

The Gospel of Matthew

Topic this Week: Intro to Matthew

Bible Study Approach

For this study, we'll be doing two things:

- 1) devotional bible reading—through the week and
- 2) bible study— on Sunday mornings, digging deep into the text – questions welcome 😊

This gives us two different ways to read the bible

- for formation (devotional reading), and
- for information (bible study).

How to Do Devotional Bible Reading

As Lutheran Christians, we believe God speaks – specifically, that he speaks through His word. The Bible is not only about what God did, but also about what God does. In the same way that He has been active throughout history, He is active today. As so, as we read, we live as if this is true by aiming to become attentive to His voice...as He speaks to us and invites us to act.

The process:

We'll approach it as we would a conversation with a friend.

First, slow down...in a quiet place. Then pray, “*God help me hear you.*”

Then read the passage for the week, or a portion of it, once or twice. Listen for the word or phrase that strikes you. This word somehow stands out from all the rest, causes a reaction, or brings about a deep sense of *resonance* or *resistance*.

Reflect on what stood out using these two questions:

- What is God saying?
 - ...about Himself
 - ...about Me
 - ...about the World
- What am I going to do about it?
 - ...a mindset to adopt or abandon
 - ...a direction to step into or away from
 - ...a person to pray for or care for
 - ...an example to imitate or avoid

Note your findings somewhere, and bring those notes with you to class.

Matthew 7:24 “*Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.*”

God has things for us to hear that will help form us—mold and shape us to be more and more to be like Jesus.

Format for Bible Class

- Devotional Bible Reading Reflection
 - Sharing around the tables—observations from devotional reading (10 min)
 - Large group sharing (3 min)
- Digging Deep Bible Study
 - On a focused portion of the reading (30 min)
 - Group discussion of Bible study topic (5 min)
 - Questions on the remainder of the reading (10 min)

Introduction to The Gospel of Matthew

Background of the Gospel of Matthew (Video: Drive Thru History)

Source: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/content/details/760840>

- Matthew is the bridge between the Old Testament and New Testament
- Audience: Jewish people – people familiar with the Old Testament
- Big Question: Does Jesus have the credentials to be “the one that is to come”?
- “Gospel” = “good news”
- Author: Matthew (Levi), the tax collector, eyewitness to the events
- Date: 40-70 AD
- Historical Context:
 - Roman Empire (Julius Caesar) has been ruling for 40 years
 - Pax Romana – *Peace of Rome*, began in 27 BC
 - Jews – not excited about Rome ruling over them, they were supposed to be “set apart”. They looked eagerly for the day when a leader would come and overthrow Rome.

Big Picture Overview – Matthew 1-13 (Video: *The Bible Project*)

Source: <https://bibleproject.com/guides/book-of-matthew/>

- “Matthew wanted to show how Jesus is the continuation and fulfillment of the whole biblical story of God and Israel, so he emphasizes that:
 - Jesus is the Messiah from the line of David
 - Jesus is a new, authoritative teacher like Moses
 - Jesus is God with us, or in Hebrew, Immanuel”
- Chapters 1-3: Jesus as Messiah and Immanuel (God with Us)
- Chapters 4-7: Arrival of God’s Kingdom and the Sermon on the Mount
- Chapters 8-10: The Kingdom’s Power and Invitation to Discipleship
- Chapters 11-13: Different Reactions to Jesus

The Gospel of Matthew - Schedule

- **Week 1 | September 8**
 - Topic: Intro to Matthew
 - Homework: Matthew 1
- **Week 2 | September 15**
 - Topic: Matthew 1
 - Homework: Matthew 2
- **Week 3 | September 22**
 - Topic: Matthew 2
 - Homework: Matthew 3
- **Week 4 | September 29**
 - Topic: Matthew 3
 - Homework: Matthew 4
- **Week 5 | October 6**
 - Topic: Matthew 4
 - Homework: Matthew 5:1-6
- **Week 6 | October 13**
 - Topic: Matthew 5:1-16
 - Homework: Matthew 5:17-7:29
- **Week 7 | October 20**
 - Topic: Matthew 5:17-7:29
 - Homework: Matthew 8
- **Week 8 | October 27**
 - Topic: Matthew 8
 - Homework: Matthew 9
- **Week 9 | November 3**
 - Topic: Matthew 9
 - Homework: Matthew 10
- **Week 10 | November 10**
 - Topic: Matthew 10
 - Homework: Matthew 11
- **Week 11 | November 17**
 - Topic: Matthew 11
 - Homework: Matthew 12
- **Week 12 | November 24th**
 - Topic: Matthew 12
 - Homework: Matthew 13
- **Week 13 | December 1 | NO STUDY**
- **Week 14 | December 8**
 - Topic: Matthew 13
 - Homework: Matthew 14
- **Week 15 | December 15**
 - Topic: Matthew 14
 - Homework: Matthew 15
- **Week 16 | December 22**
 - Topic: Matthew 15
 - Homework: Apostles' Creed

The remaining schedule will be provided at a later date.

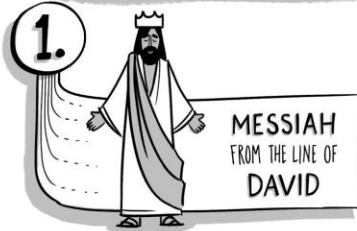
AUTHOR: ?



30-40 YEARS
OF
ORAL TRADITION



M THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATT



1-3

ABRAHAM DAVID JESUS



CONNECT JESUS TO OLD TESTAMENT



FULFILL

4-7

ANNOUNCE GOD'S KINGDOM



GOD'S RESCUE OPERATION FOR THE WORLD

- CONFRONT EVIL
- RESTORE GOD'S REIGN
- CREATE A NEW FAMILY

HOW TO LIVE IN GOD'S KINGDOM

UPSIDE DOWN KINGDOM FULFILL THE TORAH TRANSFORM HEARTS TO LOVE

8-10

JESUS BRINGS KINGDOM INTO PEOPLE'S LIVES



11-13

RESPONSES TO JESUS



POSITIVE: PEOPLE IS JESUS THE MESSIAH!

NEUTRAL: JOIN THE BAPTIST IS HE THE MESSIAH?!

NEGATIVE: PHARISEES HE IS NOT THE MESSIAH!

PARABLES THE COMMENTARY

MOSES

JESUS

- OUT OF EGYPT
- CROSS THE RED SEA
- WILDERNESS FOR 40 YEARS
- RECEIVES LAW FROM MOUNTAIN

- OUT OF EGYPT
- BAPTISM IN THE JORDAN RIVER
- WILDERNESS FOR 40 DAYS
- GIVES LAW FROM MOUNTAIN

JESUS > MOSES

DELIVER FROM SLAVERY

GIVE NEW DIVINE TEACHING

SAVE FROM SIN

INITIATE A NEW COVENANT

26-28

PASSOVER MEAL RETELLS THE STORY OF...

- RESCUE FROM SLAVERY
- DEATH OF PASSOVER LAMB

NEW MEANING RESCUE FROM...

- EVIL & SIN
- DEATH OF JESUS

YOU'RE NOT THE MESSIAH!

YOU HAVE BLASPHEMED GOD!



HE'S INNOCENT BUT...

LET HIM BE CRUCIFIED!

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO AT THE W

2.  **NEW MOSES**

3.  **GOD -WITH- US**

Things to look for

#1 LOOK UP OLD TESTAMENT **QUOTATIONS** (THERE ARE A LOT)

#2 LOOK CLOSELY AT THE PEOPLE WHO ACCEPT JESUS

IRRELIGIOUS & UNIMPORTANT + **FAITH** = **TRANSFORMATION**

FULLFILL OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETIC PROMISES

 **BETHLEHEM** **VIRGIN BIRTH** **Immanuel = GOD WITH US**

3 **PARABLES ABOUT THE KINGDOM** (ch 13)

ES IS

PARABLES AND COMMENTARY

- JESUS IS THE MESSIAH!
- IS HE THE MESSIAH?!
- HE IS NOT THE MESSIAH!

14-20 **DIFFERENT EXPECTATIONS ABOUT THE MESSIAH**

THE UPSIDE DOWN KINGDOM (ch 18 & 19-20)

- HONOR BY SERVING
- REVENGE VS FORGIVE
- GAIN TRUE WEALTH BY GIVING IT AWAY

21-25 **CLASH OF KINGDOMS**

CRITIQUE OF PHARISEES * HYPOCRITES! (ch 23-25)

- ASSERTING AUTHORITY
- SAW TEMPLE AS COMPROMISED BECAUSE OF HYPOCRISY
- OFFENDED
- DECIDE TO KILL JESUS

SUFFERING SERVANT (ISAIAH 53)

VICTORIOUS! DEFEATS PAGANS! (PSALM 2 & DANIEL 2)

1

2

3

4

5

BOOKS OF MOSES (TORAH)

HE'S INNOCENT BUT... LET HIM BE CRUCIFIED!

NOT A FAILURE

FULLFILLED OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETIC PROMISES

SUFFERING SERVANT (ISAIAH 53)

INSTEAD OF JUDGING THEM HE IS JUDGED ON THEIR BEHALF

GREAT COMMISSION

JESUS IS KING OF THE WORLD

TELL ALL NATIONS THE GOOD NEWS

ALL PEOPLE CAN JOIN THE KINGDOM

BE BAPTIZED

FOLLOW JESUS TEACHINGS

I WILL BE WITH YOU Immanuel

created by the Bible Project