STUDY

Matthew Bible Study Questions and Answers (Free PDF)

A 12-session walk through Matthew, from the Magi at the manger to the Great Commission, with an answer key and open questions for your own answers. Free to print, no sign-up.

A 12-session study of Matthew for groups or solo reading.

> *The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel (which means "God with us").*
>
> **Matthew 1:23 (NIV)**

> *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*
>
> **Matthew 5:3 (NIV)**

> *But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*
>
> **Matthew 6:33 (NIV)**

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The study guide

SESSION 1 · MATTHEW 1:1-2:23

The King Is Born

Matthew opens with the family line of Jesus, the angel's word to Joseph, and the birth in Bethlehem. Magi from the east come to worship him while King Herod plots against him, and the child is carried to Egypt and brought home again.

1. What does the angel tell Joseph about Mary's child in Matthew 1:20-21, and who do the Magi say they are looking for in Matthew 2:2?

2. Matthew 1:23 gives the name Immanuel. Why does it matter that the Gospel begins by telling us who Jesus is and not only what he did?

3. Where do you need the reminder that God is with you right now, in a season that feels uncertain?

SESSION 2 · MATTHEW 3:1-4:25

Baptism, Wilderness, and the Call

John prepares the way, Jesus is baptized and the Father speaks over him, and the Spirit leads him into the wilderness to be tempted. He then begins to preach and calls his first disciples from their nets.

1. What happens at Jesus' baptism in Matthew 3:16-17, and how does Jesus answer each of the three temptations in Matthew 4:1-11?

2. Why might Matthew place the testing of Jesus right after the Father's word of love over him?

3. What would it look like for you to answer a temptation this week with a word from Scripture, as Jesus did?

SESSION 3 · MATTHEW 5:1-48

The Sermon on the Mount: Blessed

Jesus goes up on the mountainside and begins to teach his disciples. He opens with the Beatitudes, calls his followers salt and light, and shows that the law he came to fulfill reaches down to the heart.

1. Who does Jesus call blessed in Matthew 5:3-10, and what does he say about the law in Matthew 5:17?

2. Why does Jesus keep saying, you have heard it said, but I tell you (for example Matthew 5:21-22, 27-28)?

3. Where do you see the pull to keep the outside of your life tidy while the inside stays untouched?

SESSION 4 · MATTHEW 6:1-7:29

The Sermon on the Mount: Trust and Build

Jesus teaches about giving, prayer, and fasting done before the Father and not before people, gives the Lord's Prayer, and calls his followers away from worry. He ends with a warning and the picture of two houses.

1. What does Jesus tell his disciples about praying in Matthew 6:5-13, and what does he tell them to seek first in Matthew 6:33?

2. Why does Jesus point to the birds and the wildflowers when he speaks about worry in Matthew 6:25-34?

3. What is one thing you are carrying that you could hand over in prayer today, as one who trusts a Father who knows what you need?

SESSION 5 · MATTHEW 8:1-9:38

Authority Over Sickness, Storm, and Sin

Jesus heals a leper, a centurion's servant, and many others, calms a storm, and forgives and heals a paralyzed man. He calls Matthew from the tax booth and looks with compassion on the crowds.

1. What do the centurion and the disciples in the boat each say to Jesus in Matthew 8:5-13 and Matthew 8:23-27, and how does Jesus respond?

2. Why does Jesus say to the paralyzed man that his sins are forgiven before he heals him (Matthew 9:2-6)?

3. Where do you find it easier to ask Jesus for help with your circumstances than with your heart?

SESSION 6 · MATTHEW 10:1-12:50

Sent, Weary, and Opposed

Jesus sends out the Twelve and warns them of what lies ahead. He answers John's doubts, invites the weary to rest in him, and meets growing opposition from the religious leaders.

1. What does Jesus tell the Twelve to expect in Matthew 10:16-22, and what does he offer in Matthew 11:28-30?

2. How can Jesus warn his followers about hatred and also promise them rest, and what does the yoke in Matthew 11:29-30 suggest?

3. What weight are you carrying that you have not yet brought to Jesus?

SESSION 7 · MATTHEW 13:1-58

The Parables of the Kingdom

Jesus tells the parables of the sower, the weeds, the mustard seed, the yeast, the hidden treasure, the pearl, and the net. He explains the sower to his disciples and speaks of how people hear the word.

1. What are the four kinds of soil in Matthew 13:3-8, and how does Jesus explain each in Matthew 13:18-23?

2. Why do you think Jesus taught the crowds in parables (Matthew 13:10-17), and what do the mustard seed and the yeast say about how the kingdom grows?

3. Which soil best describes your heart right now, and what might help it receive the word more deeply?

SESSION 8 · MATTHEW 14:1-17:27

Confession and the Cross Foretold

Jesus feeds the five thousand, walks on the sea, and asks his disciples who they say he is. Peter confesses him as the Messiah, Jesus speaks of his coming death, and three disciples see him transfigured on the mountain.

1. What does Peter say in Matthew 16:16, and what does Jesus begin to tell his disciples in Matthew 16:21?

2. Why does Peter's great confession lead so quickly to Jesus' rebuke in Matthew 16:22-23, and what does taking up a cross mean in Matthew 16:24?

3. If Jesus asked you today, who do you say I am, how would you answer?

SESSION 9 · MATTHEW 18:1-20:34

Greatness, Forgiveness, and Grace

Jesus teaches about humility, the lost sheep, and forgiveness, and tells of the servant who would not forgive. He speaks of the workers in the vineyard, and of greatness through service.

1. What does Peter ask about forgiveness in Matthew 18:21, and how does Jesus answer him in Matthew 18:22?

2. What does the story of the unmerciful servant in Matthew 18:23-35 teach about how we forgive?

3. Whom do you need to forgive, or from whom do you need to ask forgiveness?

SESSION 10 · MATTHEW 21:1-25:46

The King in Jerusalem

Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey, clears the temple, and answers the leaders' challenges. He warns of the coming judgment, speaks of the end, and teaches by parable about being ready and caring for the least of these.

1. What does Jesus name as the greatest commandment in Matthew 22:34-40?

2. In Matthew 24, Jesus speaks about the temple and the end of the age. Where do he and his readers agree, and where do readers differ about the timing?

3. In Matthew 25:31-46, what does Jesus say we do for him when we serve others, and where could you serve this week?

SESSION 11 · MATTHEW 26:1-27:66

Betrayal, Cross, and Burial

Jesus shares the last supper, prays in Gethsemane, and is betrayed by Judas and denied by Peter. He is condemned, crucified, and buried, and the curtain of the temple is torn in two.

1. What does Jesus say over the bread and cup in Matthew 26:26-28, and how does he pray in Gethsemane in Matthew 26:39?

2. What is the meaning of the temple curtain torn from top to bottom in Matthew 27:51, and of the centurion's words in Matthew 27:54?

3. Where have you failed the Lord as Peter did in Matthew 26:69-75, and what does it mean to you that the account does not stop there?

SESSION 12 · MATTHEW 28:1-20

He Is Risen, and He Sends

The women find the tomb empty and meet the risen Jesus. The guards are paid to spread a lie, and on a mountain in Galilee Jesus gives his disciples the Great Commission and promises to be with them always.

1. What do the angel and Jesus tell the women in Matthew 28:5-10, and what does Jesus say to the eleven in Matthew 28:18-20?

2. Matthew 28:17 says some doubted. Why do you think Matthew includes this, and what does Jesus do next?

3. Where is Jesus calling you to go, to make disciples, or to teach in your own home, work, or church?