply this teaching in their daily lives.
-

Quiz

1. Who demanded a sign from Jesus?
 - The disciples
 - The Pharisees and Sadducees
 - The Romans
 - The crowds
2. What sign did Jesus say would be given?
 - The sign of Moses
 - The sign of Elijah
 - The sign of Jonah
 - The sign of David
3. What did Jesus warn His disciples about?
 - The leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees
 - The teachings of John the Baptist
 - The behavior of the Gentiles
 - The power of Rome
4. Who confessed Jesus as the Christ?
 - John
 - James
 - Peter
 - Andrew
5. What did Jesus say He would build on Peter?
 - A temple
 - His church
 - An altar

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- A school
- 6. What did Jesus predict about His future?
 - He would conquer Rome
 - He would become king
 - He would suffer, die, and be raised to life
 - He would disappear
- 7. How did Peter respond to Jesus' prediction of His death?
 - He praised Jesus
 - He rebuked Jesus
 - He ignored Jesus
 - He accepted it
- 8. What did Jesus say to Peter's rebuke?
 - "Get behind me, Satan!"
 - "Thank you for your concern."
 - "You are right."
 - "Let's discuss this further."
- 9. What must a disciple do to follow Jesus?
 - Gain wealth
 - Deny themselves and take up their cross
 - Follow the Pharisees
 - Perform miracles
- 10. What does Jesus say about gaining the whole world?
 - It is the goal of life
 - It profits nothing if you lose your soul
 - It is a blessing from God
 - It is impossible

Answers: 1. The Pharisees and Sadducees 2. The sign of Jonah 3. The leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees 4. Peter 5. His church 6. He would suffer, die, and be raised to life 7. He rebuked

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Jesus 8. "Get behind me, Satan!" 9. Deny themselves and take up their cross 10. It profits nothing if you lose your soul

Fill in the Blank

1. The Pharisees and Sadducees demanded a _____ from Jesus.
2. Jesus warned His disciples about the _____ of the Pharisees and Sadducees.
3. Peter confessed Jesus as the _____.
4. Jesus said He would build His _____ on Peter.
5. Jesus taught that a disciple must take up their _____ and follow Him.

Answers: sign; leaven; Christ; church; cross

Vocabulary Words

1. **Leaven**
 - Definition: A substance, typically yeast, that is added to dough to make it ferment and rise.
 - Greek: ζύμη (zyme)
2. **Confess**
 - Definition: To acknowledge or declare.
 - Greek: ὁμολογέω (homologeō)
3. **Disciple**
 - Definition: A follower or student of a teacher, leader, or philosopher.
 - Greek: μαθητής (mathetes)
4. **Rebuke**
 - Definition: To express sharp disapproval or criticism.
 - Greek: ἐπιτιμάω (epitimao)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

5. Resurrection

- Definition: The act of rising from the dead.
- Greek: ἀνάστασις (anastasis)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 17 of the Book of Matthew details the Transfiguration of Jesus, where He is revealed in glory alongside Moses and Elijah. The disciples Peter, James, and John witness this event. Following the Transfiguration, Jesus heals a demon-possessed boy whom the disciples could not heal. Jesus again predicts His death and resurrection. The chapter concludes with the miracle of the temple tax, where Jesus instructs Peter to find a coin in a fish's mouth to pay the tax for both of them.

Opening Question

How do you think the Transfiguration impacted the disciples' understanding of who Jesus is and His mission?

Outline

1. The Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-13)
 - Jesus takes Peter, James, and John up a high mountain (v. 1)
 - Jesus is transfigured, and Moses and Elijah appear (vv. 2-3)
 - Peter's response and the voice from the cloud (vv. 4-5)
 - The disciples' reaction and Jesus' reassurance (vv. 6-8)
 - Jesus instructs them to keep the vision secret until after His resurrection (vv. 9-13)

Possible Application Question: How can we experience and respond to moments of spiritual revelation in our lives?
2. Healing of a Demon-Possessed Boy (Matthew 17:14-21)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- A man asks Jesus to heal his son, whom the disciples could not heal (vv. 14-16)
- Jesus heals the boy and rebukes the disciples for their lack of faith (vv. 17-18)
- Jesus explains the necessity of faith and prayer (vv. 19-21)

Possible Application Question: How can we cultivate greater faith and reliance on prayer in our spiritual journey?

3. Jesus Predicts His Death and Resurrection (Matthew 17:22-23)

- Jesus foretells His betrayal, death, and resurrection (vv. 22-23)

Possible Application Question: How can we find hope and strength in Jesus' foreknowledge of His death and resurrection?

4. The Temple Tax (Matthew 17:24-27)

- Collectors ask Peter if Jesus pays the temple tax (v. 24)
- Jesus explains His exemption but instructs Peter to pay to avoid offense (vv. 25-26)
- Peter finds a coin in a fish's mouth to pay the tax (v. 27)

Possible Application Question: How can we navigate our responsibilities while maintaining our witness and integrity?

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 17:5: "While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them, and a voice from the cloud said, 'This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!'"

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the Transfiguration scene, focusing on the disciples' reactions and the voice from the cloud.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the significance of Jesus' predictions of His death and resurrection and how this impacts our faith today.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Quiz

1. Who witnessed the Transfiguration of Jesus?
 - Peter, James, and John
 - Andrew, Philip, and Thomas
 - Mary, Martha, and Lazarus
 - Judas, Matthew, and Simon
2. Who appeared with Jesus during the Transfiguration?
 - Abraham and David
 - Moses and Elijah
 - Isaiah and Jeremiah
 - Daniel and Ezekiel
3. What did the voice from the cloud say during the Transfiguration?
 - "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."
 - "This is my prophet; follow his teachings."
 - "This is the Messiah; obey him."
 - "This is my servant; honor him."
4. Why couldn't the disciples heal the demon-possessed boy?
 - They lacked faith
 - They didn't pray enough
 - They used the wrong method
 - They were afraid
5. What did Jesus say was necessary to move mountains?
 - Great power
 - A lot of effort
 - Faith as small as a mustard seed
 - Complete understanding
6. What did Jesus predict again in this chapter?

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- His baptism
 - His miracles
 - His death and resurrection
 - His return to heaven
7. Who asked Peter if Jesus paid the temple tax?
- The Pharisees
 - The Sadducees
 - The tax collectors
 - The disciples
8. How did Jesus instruct Peter to find the coin for the temple tax?
- Work for it
 - Ask a rich man
 - Find it in a fish's mouth
 - Borrow from a friend
9. How many days later did the Transfiguration occur after Jesus' promise in Matthew 16:28?
- Three days
 - Seven days
 - Six days
 - Ten days
10. What did the disciples do when they heard the voice from the cloud?
- They celebrated
 - They argued
 - They fell facedown, terrified
 - They ran away

Answers: 1. Peter, James, and John 2. Moses and Elijah 3. "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." 4. They lacked faith 5. Faith as small as a mustard seed 6. His death and resurrection 7. The tax collectors 8. Find it in a fish's mouth 9. Six days 10. They fell facedown, terrified

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus was transfigured before Peter, James, and _____.
2. During the Transfiguration, Jesus' face shone like the _____.
3. Jesus rebuked the disciples for their lack of _____ when they couldn't heal the boy.
4. Jesus predicted His _____ and resurrection to His disciples.
5. Peter found the coin to pay the temple tax in a _____'s mouth.

Answers: John; sun; faith; death; fish

Vocabulary Words

1. Transfiguration

- Definition: A complete change of form or appearance into a more beautiful or spiritual state.
- Greek: μεταμόρφωσις (metamorphosis)

2. Faith

- Definition: Complete trust or confidence in someone or something.
- Greek: πίστις (pistis)

3. Resurrection

- Definition: The act of rising from the dead.
- Greek: ανάστασις (anastasis)

4. Leaven

- Definition: A substance, typically yeast, that is added to dough to make it ferment and rise.
- Greek: ζύμη (zyme)

5. Temple Tax

- Definition: A tax paid for the maintenance of the Jewish temple.
- Greek: δίδραχμον (didrachmon)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 18 of the Book of Matthew focuses on teachings about humility, stumbling blocks, seeking the lost, and forgiveness. Jesus uses a child to illustrate the importance of humility and warns against causing others to sin. He shares the Parable of the Lost Sheep, emphasizing God's concern for the lost. Jesus provides instructions for dealing with sin within the community and teaches the necessity of forgiveness through the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant. The chapter underscores the values of humility, care for the vulnerable, and the importance of forgiveness in the Christian life.

Opening Question

Why do you think Jesus emphasized humility and forgiveness so strongly in this chapter?

Outline

1. The Greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven (Matthew 18:1-5)
 - Disciples ask who is the greatest (v. 1)
 - Jesus places a child among them and emphasizes humility (vv. 2-5)
Possible Application Question: How can we practice humility in our daily interactions?
2. Warnings About Stumbling Blocks (Matthew 18:6-9)
 - Warning against causing others to sin (vv. 6-7)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Drastic measures to avoid sin (vv. 8-9)
Possible Application Question: What steps can we take to avoid causing others to stumble in their faith?
 - 3. The Parable of the Lost Sheep (Matthew 18:10-14)
 - God's concern for the lost (vv. 10-11)
 - Parable of the Lost Sheep (vv. 12-14)
Possible Application Question: How can we actively seek to help those who have strayed from their faith?
 - 4. Dealing with Sin in the Church (Matthew 18:15-20)
 - Steps for addressing sin within the community (vv. 15-17)
 - The power of agreement in prayer (vv. 18-20)
Possible Application Question: How can we handle conflicts and sin within our church or community with love and integrity?
 - 5. The Parable of the Unforgiving Servant (Matthew 18:21-35)
 - Peter asks about forgiveness (v. 21)
 - Jesus teaches to forgive seventy-seven times (v. 22)
 - Parable of the Unforgiving Servant (vv. 23-35)
Possible Application Question: How can we cultivate a heart of forgiveness, even when it's difficult?
-

Possible Activities

1. **Memory Verse Challenge**
 - Memorize Matthew 18:4: "Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."
2. **Role Playing Activity**
 - Students act out the Parable of the Unforgiving Servant, emphasizing the importance of forgiveness.
3. **Discussion Activity**

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Discuss practical ways to seek out and help those who have strayed from their faith, based on the Parable of the Lost Sheep.
-

Quiz

1. Who did Jesus use as an example of the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?
 - A wealthy man
 - A Pharisee
 - A child
 - A scribe
2. What did Jesus say about causing others to sin?
 - It is unavoidable
 - It is acceptable
 - It is worse than death
 - It is a minor issue
3. What should you do if your hand or foot causes you to sin?
 - Ignore it
 - Cut it off and throw it away
 - Pray about it
 - Cover it up
4. What parable illustrates God's concern for the lost?
 - The Parable of the Sower
 - The Parable of the Good Samaritan
 - The Parable of the Lost Sheep
 - The Parable of the Talents
5. How should you first deal with a brother or sister who sins against you?
 - Tell the whole church
 - Gossip about them
 - Confront them privately

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Ignore it
- 6. How many times did Jesus tell Peter to forgive someone who sins against him?
 - Seven times
 - Seventy-seven times
 - Ten times
 - Fifty times
- 7. What happened to the unforgiving servant in Jesus' parable?
 - He was rewarded
 - He was forgiven again
 - He was thrown into prison
 - He was ignored
- 8. What is the power of agreement in prayer according to Jesus?
 - It has no effect
 - It is a last resort
 - It guarantees God's presence
 - It is optional
- 9. How does Jesus describe the kingdom of heaven in relation to a child?
 - The kingdom belongs to such as these
 - Children are excluded
 - It has nothing to do with children
 - It is only for adults
- 10. What must we do to be the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?
 - Have great wealth
 - Be powerful
 - Humble ourselves like a child
 - Follow all traditions

Answers: 1. A child 2. It is worse than death 3. Cut it off and throw it away 4. The Parable of the Lost Sheep 5. Confront them privately 6. Seventy-seven times 7. He was thrown into prison 8. It

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

guarantees God's presence 9. The kingdom belongs to such as these 10. Humble ourselves like a child

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus said, "Whoever takes the lowly position of this _____ is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven."
2. Jesus warns against causing others to _____.
3. The Parable of the Lost _____ illustrates God's concern for the lost.
4. Jesus teaches to forgive _____-seven times.
5. The unforgiving servant was thrown into _____.

Answers: child; sin; Sheep; seventy; prison

Vocabulary Words

1. **Humility**
 - Definition: A modest or low view of one's own importance.
 - Greek: ταπεινοφροσύνη (tapeinophrosyne)
2. **Stumble**
 - Definition: To trip or momentarily lose one's balance; to sin or fall into error.
 - Greek: σκανδαλίζω (skandalizo)
3. **Forgiveness**
 - Definition: The action or process of forgiving or being forgiven.
 - Greek: ἄφεσις (aphesis)
4. **Reconciliation**
 - Definition: The restoration of friendly relations.
 - Greek: καταλλαγή (katallage)
5. **Servant**
 - Definition: A person who performs duties for others. Greek: δοῦλος (doulos)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER NINETEEN

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 19 of the Book of Matthew includes teachings of Jesus on various topics. Jesus addresses questions about divorce, emphasizing the sanctity of marriage and God's original design. He blesses little children brought to Him, affirming their importance in the Kingdom of Heaven. A rich young man inquires about eternal life, and Jesus challenges him to sell his possessions and follow Him, leading to a discussion about wealth and the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus concludes by teaching about the reward for those who sacrifice for His sake.

Opening Question

Why do you think Jesus emphasized the importance of childlike faith and humility in entering the Kingdom of Heaven?

Outline

1. Teaching on Divorce (Matthew 19:1-12)
 - Pharisees question Jesus about divorce (vv. 1-3)
 - Jesus explains God's design for marriage (vv. 4-6)
 - Jesus addresses the allowance of divorce by Moses (vv. 7-9)
 - Discussion with disciples about celibacy (vv. 10-12)

Possible Application Question: How can we uphold the sanctity of marriage in our relationships and community?
2. Jesus Blesses the Little Children (Matthew 19:13-15)
 - People bring children to Jesus for blessing (v. 13)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Disciples rebuke them, but Jesus welcomes the children (vv. 14-15)
Possible Application Question: How can we nurture and value the faith of children in our community?
 - 3. The Rich Young Man (Matthew 19:16-22)
 - A young man asks Jesus about eternal life (v. 16)
 - Jesus lists commandments and challenges him to sell his possessions (vv. 17-21)
 - The young man leaves sorrowfully because of his great wealth (v. 22)
Possible Application Question: What might Jesus be asking us to give up to follow Him more fully?
 - 4. The Danger of Wealth (Matthew 19:23-30)
 - Jesus comments on the difficulty for the rich to enter the Kingdom (vv. 23-24)
 - Disciples question who can be saved; Jesus responds about God's power (vv. 25-26)
 - Jesus promises rewards for those who sacrifice for His sake (vv. 27-30)
Possible Application Question: How can we prioritize our spiritual life over material wealth and possessions?
-

Possible Activities

1. **Memory Verse Challenge**
 - Memorize Matthew 19:14: "Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.'"
 2. **Role Playing Activity**
 - Students act out the scene of Jesus blessing the children, emphasizing the disciples' initial reaction and Jesus' welcoming response.
 3. **Discussion Activity**
 - Discuss the encounter between Jesus and the rich young man, focusing on what it means to follow Jesus and the challenges of letting go of material possessions.
-

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Quiz

1. Who questioned Jesus about divorce?
 - Sadducees
 - Pharisees
 - Disciples
 - Romans
2. What did Jesus say about God's design for marriage?
 - It was temporary
 - It allowed for multiple spouses
 - It was for a lifetime
 - It was only for the Jews
3. Why did the disciples rebuke those bringing children to Jesus?
 - They were too busy
 - They thought children were unimportant
 - They wanted to protect Jesus
 - They didn't understand Jesus' message
4. What did Jesus tell the rich young man to do to be perfect?
 - Follow all the commandments
 - Sell his possessions and give to the poor
 - Pray continuously
 - Attend the synagogue daily
5. How did the rich young man respond to Jesus' challenge?
 - He was joyful
 - He was sorrowful
 - He was angry
 - He was indifferent
6. What analogy did Jesus use to describe the difficulty for the rich to enter the Kingdom of Heaven?
 - A camel passing through the eye of a needle

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- A ship passing through a storm
 - A bird flying against the wind
 - A tree growing in the desert
7. Who can be saved according to Jesus?
- Only the poor
 - Only the righteous
 - Only the Jews
 - With God, all things are possible
8. What did Peter say the disciples had done to follow Jesus?
- Prayed continuously
 - Sacrificed their families
 - Left everything
 - Performed many miracles
9. What promise did Jesus give to those who have left everything for His sake?
- They will receive a hundred times as much
 - They will be wealthy
 - They will have a long life
 - They will be powerful
10. Who will be first and who will be last in the Kingdom of Heaven?
- The wealthy will be first, and the poor will be last
 - The poor will be first, and the wealthy will be last
 - Many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first
 - The righteous will be first, and the sinners will be last

Answers: 1. Pharisees 2. It was for a lifetime 3. They thought children were unimportant 4. Sell his possessions and give to the poor 5. He was sorrowful 6. A camel passing through the eye of a needle 7. With God, all things are possible 8. Left everything 9. They will receive a hundred times as much 10. Many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus said, "Let the little _____ come to me."
2. Jesus told the rich young man to sell his _____.
3. It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a _____ than for a rich person to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.
4. With _____, all things are possible.
5. Many who are first will be _____, and many who are last will be first.

Answers: children; possessions; needle; God; last

Vocabulary Words

1. Divorce

- Definition: The legal dissolution of a marriage.
- Greek: ἀπολύω (apolyo)

2. Humility

- Definition: A modest or low view of one's own importance.
- Greek: ταπεινοφροσύνη (tapeinophrosyne)

3. Possessions

- Definition: Items or property owned by someone.
- Greek: κτήματα (ktēmata)

4. Eternal Life

- Definition: Life everlasting with God.
- Greek: αἰώνιος ζωή (aiōnios zōē)

5. Kingdom of Heaven

- Definition: The spiritual realm over which God reigns as king.
- Greek: βασιλεία τῶν οὐρανῶν (basileia tōn ouranōn)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER TWENTY

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 20 of the Book of Matthew includes the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard, where Jesus teaches about God's grace and the kingdom of heaven. Jesus predicts His death and resurrection for the third time. The mother of James and John requests special positions for her sons, prompting Jesus to teach about servanthood and greatness. The chapter concludes with Jesus healing two blind men who call out to Him as He leaves Jericho, demonstrating His compassion and power.

Opening Question

Why do you think Jesus used the parable of the workers in the vineyard to teach about the kingdom of heaven and God's grace?

Outline

1. The Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16)
 - The landowner hires workers at different times (vv. 1-7)
 - All workers receive the same wage (vv. 8-10)
 - Workers hired first complain about the pay (vv. 11-12)
 - The landowner's response about fairness and generosity (vv. 13-16)

Possible Application Question: How can we embrace God's grace and avoid comparing our blessings with others?
2. Jesus Predicts His Death and Resurrection (Matthew 20:17-19)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Jesus foretells His suffering, death, and resurrection to the disciples (vv. 17-19)
Possible Application Question: How can understanding Jesus' sacrifice strengthen our faith and commitment to follow Him?
 - 3. A Mother's Request and Jesus' Teaching on Servanthood (Matthew 20:20-28)
 - The mother of James and John requests special positions for her sons (vv. 20-21)
 - Jesus' response about drinking the cup and servanthood (vv. 22-23)
 - Teaching on greatness and being a servant (vv. 24-28)
Possible Application Question: How can we practice true greatness through servanthood in our daily lives?
 - 4. Jesus Heals Two Blind Men (Matthew 20:29-34)
 - Two blind men call out to Jesus as He leaves Jericho (vv. 29-30)
 - The crowd rebukes them, but they persist (v. 31)
 - Jesus heals them out of compassion (vv. 32-34)
Possible Application Question: How can we demonstrate persistent faith and compassion like the blind men and Jesus?
-

Possible Activities

1. **Memory Verse Challenge**
 - Memorize Matthew 20:16: "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."
 2. **Role Playing Activity**
 - Students act out the Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard, focusing on the themes of fairness, grace, and generosity.
 3. **Discussion Activity**
 - Discuss the significance of Jesus' prediction of His death and resurrection and how it impacts our understanding of His mission and sacrifice.
-

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Quiz

1. In the parable, who hires the workers for the vineyard?
 - A king
 - A landowner
 - A farmer
 - A merchant
2. At what times did the landowner hire workers?
 - Early morning, mid-morning, noon, mid-afternoon, and evening
 - Early morning, noon, and evening
 - Only in the morning
 - Only in the evening
3. How did the workers hired first react to their wages?
 - They were satisfied
 - They were grateful
 - They complained
 - They were indifferent
4. What was the landowner's response to the complaining workers?
 - He fired them
 - He reduced their pay
 - He emphasized his generosity and fairness
 - He ignored them
5. What did Jesus predict to His disciples in this chapter?
 - His birth
 - His miracles
 - His death and resurrection
 - His ascension
6. Who asked Jesus for special positions for her sons?
 - Peter's mother
 - Mary Magdalene

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- The mother of James and John
 - Martha
7. How did Jesus describe true greatness?
- Being powerful
 - Having wealth
 - Being a servant
 - Having knowledge
8. What did the two blind men call out to Jesus as He left Jericho?
- "Teacher, help us!"
 - "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!"
 - "Jesus, heal us!"
 - "Rabbi, we need you!"
9. How did the crowd react to the blind men calling out to Jesus?
- They encouraged them
 - They rebuked them
 - They ignored them
 - They joined in their call
10. What did Jesus do for the two blind men?
- He ignored them
 - He taught them
 - He healed them
 - He gave them money

Answers: 1. A landowner 2. Early morning, mid-morning, noon, mid-afternoon, and evening 3. They complained 4. He emphasized his generosity and fairness 5. His death and resurrection 6. The mother of James and John 7. Being a servant 8. "Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!" 9. They rebuked them 10. He healed them

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus said, "So the last will be _____, and the first will be last."
2. The landowner hired workers for his _____.
3. Jesus predicted His _____ and resurrection to His disciples.
4. Jesus taught that true greatness is found in being a _____.
5. Jesus healed two _____ men as He left Jericho.

Answers: first; vineyard; death; servant; blind

Vocabulary Words

1. Parable

- Definition: A simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson.
- Greek: παραβολή (parabole)

2. Vineyard

- Definition: A plantation of grapevines.
- Greek: ἀμπελών (ampelon)

3. Resurrection

- Definition: The act of rising from the dead.
- Greek: ἀνάστασις (anastasis)

4. Servanthood

- Definition: The condition of being a servant and the willingness to serve others.
- Greek: διακονία (diakonia)

5. Compassion

- Definition: Sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.
- Greek: σπλαγχνίζομαι (splachnizomai)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 21 of the Book of Matthew describes Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, where He is welcomed as a king. He then cleanses the temple, overturning the tables of the money changers. Jesus heals the blind and the lame in the temple, and the children praise Him. He curses a fig tree, symbolizing fruitlessness, and teaches the disciples about faith. Jesus' authority is questioned by the religious leaders, and He responds with the Parable of the Two Sons and the Parable of the Tenants, emphasizing obedience and the consequences of rejecting God's messengers.

Opening Question

How do the actions and teachings of Jesus in this chapter challenge our understanding of true faith and obedience?

Outline

1. The Triumphal Entry (Matthew 21:1-11)
 - Jesus instructs disciples to find a donkey and colt (vv. 1-3)
 - Fulfillment of prophecy (vv. 4-5)
 - Jesus enters Jerusalem, and the crowds praise Him (vv. 6-11)

Possible Application Question: How can we welcome Jesus into our lives with the same enthusiasm and reverence?
2. Cleansing the Temple (Matthew 21:12-17)
 - Jesus drives out the money changers (vv. 12-13)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Healing the blind and lame, and children's praise (vv. 14-17)
Possible Application Question: How can we ensure our worship spaces and practices honor God's holiness?
 - 3. The Cursing of the Fig Tree (Matthew 21:18-22)
 - Jesus curses a barren fig tree (vv. 18-19)
 - Jesus teaches about faith and prayer (vv. 20-22)
Possible Application Question: How can we cultivate a fruitful life of faith and reliance on prayer?
 - 4. Jesus' Authority Questioned (Matthew 21:23-27)
 - Religious leaders question Jesus' authority (vv. 23-24)
 - Jesus responds with a question about John the Baptist (vv. 25-27)
Possible Application Question: How can we recognize and respect the authority of Jesus in our lives?
 - 5. The Parable of the Two Sons (Matthew 21:28-32)
 - A father asks his two sons to work in the vineyard (vv. 28-30)
 - One son initially refuses but later obeys; the other promises but does not act (v. 31)
 - Jesus emphasizes the importance of actual obedience (v. 32)
Possible Application Question: How can we ensure our actions align with our professed beliefs?
 - 6. The Parable of the Tenants (Matthew 21:33-46)
 - A landowner rents out his vineyard and sends servants to collect fruit (vv. 33-36)
 - Tenants mistreat and kill the servants, and finally the landowner's son (vv. 37-39)
 - The consequences for the tenants and Jesus' application of the parable (vv. 40-46)
Possible Application Question: How do we respond to God's messages and messengers in our lives?
-

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 21:22: "If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the Triumphal Entry and the cleansing of the temple, focusing on the significance of these events.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the Parable of the Two Sons and the Parable of the Tenants, emphasizing the importance of obedience and the consequences of rejecting God's messages.
-

Quiz

1. What animal did Jesus ride into Jerusalem?

- A horse
- A donkey
- A camel
- An ox

2. What did Jesus do in the temple?

- Taught the people
- Healed the sick
- Drove out the money changers
- All of the above

3. Why did Jesus curse the fig tree?

- It had no leaves
- It was out of season
- It had no fruit
- It was in the way

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

4. What did Jesus say about faith and prayer?
 - They are not important
 - They can move mountains
 - They are only for the righteous
 - They should be private
5. Who questioned Jesus' authority in the temple?
 - The Pharisees
 - The Sadducees
 - The chief priests and elders
 - The disciples
6. In the Parable of the Two Sons, which son did the will of the father?
 - The first son who initially refused but later obeyed
 - The second son who promised but did not act
 - Both sons
 - Neither son
7. In the Parable of the Tenants, who did the tenants kill last?
 - The landowner's son
 - The landowner's servants
 - The landowner
 - The other tenants
8. What was the consequence for the tenants in the parable?
 - They were forgiven
 - They received more land
 - They were put to a miserable death
 - They were ignored
9. What did the children shout in the temple courts?
 - "Hosanna to the Son of David"
 - "Crucify him"
 - "Peace be with you"
 - "Hail to the King"

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

10. How did the chief priests and Pharisees react to Jesus' parables?

- They repented
- They ignored Him
- They plotted to arrest Him
- They praised Him

Answers: 1. A donkey 2. All of the above 3. It had no fruit 4. They can move mountains 5. The chief priests and elders 6. The first son who initially refused but later obeyed 7. The landowner's son 8. They were put to a miserable death 9. "Hosanna to the Son of David" 10. They plotted to arrest Him

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a _____.
2. Jesus drove out the _____ changers from the temple.
3. Jesus said, "If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in _____."
4. In the Parable of the Two Sons, the first son _____ but later obeyed.
5. The tenants in the parable killed the landowner's _____.

Answers: donkey; money; prayer; refused; son

Vocabulary Words

1. **Triumphal Entry**

- Definition: Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, celebrated on Palm Sunday.
- Greek: εἰσοδος (eisodos)

2. **Temple**

- Definition: The holy place in Jerusalem where Jews worshipped God.
- Greek: ναός (naos)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

3. Authority

- Definition: The power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience.
- Greek: ἐξουσία (exousia)

4. Obedience

- Definition: Compliance with an order, request, or law.
- Greek: ὑπακοή (hypakoē)

5. Parable

- Definition: A simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson.
- Greek: παραβολή (parabole)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 22 of the Book of Matthew contains several teachings and parables of Jesus. It begins with the Parable of the Wedding Banquet, highlighting the rejection of God's invitation and the consequences. Religious leaders question Jesus on paying taxes to Caesar, the resurrection, and the greatest commandment, attempting to trap Him. Jesus answers wisely, emphasizing love for God and neighbor. The chapter concludes with Jesus questioning the Pharisees about the Messiah's identity, revealing their lack of understanding.

Opening Question

Why do you think Jesus used parables to communicate profound truths, and how can we apply these lessons in our lives today?

Outline

1. The Parable of the Wedding Banquet (Matthew 22:1-14)
 - King invites guests to his son's wedding banquet (vv. 1-3)
 - Invited guests refuse and mistreat the king's servants (vv. 4-7)
 - King invites others, both good and bad (vv. 8-10)
 - The man without wedding clothes is thrown out (vv. 11-14)

Possible Application Question: How do we respond to God's invitation, and are we prepared for His kingdom?
2. Paying Taxes to Caesar (Matthew 22:15-22)
 - Pharisees and Herodians try to trap Jesus with a question about taxes (vv. 15-17)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Jesus' response: "Give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's" (vv. 18-22)
Possible Application Question: How can we balance our responsibilities to earthly authorities and to God?
 - 3. Marriage at the Resurrection (Matthew 22:23-33)
 - Sadducees question Jesus about resurrection and marriage (vv. 23-28)
 - Jesus teaches about the resurrection and God's power (vv. 29-33)
Possible Application Question: How does our belief in the resurrection shape our current lives and relationships?
 - 4. The Greatest Commandment (Matthew 22:34-40)
 - Pharisees ask Jesus about the greatest commandment (vv. 34-36)
 - Jesus emphasizes loving God and loving your neighbor (vv. 37-40)
Possible Application Question: How can we prioritize love for God and others in our daily actions?
 - 5. Whose Son is the Messiah? (Matthew 22:41-46)
 - Jesus questions the Pharisees about the identity of the Messiah (vv. 41-45)
 - Pharisees are unable to answer (v. 46)
Possible Application Question: How can we deepen our understanding of Jesus as the Messiah and live accordingly?
-

Possible Activities

1. **Memory Verse Challenge**
 - Memorize Matthew 22:37: "Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'"
2. **Role Playing Activity**
 - Students act out the Parable of the Wedding Banquet, focusing on the invitation, responses, and the king's reaction.
3. **Discussion Activity**

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Discuss the significance of Jesus' answers to the Pharisees and Sadducees and how His teachings apply to modern life.
-

Quiz

1. In the Parable of the Wedding Banquet, who invited guests to his son's wedding?
 - A servant
 - A king
 - A prophet
 - A priest
2. What happened to the guests who refused the invitation?
 - They were forgiven
 - They were invited again
 - Their city was destroyed
 - They were ignored
3. What question did the Pharisees and Herodians ask Jesus to trap Him?
 - About resurrection
 - About taxes
 - About the Sabbath
 - About marriage
4. What was Jesus' response to paying taxes to Caesar?
 - Do not pay taxes
 - Pay only temple tax
 - Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's
 - Give everything to God
5. Who questioned Jesus about the resurrection?
 - Pharisees
 - Herodians
 - Sadducees

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Disciples
6. What did Jesus say is the greatest commandment?
- Love your neighbor
 - Keep the Sabbath
 - Love the Lord your God
 - Honor your parents
7. What is the second greatest commandment according to Jesus?
- Love your neighbor as yourself
 - Do not steal
 - Keep the Sabbath
 - Do not lie
8. How did Jesus challenge the Pharisees about the Messiah?
- Asked about the Sabbath
 - Asked about David's son
 - Asked about temple rituals
 - Asked about resurrection
9. Who did the Pharisees say the Messiah was the son of?
- Moses
 - Abraham
 - David
 - Solomon
10. How did the Pharisees react to Jesus' questions about the Messiah?
- They answered confidently
 - They praised Him
 - They could not answer
 - They ignored Him

Answers: 1. A king 2. Their city was destroyed 3. About taxes 4. Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's 5. Sadducees 6. Love the Lord your God 7. Love your neighbor as yourself 8. Asked about David's son 9. David 10. They could not answer

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus said, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your _____ and with all your mind."
2. The king invited guests to his son's _____ banquet.
3. Jesus said to give to _____ what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's.
4. Jesus taught that at the resurrection, people will be like the _____.
5. The Pharisees and Sadducees tried to _____ Jesus with their questions.

Answers: soul; wedding; Caesar; angels; trap

Vocabulary Words

1. Parable

- Definition: A simple story used to illustrate a moral or spiritual lesson.
- Greek: παραβολή (parabole)

2. Resurrection

- Definition: The act of rising from the dead.
- Greek: ανάστασις (anastasis)

3. Commandment

- Definition: A divine rule, especially one of the Ten Commandments.
- Greek: ἐντολή (entole)

4. Messiah

- Definition: The promised deliverer of the Jewish nation prophesied in the Hebrew Bible.
- Greek: Μεσσίας (Messias)

5. Pharisee

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Definition: A member of an ancient Jewish sect that emphasized strict interpretation and observance of the Mosaic law.
- Greek: Φαρισαῖος (Phariseios)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 23 of the Book of Matthew records Jesus' strong denunciation of the scribes and Pharisees for their hypocrisy and false piety. He lists seven woes against them, criticizing their actions that burden others while neglecting justice, mercy, and faithfulness. Jesus highlights their outward appearance of righteousness while being inwardly corrupt. The chapter ends with Jesus lamenting over Jerusalem, expressing His sorrow for their rejection of Him and predicting the city's desolation.

Opening Question

Why do you think Jesus emphasized the dangers of hypocrisy and false piety in His teachings to the scribes and Pharisees?

Outline

1. Warning Against the Scribes and Pharisees (Matthew 23:1-12)
 - Jesus warns the crowd and disciples (vv. 1-3)
 - Criticism of the scribes' and Pharisees' burdensome practices (vv. 4-7)
 - Teaching on humility and servant leadership (vv. 8-12)
Possible Application Question: How can we practice true humility and servant leadership in our lives?
2. The Seven Woes (Matthew 23:13-36)
 - Woe 1: Shutting the kingdom of heaven (v. 13)
 - Woe 2: Making converts twice as much children of hell (v. 15)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Woe 3: Blind guides and foolish oaths (vv. 16-22)
- Woe 4: Neglecting justice, mercy, and faithfulness (vv. 23-24)
- Woe 5: Cleaning the outside while being unclean inside (vv. 25-26)
- Woe 6: Whitewashed tombs, beautiful outside but dead inside (vv. 27-28)
- Woe 7: Building tombs for the prophets while being guilty of their blood (vv. 29-36)

Possible Application Question: What areas of our lives might reflect hypocrisy, and how can we address them?

3. Jesus' Lament Over Jerusalem (Matthew 23:37-39)

- Jesus expresses sorrow for Jerusalem (v. 37)
- Prediction of desolation and future recognition of Jesus (vv. 38-39)

Possible Application Question: How can we respond to Jesus' call to come to Him with genuine repentance and faith?

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 23:12: "For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the scene of Jesus pronouncing the woes, focusing on understanding the meaning behind each woe.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the dangers of hypocrisy and the importance of aligning our actions with our beliefs.
-

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Quiz

1. Who did Jesus warn the crowd and His disciples about?
 - The Romans
 - The scribes and Pharisees
 - The Gentiles
 - The Sadducees
2. What did Jesus criticize the scribes and Pharisees for doing?
 - Performing miracles
 - Burdening others with heavy loads
 - Being too kind
 - Working on the Sabbath
3. What did Jesus say about those who exalt themselves?
 - They will be praised
 - They will be humbled
 - They will be rewarded
 - They will be forgiven
4. How many woes did Jesus pronounce against the scribes and Pharisees?
 - Five
 - Six
 - Seven
 - Eight
5. What did Jesus call the scribes and Pharisees in the third woe?
 - Blind guides
 - Hypocrites
 - Teachers
 - Prophets
6. What did Jesus emphasize as more important than tithing mint, dill, and cumin?
 - Knowledge
 - Justice, mercy, and faithfulness

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Wealth
 - Rituals
7. What metaphor did Jesus use to describe the scribes and Pharisees in the fifth woe?
- A vine
 - A tree
 - A whitewashed tomb
 - A grain of wheat
8. What was the main point of the sixth woe?
- Observing the Sabbath
 - Making long prayers
 - Being clean on the outside but unclean inside
 - Following traditions
9. What did Jesus predict about Jerusalem?
- It would be blessed
 - It would be desolate
 - It would become a great city
 - It would be forgotten
10. What did Jesus say about those who humble themselves?
- They will be ignored
 - They will be exalted
 - They will be punished
 - They will be forgotten

Answers: 1. The scribes and Pharisees 2. Burdening others with heavy loads 3. They will be humbled 4. Seven 5. Blind guides 6. Justice, mercy, and faithfulness 7. A whitewashed tomb 8. Being clean on the outside but unclean inside 9. It would be desolate 10. They will be exalted

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus said, "For those who exalt themselves will be _____, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."
2. Jesus pronounced _____ woes against the scribes and Pharisees.
3. The scribes and Pharisees were criticized for neglecting _____, mercy, and faithfulness.
4. Jesus described the scribes and Pharisees as _____ tombs, beautiful outside but dead inside.
5. Jesus lamented over _____ for rejecting Him and predicted its desolation.

Answers: humbled; seven; justice; whitewashed; Jerusalem

Vocabulary Words

1. **Hypocrisy**
 - Definition: The practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's own behavior does not conform.
 - Greek: ὑπόκρισις (hypokrisis)
2. **Woe**
 - Definition: Great sorrow or distress.
 - Greek: οὐαί (ouai)
3. **Justice**
 - Definition: Just behavior or treatment.
 - Greek: κρίσις (krisis)
4. **Faithfulness**
 - Definition: The quality of being faithful; loyalty.
 - Greek: πίστις (pistis)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

5. Lament

- Definition: A passionate expression of grief or sorrow.
- Greek: θρηνέω (threneō)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 24 of the Book of Matthew contains Jesus' teachings on the end times and His return. Jesus describes the signs of the end of the age, including wars, famines, earthquakes, and persecution of believers. He warns of false prophets and the increase of wickedness. Jesus emphasizes the sudden and unexpected nature of His return, using the illustrations of the fig tree, Noah's time, and the thief in the night. He urges His followers to be vigilant and prepared, concluding with the parable of the faithful and wise servant.

Opening Question

Why do you think Jesus emphasized the importance of being prepared for His return and the signs of the end times?

Outline

1. Signs of the End of the Age (Matthew 24:1-14)
 - Jesus predicts the destruction of the temple (vv. 1-2)
 - Disciples ask about the signs of His coming and the end of the age (vv. 3)
 - Jesus describes false messiahs, wars, famines, earthquakes, and persecution (vv. 4-8)
 - The gospel will be preached to all nations (v. 14)

Possible Application Question: How can we remain faithful and not be deceived by false teachings during turbulent times?
2. The Abomination of Desolation (Matthew 24:15-28)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Warning about the abomination that causes desolation (vv. 15-20)
- Great distress unequalled from the beginning of the world (v. 21)
- False prophets and false messiahs performing signs and wonders (vv. 22-28)
Possible Application Question: What steps can we take to discern and avoid false prophets and teachings?

3. The Coming of the Son of Man (Matthew 24:29-35)

- Cosmic signs and the appearance of the Son of Man (vv. 29-31)
- Lesson of the fig tree to understand the times (vv. 32-35)
Possible Application Question: How can we be observant of the signs of the times and be ready for Jesus' return?

4. The Day and Hour Unknown (Matthew 24:36-51)

- No one knows the day or hour, compared to the days of Noah (vv. 36-39)
 - Illustration of the thief in the night and being ready (vv. 40-44)
 - Parable of the faithful and wise servant (vv. 45-51)
Possible Application Question: In what ways can we live our lives in constant readiness for Jesus' return?
-

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 24:44: "So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the parable of the faithful and wise servant, emphasizing the importance of being prepared and vigilant.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the various signs of the end times mentioned by Jesus and how they might apply to current events and our personal lives.
-

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Quiz

What did Jesus predict would happen to the temple?

- It would be glorified
 - It would be destroyed
 - It would be expanded
 - It would be ignored
2. What are some signs of the end of the age mentioned by Jesus?
- Peace and prosperity
 - Wars, famines, and earthquakes
 - New temples
 - Abundance of food
3. What will happen to the gospel before the end comes?
- It will be lost
 - It will be preached to all nations
 - It will be forgotten
 - It will be rewritten
4. What is the "abomination that causes desolation" referring to?
- A glorious event
 - A terrible desecration
 - A joyful celebration
 - A peaceful time
5. How does Jesus describe the time of great distress?
- A time of celebration
 - A time of peace
 - Unequaled from the beginning of the world
 - A time of ignorance
6. What will appear in the sky when the Son of Man comes?
- A rainbow
 - The moon

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- The sign of the Son of Man
 - A dove
7. What lesson does Jesus teach with the fig tree?
- To ignore the signs
 - To understand the times
 - To wait for the right season
 - To focus on the past
8. How does Jesus compare His coming to the days of Noah?
- It will be a time of great peace
 - People will be unaware until it happens
 - It will be a joyous occasion
 - Everyone will know the exact time
9. What illustration does Jesus use to emphasize the unexpectedness of His return?
- A farmer and his crops
 - A shepherd and his sheep
 - A thief in the night
 - A king and his kingdom
10. What happens to the wicked servant in the parable?
- He is praised
 - He is forgiven
 - He is cut to pieces and assigned a place with the hypocrites
 - He is ignored

Answers: 1. It would be destroyed 2. Wars, famines, and earthquakes 3. It will be preached to all nations 4. A terrible desecration 5. Unequaled from the beginning of the world 6. The sign of the Son of Man 7. To understand the times 8. People will be unaware until it happens 9. A thief in the night 10. He is cut to pieces and assigned a place with the hypocrites

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus said, "So you also must be _____, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him."
2. Jesus predicted that the _____ would be destroyed.
3. Jesus mentioned wars, famines, and _____ as signs of the end times.
4. The gospel will be preached to all _____ before the end comes.
5. Jesus compared His coming to the days of _____, when people were unaware of the impending flood.

Answers: ready; temple; earthquakes; nations; Noah

Vocabulary Words

1. **Desolation**
 - Definition: A state of complete emptiness or destruction.
 - Greek: ἐρήμωσις (erēmosis)
2. **Persecution**
 - Definition: Hostility and ill-treatment, especially because of race or political or religious beliefs.
 - Greek: δίωξις (diōxis)
3. **Vigilant**
 - Definition: Keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties.
 - Greek: γρηγορέω (grēgoreō)
4. **False Prophet**
 - Definition: A person who falsely claims the gift of prophecy or divine inspiration.
 - Greek: ψευδοπροφήτης (pseudoprophētēs)
5. **Fig Tree**

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Definition: A type of tree often mentioned in the Bible, used metaphorically by Jesus.
- Greek: συκῆ (sykē)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 25 of the Book of Matthew includes three key parables Jesus taught about the Kingdom of Heaven. The Parable of the Ten Virgins emphasizes the importance of being prepared for Jesus' return. The Parable of the Talents teaches about using the gifts and resources God has given us responsibly. The Parable of the Sheep and the Goats illustrates the final judgment, where people are separated based on how they treated others, especially the needy. Each parable underscores the themes of readiness, stewardship, and compassion.

Opening Question

How can we ensure that we are living in a way that prepares us for Jesus' return and aligns with His teachings on stewardship and compassion?

Outline

1. The Parable of the Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13)
 - Ten virgins await the bridegroom with lamps (vv. 1-2)
 - Five wise virgins bring extra oil; five foolish do not (vv. 3-4)
 - The bridegroom arrives; the wise enter the banquet; the foolish are shut out (vv. 5-12)
 - Jesus' admonition to keep watch (v. 13)

Possible Application Question: How can we live in a state of spiritual readiness for Jesus' return?
2. The Parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- A master entrusts his servants with talents (vv. 14-15)
- Two servants invest and double their talents; one hides his talent (vv. 16-18)
- The master rewards the faithful servants and punishes the lazy servant (vv. 19-30)
Possible Application Question: How can we faithfully use the gifts and resources God has given us?

3. The Parable of the Sheep and the Goats (Matthew 25:31-46)

- The Son of Man separates the nations as a shepherd separates sheep from goats (vv. 31-33)
- The sheep are praised for helping the needy and inherit the kingdom (vv. 34-40)
- The goats are condemned for neglecting the needy and are sent away (vv. 41-46)
Possible Application Question: How can we show compassion and care for those in need in our daily lives?

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 25:13: "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour."

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the Parable of the Ten Virgins, focusing on the importance of being prepared and vigilant.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the Parable of the Talents and how we can identify and use our unique gifts to serve God and others.

Quiz

1. What did the wise virgins bring with their lamps?
 - Extra oil
 - Extra lamps

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Water
 - Food
2. What happened to the foolish virgins when the bridegroom arrived?
- They were welcomed
 - They were shut out
 - They were late
 - They were praised
3. What did the master do with the talents when he returned?
- Distributed them equally
 - Took them back
 - Rewarded the faithful servants and punished the lazy one
 - Gave them to the poor
4. How did the servant who received one talent respond?
- Invested it wisely
 - Spent it
 - Buried it
 - Gave it away
5. What did the master say to the faithful servants?
- "Well done, good and faithful servant!"
 - "Why did you take a risk?"
 - "You should have saved it."
 - "Better luck next time."
6. Who are separated like sheep and goats in the final judgment?
- Angels and demons
 - Believers and non-believers
 - The nations
 - Children and adults
7. What did the sheep do to inherit the kingdom?
- Prayed continuously
 - Helped the needy

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Fought in battles
 - Built temples
8. What did the goats fail to do?
- Attend synagogue
 - Help the needy
 - Offer sacrifices
 - Memorize scripture
9. What happens to the goats in the final judgment?
- They inherit the kingdom
 - They are forgiven
 - They are sent away to eternal punishment
 - They are given another chance
10. What is the key theme of Matthew 25?
- Vigilance, stewardship, and compassion
 - Wealth and power
 - Knowledge and wisdom
 - Law and order

Answers: 1. Extra oil 2. They were shut out 3. Rewarded the faithful servants and punished the lazy one 4. Buried it 5. "Well done, good and faithful servant!" 6. The nations 7. Helped the needy 8. Help the needy 9. They are sent away to eternal punishment 10. Vigilance, stewardship, and compassion

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus said, "Therefore keep _____, because you do not know the day or the hour."
2. The wise virgins brought extra _____ with their lamps.
3. The master rewarded the _____ servants and punished the lazy servant.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

4. In the final judgment, the Son of Man separates the nations as a shepherd separates _____ from goats.
5. The sheep are praised for helping the _____ and inherit the kingdom.

Answers: watch; oil; faithful; sheep; needy

Vocabulary Words

1. Talent

- Definition: A large sum of money or a unit of currency in ancient times, also used metaphorically for gifts and abilities.
- Greek: τάλαντον (talanton)

2. Bridegroom

- Definition: A man who is getting married.
- Greek: νυμφίος (nymphios)

3. Vigilant

- Definition: Keeping careful watch for possible danger or difficulties.
- Greek: γρηγορέω (grēgoreō)

4. Stewardship

- Definition: The responsible overseeing and protection of something worth caring for and preserving.
- Greek: οἰκονομία (oikonomia)

5. Compassion

- Definition: Sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others.
- Greek: σπλαγχνίζομαι (splachnizomai)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 26 of the Book of Matthew recounts the events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion. It begins with Jesus predicting His imminent death and the religious leaders plotting against Him. Jesus is anointed by a woman in Bethany. Judas agrees to betray Jesus for thirty pieces of silver. Jesus celebrates the Passover with His disciples, instituting the Lord's Supper. He prays in Gethsemane, is arrested, and brought before the Sanhedrin. Peter denies knowing Jesus three times, fulfilling Jesus' earlier prediction.

Opening Question

Why do you think Jesus continued to follow God's plan, knowing the suffering and betrayal He would face?

Outline

1. Plot Against Jesus (Matthew 26:1-5)
 - Jesus predicts His crucifixion (vv. 1-2)
 - Religious leaders plot to arrest Jesus secretly (vv. 3-5)

Possible Application Question: How can we remain faithful to God's plan even when facing opposition?
2. Anointing at Bethany (Matthew 26:6-13)
 - A woman anoints Jesus with expensive perfume (vv. 6-7)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Disciples' reaction and Jesus' defense of the woman (vv. 8-13)
Possible Application Question: What acts of devotion and worship can we offer to Jesus today?
 - 3. Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus (Matthew 26:14-16)
 - Judas approaches the chief priests (v. 14)
 - Judas agrees to betray Jesus for thirty pieces of silver (vv. 15-16)
Possible Application Question: How can we guard our hearts against the temptation to betray our values for personal gain?
 - 4. The Last Supper (Matthew 26:17-30)
 - Jesus celebrates the Passover with His disciples (vv. 17-19)
 - Jesus predicts His betrayal (vv. 20-25)
 - Institution of the Lord's Supper (vv. 26-30)
Possible Application Question: How can we remember and honor Jesus' sacrifice in our daily lives?
 - 5. Jesus Prays in Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-46)
 - Jesus prays in anguish, asking for the cup to be taken away (vv. 36-39)
 - Jesus finds the disciples sleeping (vv. 40-46)
Possible Application Question: How can we seek God's strength and guidance during times of deep distress?
 - 6. Jesus' Arrest and Trial (Matthew 26:47-68)
 - Judas betrays Jesus with a kiss (vv. 47-50)
 - Jesus is arrested and taken to the Sanhedrin (vv. 51-68)
Possible Application Question: How can we stand firm in our faith when facing false accusations or persecution?
 - 7. Peter's Denial (Matthew 26:69-75)
 - Peter denies knowing Jesus three times (vv. 69-75)
 - Peter remembers Jesus' prediction and weeps bitterly (v. 75)
Possible Application Question: How can we seek forgiveness and restoration when we fail in our faith?
-

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 26:41: "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak."

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the scene of the Last Supper, focusing on the institution of the Lord's Supper and Jesus' prediction of His betrayal.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the significance of Jesus' prayers in Gethsemane and how we can apply His example of seeking God's will in difficult times.
-

Quiz

1. What did Jesus predict would happen during the Passover?

- His resurrection
- His betrayal
- His crucifixion
- His ascension

2. Who anointed Jesus with expensive perfume?

- Mary Magdalene
- Martha
- A woman in Bethany
- A woman in Jerusalem

3. How much did Judas receive to betray Jesus?

- Ten pieces of gold
- Thirty pieces of silver
- Fifty pieces of bronze
- Twenty pieces of silver

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

4. What did Jesus institute at the Last Supper?
 - Baptism
 - The Lord's Supper
 - Washing of feet
 - Anointing with oil
5. Where did Jesus pray in great anguish before His arrest?
 - Mount of Olives
 - Gethsemane
 - The temple
 - Golgotha
6. How did Judas betray Jesus?
 - By pointing at Him
 - By giving Him a kiss
 - By shouting His name
 - By handing Him over
7. Who cut off the ear of the high priest's servant?
 - Peter
 - James
 - John
 - Judas
8. To whom was Jesus taken after His arrest?
 - Pilate
 - Herod
 - The Sanhedrin
 - The Pharisees
9. How many times did Peter deny knowing Jesus?
 - Once
 - Twice
 - Three times
 - Four times

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

10. How did Peter react after he realized he had denied Jesus?

- He ran away
- He prayed
- He wept bitterly
- He argued

Answers: 1. His crucifixion 2. A woman in Bethany 3. Thirty pieces of silver 4. The Lord's Supper 5. Gethsemane 6. By giving Him a kiss 7. Peter 8. The Sanhedrin 9. Three times 10. He wept bitterly

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus said, "Watch and pray so that you will not fall into _____."
2. Judas betrayed Jesus for _____ pieces of silver.
3. Jesus prayed in the garden of _____ before His arrest.
4. Peter denied knowing Jesus _____ times.
5. At the Last Supper, Jesus instituted the _____ Supper.

Answers: temptation; thirty; Gethsemane; three; Lord's

Vocabulary Words

1. **Passover**

- Definition: The Jewish festival commemorating the Hebrews' liberation from slavery in Egypt.
- Greek: *πάσχα* (pascha)

2. **Betray**

- Definition: To deliver to an enemy by treachery.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Greek: παραδίδομι (paradidomi)

3. **Gethsemane**

- Definition: A garden at the foot of the Mount of Olives where Jesus prayed before His arrest.
- Greek: Γεθσημανῆ (Gethsēmanē)

4. **Sanhedrin**

- Definition: The supreme council and tribunal of the Jews during postexilic times.
- Greek: συνέδριον (synedrion)

5. **Denial**

- Definition: The action of declaring something to be untrue.
- Greek: ἀρνεῖσθαι (arneisthai)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 27 of the Book of Matthew details the events leading to and including Jesus' crucifixion. Jesus is handed over to Pilate, who reluctantly condemns Him to death. Judas, filled with remorse, returns the silver and hangs himself. Jesus is mocked by Roman soldiers, then crucified at Golgotha between two thieves. Darkness covers the land, and Jesus cries out before dying. The temple curtain tears, and an earthquake occurs. Joseph of Arimathea buries Jesus in a tomb. The chapter ends with the chief priests and Pharisees securing the tomb to prevent Jesus' body from being stolen.

Opening Question

Why do you think the events surrounding Jesus' crucifixion and death had such a profound impact on His followers and even on those who opposed Him?

Outline

1. Jesus Handed Over to Pilate (Matthew 27:1-2)
 - Chief priests and elders plan to put Jesus to death (v. 1)
 - Jesus is handed over to Pilate (v. 2)

Possible Application Question: How can we stand firm in our faith even when faced with unjust treatment?
2. Judas' Remorse and Death (Matthew 27:3-10)
 - Judas returns the thirty pieces of silver (vv. 3-4)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Judas hangs himself; the money is used to buy the potter's field (vv. 5-10)
Possible Application Question: How can we seek forgiveness and restoration when we realize our mistakes?
- 3. Jesus Before Pilate (Matthew 27:11-26)
 - Pilate questions Jesus (vv. 11-14)
 - Pilate offers to release Jesus or Barabbas; the crowd chooses Barabbas (vv. 15-26)
Possible Application Question: How can we discern and stand by what is right even when pressured by others?
- 4. The Soldiers Mock Jesus (Matthew 27:27-31)
 - Soldiers mock and beat Jesus (vv. 27-30)
 - Jesus is led away to be crucified (v. 31)
Possible Application Question: How can we respond with dignity and grace when mocked or mistreated?
- 5. The Crucifixion (Matthew 27:32-44)
 - Simon of Cyrene helps carry the cross (v. 32)
 - Jesus is crucified at Golgotha; the sign reads "King of the Jews" (vv. 33-37)
 - Jesus is mocked while on the cross (vv. 38-44)
Possible Application Question: How can we find strength and hope in Jesus' suffering and sacrifice?
- 6. The Death of Jesus (Matthew 27:45-56)
 - Darkness covers the land; Jesus cries out and dies (vv. 45-50)
 - The temple curtain tears, and an earthquake occurs (vv. 51-53)
 - The centurion declares Jesus the Son of God (vv. 54-56)
Possible Application Question: How can we deepen our faith in response to the significance of Jesus' death?
- 7. The Burial of Jesus (Matthew 27:57-66)
 - Joseph of Arimathea buries Jesus in his own tomb (vv. 57-61)
 - The chief priests and Pharisees secure the tomb (vv. 62-66)
Possible Application Question: How can we honor Jesus' sacrifice in our daily lives?

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Possible Activities

1. Memory Verse Challenge

- Memorize Matthew 27:54: "When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, 'Surely he was the Son of God!'"

2. Role Playing Activity

- Students act out the scene of Jesus before Pilate, focusing on the decision to release Barabbas and condemn Jesus.

3. Discussion Activity

- Discuss the significance of the events that occurred at Jesus' death, such as the tearing of the temple curtain and the earthquake.
-

Quiz

1. Who handed Jesus over to Pilate?

- Judas
- The chief priests and elders
- The Roman soldiers
- The Pharisees

2. What did Judas do with the thirty pieces of silver?

- Kept it
- Gave it to the poor
- Threw it in the temple
- Bought food

3. Who did the crowd choose to release instead of Jesus?

- Simon

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Peter
 - John
 - Barabbas
4. What did the soldiers do to Jesus before crucifying Him?
- Gave Him food
 - Praised Him
 - Mocked and beat Him
 - Released Him
5. Who helped carry Jesus' cross?
- Peter
 - Simon of Cyrene
 - John
 - Joseph of Arimathea
6. What was written on the sign above Jesus' head on the cross?
- Savior of the World
 - King of the Jews
 - Son of God
 - Prophet of Nazareth
7. What happened at the moment of Jesus' death?
- Darkness covered the land
 - The temple curtain was torn
 - An earthquake occurred
 - All of the above
8. Who declared, "Surely he was the Son of God"?
- Peter
 - Pilate
 - The centurion
 - The high priest
9. Who buried Jesus in his own tomb?
- Peter

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- Simon of Cyrene
 - Joseph of Arimathea
 - Nicodemus
10. How did the chief priests and Pharisees secure the tomb?
- Placing guards and sealing the stone
 - Blocking it with wood
 - Destroying it
 - Praying over it

Answers: 1. The chief priests and elders 2. Threw it in the temple 3. Barabbas 4. Mocked and beat Him 5. Simon of Cyrene 6. King of the Jews 7. All of the above 8. The centurion 9. Joseph of Arimathea 10. Placing guards and sealing the stone

Fill in the Blank

1. Jesus was handed over to _____ by the chief priests and elders.
2. Judas returned the thirty pieces of _____ and then hanged himself.
3. The crowd chose to release _____ instead of Jesus.
4. _____ of Cyrene helped carry Jesus' cross.
5. At the moment of Jesus' death, the _____ curtain was torn in two.

Answers: Pilate; silver; Barabbas; Simon; temple

Vocabulary Words

1. **Crucifixion**
 - Definition: A method of execution in which a person is nailed or bound to a cross.
 - Greek: σταύρωσις (staurosis)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

2. Remorse

- Definition: Deep regret or guilt for a wrong committed.
- Greek: μετάνοια (metanoia)

3. Golgotha

- Definition: The place where Jesus was crucified, meaning "place of the skull."
- Greek: Γολγοθᾶ (Golgotha)

4. Centurion

- Definition: A Roman officer in command of a hundred soldiers.
- Greek: ἑκατοντάρχης (hekatontarchēs)

5. Arimathea

- Definition: The town of Joseph, who provided the tomb for Jesus' burial.
- Greek: Ἀριμαθαία (Harimathaia)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

CHAPTER TWENTY-EIGHT

Summary of Chapter

Chapter 28 of the Book of Matthew describes the resurrection of Jesus. Early on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary visit the tomb and find it empty. An angel tells them that Jesus has risen. Jesus appears to the women and later to His disciples in Galilee. He gives the Great Commission, instructing them to make disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey His commands. Jesus assures them of His presence always, to the very end of the age.

Opening Question

Why do you think the resurrection of Jesus is considered the cornerstone of the Christian faith?

Outline

1. The Resurrection (Matthew 28:1-10)
 - Mary Magdalene and the other Mary visit the tomb (v. 1)
 - An angel announces Jesus' resurrection (vv. 2-7)
 - Jesus appears to the women (vv. 8-10)

Possible Application Question: How can we live out the joy and hope of the resurrection in our daily lives?

2. The Guards' Report (Matthew 28:11-15)
 - The guards report to the chief priests (vv. 11-12)

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

- A plan to spread the lie that Jesus' body was stolen (vv. 13-15)
Possible Application Question: How can we stand firm in our faith despite opposition and falsehoods?
 - 3. The Great Commission (Matthew 28:16-20)
 - Jesus meets the disciples in Galilee (v. 16)
 - Jesus gives the Great Commission (vv. 17-20)
Possible Application Question: How can we actively participate in the Great Commission in our community and beyond?
-

Possible Activities

1. **Memory Verse Challenge**
 - Memorize Matthew 28:19: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit."
 2. **Role Playing Activity**
 - Students act out the scene of the women discovering the empty tomb and Jesus appearing to them, emphasizing the emotions and reactions.
 3. **Discussion Activity**
 - Discuss the significance of the Great Commission and brainstorm practical ways to fulfill it in everyday life.
-

Quiz

1. Who visited Jesus' tomb early on the first day of the week?
 - Peter and John
 - Mary Magdalene and the other Mary
 - James and John
 - Martha and Mary

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

2. What did the angel say to the women at the tomb?
 - "He is not here; he has risen"
 - "He is still sleeping"
 - "He is gone"
 - "He is waiting for you in Jerusalem"
3. How did the women react when they saw Jesus?
 - They ran away
 - They worshiped Him
 - They did not recognize Him
 - They called for the disciples
4. Who did the guards report to after finding the tomb empty?
 - Pilate
 - The chief priests
 - The disciples
 - Herod
5. What plan did the chief priests and elders devise?
 - To hide the body
 - To tell people Jesus' body was stolen
 - To move the body to another tomb
 - To guard the tomb permanently
6. Where did Jesus meet His disciples after His resurrection?
 - Jerusalem
 - Galilee
 - Bethlehem
 - Nazareth
7. What did Jesus instruct His disciples to do in the Great Commission?
 - Make disciples of all nations
 - Build a new temple
 - Write a new scripture
 - Keep the resurrection a secret

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

8. In whose name did Jesus tell His disciples to baptize new believers?
 - In His own name
 - In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
 - In the name of Moses and Elijah
 - In the name of the angels
9. What did Jesus promise His disciples at the end of the Great Commission?
 - Wealth and power
 - Persecution
 - His presence always
 - A new kingdom on earth
10. How did the disciples respond to seeing Jesus in Galilee?
 - They doubted
 - They worshiped Him
 - They ignored Him
 - They questioned Him

Answers: 1. Mary Magdalene and the other Mary 2. "He is not here; he has risen" 3. They worshiped Him 4. The chief priests 5. To tell people Jesus' body was stolen 6. Galilee 7. Make disciples of all nations 8. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit 9. His presence always 10. They worshiped Him

Fill in the Blank

1. The angel said, "He is not here; he has _____."
2. Jesus appeared first to _____ Magdalene and the other Mary.
3. The guards reported the empty tomb to the _____ priests.
4. The Great _____ instructs believers to make disciples of all nations.
5. Jesus promised, "I am with you _____, to the very end of the age."

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

Observe, Interpret & Apply

Answers: risen; Mary; chief; Commission; always

Vocabulary Words

1. Resurrection

- Definition: The act of rising from the dead.
- Greek: ἀνάστασις (anastasis)

2. Angel

- Definition: A messenger of God.
- Greek: ἄγγελος (angelos)

3. Disciple

- Definition: A follower or student of a teacher, leader, or philosopher.
- Greek: μαθητής (mathētēs)

4. Commission

- Definition: An instruction, command, or duty given to a person or group of people.
- Greek: ἐντολή (entolē)

5. Galilee

- Definition: A region in northern Israel where Jesus conducted much of His ministry.
- Greek: Γαλιλαία (Galilaia)