

# M A T T H E W - I N T R O D U C T I O N

The book of Matthew – some facts.

## **AUTHOR and AUDIENCE**

Possibly the first apostle to write one of the gospels, Matthew (also known as Levi) was a tax collector. He was therefore ranked with the likes of murderers, robbers, sinners and Gentiles. (2)

It is believed that the account was written between AD 55-65 and was written in Hebrew. (3) As a Jewish man writing for Hebrew people Matthew doesn't expand on many of the Jewish customs mentioned in his writing as the expectation is that they understand these.

After 4 centuries of silence and wondering about the promised Messiah, we read of an angel appearing to an ordinary man to announce His birth. MATT 1:18-21 (2)

## **PURPOSE**

Matthew is a natural bridge between the Old and New Testament writings with more than fifty quotations and seventy-five allusions from twenty-five Old Testament books. (3)

His objective was to show that Jesus is King of the Jews – the genealogy given presents the legal claim of Jesus as King through the lineage of David from Joseph all the way back to the promises given to Abraham.

(Interestingly, Luke's genealogy account gives the lineage of Jesus from Mary's lineage through David all the way back to Adam).(2)

## **MAJOR THEMES**

Matthew seeks to show Jesus as King, and how to operate in the Kingdom; with authority, through discipleship, fulfilling all that has been prophesied.

References:

1. Bill Anstruther 2. Brian Simmonds 3. Every Nation L215 – New testament Survey

Credits throughout:

Bill Anstruther, - Module 1D Course 1, Brian Simmonds - tPt, Ashland Church devotional

# M A T T H E W - S . O . A . P .

During this devotional you will see the S.O.A.P. method of reading the bible used daily. This encourages you to do the following:

**S \* SCRIPTURE** Read the chapter/passage through once, then you may want to re-read portions of it or all of it in a different translation.

**O \* OBSERVATION** Observe what the passage is intending both in it's original context, for the original audience, and for today. You may even have questions about the text you want to investigate.

**A \* APPLICATION** Apply the text to your life, to your family, friends, work etc. What is it that Holy Spirit through the word, wants you to know and notice?

**P \* PRAYER** Pray and declare this revelation and truth into your situation and into the lives of those around you. Receive from Holy Spirit all you need.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 1

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 1

Chapter 1 sets out the lineage of Jesus. In this we see a range of people included in it, from sinners to saints, failures to successes, men and women and both Israelites and Gentiles – ALL people groups included. In the second half of chapter one we see the amazing reference to Isaiah 14:7 in the intention of the Father, Immanuel – God with us, or God among us.

**O \* OBSERVATION** Consider the rich inheritance you have access to through Jesus, the Father's heart, to dwell among His people.

**A \* APPLICATION** How does this apply to you, your family, your 'work', your outlook?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – He is with you

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 2

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 2

Chapter 2 introduces the earthly King at the time of Jesus birth Herod, who would see the coming of the Messiah as a threat to his position. Matthew doesn't go into detail about the journey Mary and Joseph undertook to Bethlehem but focuses rather on the visit of the men from the East. How interesting that again here Father God speaks to his people through dreams, visitations and supernatural phenomena.

**O \* OBSERVATION** Consider the lengths both Herod and Joseph were willing to go to to protect what they thought important. Herod sending influential men to find Jesus followed by a killing spree; and Joseph in radical obedience to the promptings of God.

**A \* APPLICATION** What lengths are you willing to go to for the dreams and promptings of God?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – He has a great plan

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 3

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 3

Chapter 3 tells in detail of the man who was to 'prepare way for the King' John the Baptist. We learn of four significant events about Jesus' baptism;

1. It was a moment of commitment v15 '*it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness*'
2. It was a moment of revelation v16 'He came up immediately from the water and the heavens were opened to Him and He saw...' we also see the Trinity revealed; the Son being baptised, the Spirit descending to empower Him and the Father speaking to Him.
3. It was a moment of anointing and empowering v16 'the Spirit of God descended on Him like a dove' Note that the Spirit of God never left Him, He remained, empowering Him for all His ministry.
4. It was a moment of affirmation v17 'this is My beloved Son in whom I am pleased'. Before Jesus did major things in His ministry – His Father was pleased with Him, delighted in Him.

**O \* OBSERVATION** Consider your baptism in water and the Holy Spirit (if either of these are new to you please speak with one of our leaders). It is amazing how Father God speaks such great affirmation to His Son before He has done much of public significance.

**A \* APPLICATION** How is your 'knowing who you are in God'? What areas of identity do you most struggle with?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit. You are SO significant

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 4

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 4

Chapter 4 Jesus is led into the wilderness and tempted by the enemy. His temptations were the same as those in the first garden yet He was able to overcome. In His temptations Jesus proved He was fully yielded to the Father as Lord of his appetite (body) Lord of His ambition (soul) and Lord of His worship (spirit). After this we see the true King step onto the stage and the beginning of the gospel being preached – v16 *'the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned'*

**O \* OBSERVATION** Consider how Jesus was able to overcome after being filled with the Spirit and having great affirmation from His Father. Jesus overcame by quoting, knowing and speaking the word of God with authority.

**A \* APPLICATION** How often do you allow yourself to be filled and affirmed by the Father? Are any adjustments needed to increase the levels of being FULL? How did the beginning of the gospel happen in your life? Who are you trusting to share this same truth with?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – He is all you need to overcome

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 5

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 5

Chapter 5 is the beginning of Jesus starting to teach all those who would listen the “new law” in what is commonly called the Sermon on the Mount. (chapter 5-7). It was the training program for the disciples before being unleashed to heal, minister, preach or teach. Who they were was more important than what they knew. What they were was more important than what they ministered!

**O \* OBSERVATION** Consider the kinds of things Jesus sets as standards in this chapter. Disciples should be; blessed people (v3-12), effective people (v13-16), inwardly obedient people (v17-37), co-operative people (v38-48).

**A \* APPLICATION** Which of these areas would you like to grow in and why? How can you be the salt and light around you? (v13-14)

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you!

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 6

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 6

The teachings on this new law Jesus was introducing continue in this chapter. We are to be people approved of God and just praised of men. Righteousness is an inward faithfulness to the Spirit of the law of God and a major theme to be reckoned with. Jesus teaches that prayer should come from the sincere love of God and include adoration, submission, repentance, submission and praise(v5-15).

**O \* OBSERVATION** Consider Disciples should be; real people (v1-18), true-valued people (v24-34). How much better to pray from a heart that is truly clean and with the right inward motivation.

**A \* APPLICATION** How does chapter challenge your heart?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit in total surrender to Him.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 7

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 7

Chapter seven begins with a big hitter (v1) – do not judge others. It also contains many other great 'one-liners' we often quote, but today let's think about these a bit longer...

v11 Our Father gives good things to those who ask Him.

v12 Do to others as you would have them do to you.

v17 Every good tree bears good fruit.

**O \* OBSERVATION** Consider these themes; people who accept others (v1-6), people who trust in their God (v7-12), people who bear good fruit (v 13-23), spiritually stable people (v24-27).

**A \* APPLICATION** How can you grow more in these truths?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit for He is good.



# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 8

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 8

At the end of chapter 7 we see Jesus having the authority to teach (7:28-29). Chapter 8 then commences with the next section of narrative (8: - 9:38). There is a focus on healings and miracles. Jesus is showing His dominion over demons, over distance, over nature, over people and over death. The authority of Our King!

**O \* OBSERVATION** Consider these areas of authority demonstrated by Jesus.

The authority to heal

- v1-4 The healing of the leper - he worshipped Jesus.
- v5-13 The healing of the centurion's servant – he recognised Jesus' authority.
- v14 Peter's mother-in-law – Jesus touched her and healed her.

The authority to make rules – the cost of discipleship. v18-22

Authority over nature – Jesus calms the storm. v23-27

Authority over demons. v18-27

**A \* APPLICATION** How does this influence you knowing about your authority?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – He has authority to touch you and increase your authority in Him.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 9

**S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 9

Chapter 9 continues this narrative of Jesus demonstrating His authority as a model for his disciples – for us!

**O \* OBSERVATION** Consider these areas of authority demonstrated by Jesus.

The authority to forgive sins v1-8

The authority to challenge and change religious rules and ideals

- o v9-13 Eating with tax collectors and sinners

- o v14-17 Bringing new wine – changing the framework the people of God are to operate in.

The authority to raise the dead v18-26

The authority to cast out demons v27-34

Jesus taught and demonstrated all of this by showing His compassion for suffering, care for outcasts, concern for Gentiles and readiness to take others needs on Himself. He is also developing a protocol for what Kingdom living looks like.

**A \* APPLICATION** Do you walk in the authority you have? Let's trust for more! How can you grow in this?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – courage and authority.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 1 0

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 10

This chapter is so exciting because we see Jesus calling His disciples and sending them out to do what they had seen their King do. At the very end of chapter 9, v38 we see Jesus telling His disciples there is much to do, many to speak with, but with the labourers are few – He then send calls them, gives them authority, and sends them out.

**O \* OBSERVATION** Consider v5-8, preaching that 'the kingdom of heaven is near, heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give'.

**A \* APPLICATION** We all have something to give as we have all received so much from God – what stops you from releasing what you have been given? How can you grow in this area?

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## **P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit and then trust today for an opportunity to release some of that authority with someone else.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 1 1

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 11

The third narrative in Matthew begins here in chapter 11 and continues through chapter 12. The stories here show us the kind Messiah Jesus was and how many Jews were blinded by their unbelief. The Kingdom had been declared by John the Baptist (ch3), by the words (ch5-7) and deeds (ch8-9) of Jesus and by the disciples (ch10). All these had preached the word of the Kingdom with signs and wonders confirming their teachings but still the leaders of the nation found it unacceptable. Jesus' comment in v17 is very relevant.

**O \* OBSERVATION** Consider the awesome things Jesus had done, listed in previous chapters.

**A \* APPLICATION** Write a list of things you are thankful for today.

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – He is good. Share your thankfulness with someone today.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 1 2

**S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 12

This chapter continues with some similar themes as those in chapter 11.

**O \* OBSERVATION** Focusing on just one aspect of this chapter will be helpful: v33-37 speaks about a tree being known by it's fruit.

**A \* APPLICATION** Consider the power of the words we speak, where are they rooted? What fruit do they bring? 'May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, Oh Lord, my rock and my redeemer' Psalm 19:14

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – Grace to speak truth, life and love today.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 1 3

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 13

This teaching section contains possibly the fullest and most significant exposition of the message of the coming of the Kingdom of God. Jesus explains the series of parables as revealing “the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven”.

## **O \* OBSERVATION** The Coming of the Kingdom:

- ‘The Sower and the Seed’ The Word of the Kingdom of God is planted in the individual’s heart through the preaching of the Word but its effectiveness varies according to the response of the hearer. (v3-9 & 18-23)
- ‘The Wheat and the Weeds’ The Kingdom of heaven is spread in the world through God’s people spreading and multiplying in the communities (v24-30 & v36-43).
- ‘The Mustard Seed’ The Kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that begins as the smallest and ends as dominating the landscape (v31-32). Mustard has a strong and distinctive flavour and alters the taste of food. This parable shows that the Kingdom starts as tiny, having very little influence and ends as the most powerful influence in the world.
- ‘The Leaven in the Bread’ The Kingdom of heaven is like yeast (v33) that changes the texture of the entire loaf. That is, God’s kingdom grows in the world and the whole community is influenced by it.
- ‘The Hidden Treasure in the Field’ The Kingdom is like a treasure worth everything in life (v44&23)
- ‘The Pearl of Great Price’ (v45-46). Jesus was prepared to give up everything, even His life, to purchase the Kingdom and we should also regard it as more valuable than anything else in our lives.

**A \* APPLICATION** How do any of these apply to you and speak to you today?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 1 4

**S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 14

This chapter contains the well known event of Jesus walking on the water to His disciples in the boat. This after he had taught and fed the 5000.

**O \* OBSERVATION** Jesus was 'moved with compassion' for the crowd and healed the sick (v14). Jesus addressed their fear immediately (v26-27). It takes courage and surrender to trust Jesus – and when we doubt it can damage our faith (v28-31). Victory always points to Jesus (v33).

**A \* APPLICATION** Consider any fears you may have – what are you trusting God for?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations – thank Him for the victory in these areas.

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – He is our Victorious King.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 1 5

**S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 15

This chapter begins again with Jesus being asked questions on 'religious' matters regarding the behaviour of his disciples – and again He responds with the fact that matters to the heart are more important (v19-20).

**O \* OBSERVATION** Jesus responds to the persistence and great faith of the Canaanite woman. Her great faith results in a miracle for her daughter. The compassion of Jesus again results in Him feeding the crowd, this time over 4000 strong.

**A \* APPLICATION** What miracles are you wanting in your life? List them here.

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations – thank Him for the victory in these areas.

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – we receive Your miracle Lord – we trust You, increase our faith.



# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 1 6

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 16

Here we read Jesus asking the greatest questions we can ask ourselves and others. 'Who do they say I am? Who do you say I am?' (v13-15)

**O \* OBSERVATION** Peter's answer to the question is the key revelation. 'You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God' (v16).

Note the 4 points resulting from this revelation:

- v18 Jesus will build His church and the gates of hell will not stand!
- v19 We have authority handed to us by Jesus.
- v21-23 The sacrifice of death and resurrection were fulfilled in Him.
- v24-27 We can die to ourselves, submitting fully to Him to live in victory.

**A \* APPLICATION** Who do YOU say Jesus is?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations – thank Him for the victory in these areas.

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – allow Him to fill you afresh with a knowing of who He is.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 1 7

**S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 17

Jesus is revealed in glory – He takes His 3 closest friends – His connect group, to witness the sight of Him in glory with Moses and Elijah – two mighty figures of the Old Covenant, representing the law and the prophets. Jesus being greater than both. (v1-13)

**O \* OBSERVATION** Revelation of the bigness of Jesus and faith in Him can move mountains. (v14-21)

**A \* APPLICATION** Where are you exercising your faith? What can make your faith 'bigger'?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – increase our capacity to have faith You Lord

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 1 8

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 18

Here we see another teaching section recorded by Matthew, outlining truths of what disciples of Jesus look like.

## **O \* OBSERVATION** Some key truths:

- Humility v1-3
- Others first v4-9
- Lost ones are important v10-14
- Restore relationship v15-20
- Forgiveness sets us free v21-35

## **A \* APPLICATION** Which of these truths are challenges for you? How can you grow in them?

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## **P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – Your Grace is enough for me

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 1 9

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 19

More questions from the religious leaders of the day – this time on the matter of divorce. Here is another narrative from Matthew which spans across five chapters.

## **O \* OBSERVATION** Some key points:

- Marriage and divorce v3-15
- Little children v13-15
- Rich entering heaven v16-29

**A \* APPLICATION** Sticking close to the heart of Jesus and surrendering all concerns to Him, with child-like faith, seems to be the key. How are you doing on that front?

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## **P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – I surrender all Lord

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 2 0

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 20

The narrative from Matthew continues here with a great parable of the workers in the vineyard (v1-16). It doesn't seem fair that all workers receive the same wage after varying hours in the field. How great the grace of God that we all get the free gift of salvation! None of us deserved that.

## **O\* OBSERVATION** Who is greatest in the kingdom? (v17-28)

Here we see the thought of serving being the key to greatness.

**A \* APPLICATION** What does serving look like to you? How would you describe your ability to serve others? What does a great servant leader look like to you?

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## **P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – Help us serve you well Lord.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 2 1

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 21

The triumphal entry of King Jesus....on a donkey, signals the last week of Jesus' ministry prior to His crucifixion and resurrection (v1-11). Again we see references to OT prophecies and Jesus fulfilling these. AS well as a reminder of His lineage to David (v9).

## **O\* OBSERVATION**

The cleansing of the temple: the confrontation with the religious leaders and their rejection of Jesus deepens. Even as Jesus cleanses the temple He goes about healing the blind and lame! (v14)

At the same time we see Jesus cursing the fig tree (the symbol of the nation of Judah) showing that the nation was devoid of fruit and awaiting judgement. The Lord also uses this event to illustrate to His disciples the power of faith and the power of prayer. (v20-22)

**A \* APPLICATION** How is your prayer life? 1 Thess 5:16-18' Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.'

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – He has heard your prayers.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 2 2

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 22

This chapter again has the religious leaders confronting Jesus and 'plotting how they might entangle Him in His talk' (v15).

## **O \* OBSERVATION**

There are three questions from different groups directed to Jesus with a view to testing Him followed by one from Jesus to them that silenced them:

- Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar? (v15-22) This appeared to be a 'deadly question' because whichever way He answered it He would be in trouble with somebody. However, the answer given by Jesus not only "got Him out of trouble" but also provided an answer that has universal application: 'So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's.'
- What about the resurrection? (v23-33) The Sadducees thought that they had asked an unanswerable question but again Jesus silenced them with an answer that dealt with the fundamental reality they had not confronted - the next life is very different.
- Which is the greatest commandment? (v34-40) Again Jesus produced the answer that solved the puzzle.
- The question of Jesus - Whose son is the Messiah? (v41-46) They had no answer to the riddle posed by Jesus. From our perspective we understand that as 'the Son of Man' Jesus is David's Son but as the Son of God He is David's Creator and worthy to be called 'Lord' by his father in the flesh. Only the Divine Son of God born as a man could fulfil this prophetic riddle. Following this confrontation there was no further public discourse between Jesus and the religious leaders. From now on they plotted to kill Him and He moved on to the final phase of His ministry.

**A \* APPLICATION** Write down any thoughts or comments you have on the questions above.

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – refreshing for your day and wisdom to interface with others

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 23

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 23

There is strong warning against hypocrisy. Jesus addresses the crowds and His disciples.

## **O\* OBSERVATION**

He gives seven 'woes' to the Teachers of the Law and Pharisees. Whilst they all focus on hypocrisy think on this: v23 'You give a tenth of your spices – mint, dill and cumin, but you have neglected the more important matters of the law; justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter without neglecting the former' The Passion Translation puts it this way; 'you ignore the most important duty of all: to walk in the love of God, to display mercy to others, and to live with integrity. Readjust your values and place first things first.'

**A \* APPLICATION** How well are you doing on this challenge? What adjustments might you need to make?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations – remember; you can do all things through Him who infuses you with strength.

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – He has heard your prayers.



# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 2 4

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 24

This is the record of the longest prophetic teaching we see from Jesus in the gospel accounts. The context the disciples are asking questions about are twofold: When will the destruction of the Temple take place and when will the sign of His coming, the end of an age be? (v3) On the one hand as an answer to the first question, He is explaining to them what will happen soon after His death - the destruction of Jerusalem and the temple. On the other hand He is also telling them what will happen at an indeterminate time in the future - things that will be the signs of His return and what will happen at the end of this age when the Kingdom of God is ushered in with power. (v4 onwards). He uses narrative as well as parables again to speak into these points.

## **O\* OBSERVATION**

A great teacher instructs students how to use the information. Jesus instructs the disciples – and we the readers – to ‘keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come (v2).’ Furthermore in verses 45-51, Jesus challenges us to be like a faithful servant who the master puts in charge while he is away. Will we become tired of waiting and fall into the ways of the world? Or will we remain faithful and continue to live out our Master's purpose?

## **A \* APPLICATION** What does ‘being faithful’ mean to you?

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## **P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations.

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – share Jesus with someone today.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 2 5

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 25

Here again we see Jesus continuing with the prophetic teaching from chapter 24. Jesus teaches on the judgement of the nations, this teaching segment ends with Jesus saying how the nations will be judged by the treatment of the people of God (v40&45).

## **O\* OBSERVATION**

The parable of the talents – the importance of ministering as the Lord has gifted us and stewarding these gifts of God well.

**A \* APPLICATION** How do you, on a daily basis fully utilise the gifts and talents from God to impact those around you?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations.

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – Father show us today how to follow You well.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 26

## **S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 26

We begin now to read about events leading up to the death of Jesus. As you read this chapter dwell on it, the purpose of Our Lord to do the will of His Father.

## **O\* OBSERVATION**

The anointing at Bethany, Judas' betrayal, the passover feast, the last supper, the telling of Peter's denial, the garden prayer, His betrayal and arrest, the desire of the Sanhedrin to silence the King, Peters' denial of His Master. All events that touch us in some way.

**A \* APPLICATION** Which 'character' do you think you would have been in this story?

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations.

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – Thank you Jesus.

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 27

**S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 27  
The central heart of the Gospel.

## **O\* OBSERVATION**

This is the climax and fulfillment of all that had been promised. The Son of God had come into the world and lived and ministered amongst men, revealing God's heart in healing, helping and teaching. However, the primary purpose of His coming would only be fulfilled when He suffered and died on our behalf. It is quite clear from the record that Jesus had known from the beginning of His ministry where He was going and what was going to happen. Now He faced the outworking of all this.

**A \* APPLICATION** How is your relationship with God? Is He first in your affections?

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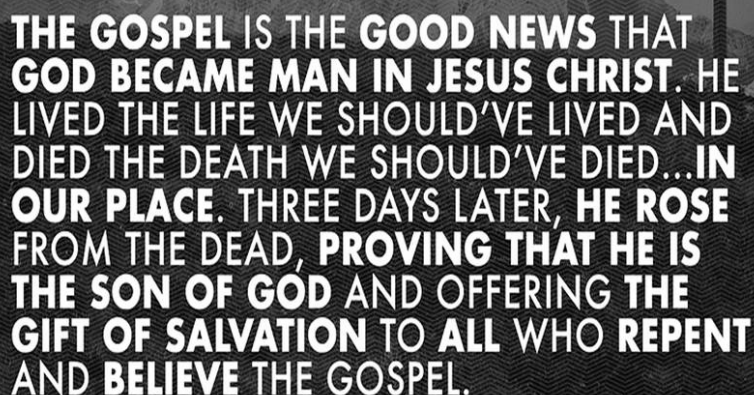
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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations.

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – Thank you Jesus. Share the gospel with a friend.

What is the Gospel?



**THE GOSPEL IS THE GOOD NEWS THAT GOD BECAME MAN IN JESUS CHRIST. HE LIVED THE LIFE WE SHOULD'VE LIVED AND DIED THE DEATH WE SHOULD'VE DIED...IN OUR PLACE. THREE DAYS LATER, HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD, PROVING THAT HE IS THE SON OF GOD AND OFFERING THE GIFT OF SALVATION TO ALL WHO REPENT AND BELIEVE THE GOSPEL.**

# M A T T H E W - C H A P T E R 2 8

**S \* SCRIPTURE** Read Matthew 28

He is not here, He is risen as He said!! (v6) What a glorious moment.

## **O\* OBSERVATION**

The great comission in v18 begins with ALL authority Jesus won being given to us, SO THAT we can go...and do the same. Make disciples, who make disciples – Just One person at a time.

**A \* APPLICATION** Write down your story, your testimony, of how you came to know Jesus. The short version – that you could share if you had 2 minutes with someone.

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**P \* PRAYER** Prayers and declarations.

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RECEIVE from Holy Spirit – Jesus there is none like You. Tell someone your story and His story today.