

An open Bible is shown in the foreground, lying flat on a wooden surface. The pages are filled with text, and the spine is visible in the center. A teal rectangular overlay is positioned in the upper half of the image, containing white text. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light green and white, suggesting an outdoor setting.

# Matthew

CHAPTERS 8 THROUGH 11 // BOOK 2  
ST. JOHN'S VANCOUVER  
BIBLE STUDY



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# How do I use this Bible Study?

These study guides have been designed for two purposes. Personal devotional study, and as a small group Bible study discussion guide.

## PERSONAL DEVOTIONAL STUDY

You will get the most out of these studies if you spend some time in the passage on your own before you gather with a small group. That said—these booklets aren't homework assignments—but a guide to a pattern or rhythm of study you can do with any passage of scripture. Each study is broken into four sections shaped around four big questions.

1. What does it say?
2. What does it mean?
3. What does this passage reveal about the gospel?
4. How do I respond to what God has revealed?

The materials provided in each section will help you in working through these main questions.

## A PATTERN OF STUDY

As you begin this study we encourage you to commit to a daily pattern of prayer, bible reading, and study, and to plan to spend time with God in these passages throughout the week.

Here's a couple of examples of what that could look like...

### As a daily devotional time (15-20 min/day)

- Day 1 Read the passage through a couple of times.
- Day 2 Question 1
- Day 3 Question 2
- Day 4 Question 3
- Day 5 Question 4
- Day 6 Continue to think and pray through Question 4
- Day 7 Meet with your small group.

### B. In 2-3 longer periods of time throughout the week (45 min x 2-3)

- Day 1 Read the passage through, Question 1, Question 2
- Day 2-3 Continue to think and pray through the passage throughout your day
- Day 4 Question 3, Question 4
- Day 5 Continue to think and pray through your response to the passage throughout your day
- Day 6 Review the passage and your study guide one more time.
- Day 7 Meet with your small group

## IN YOUR SMALL GROUP

As you gather in small groups these booklets will support you in praying together, and sharing what God has revealed in response the four big questions each study asks.

Throughout this booklet there are cues for small group discussion:

### IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

These are questions your leader can use to guide your conversation as you gather together. Focusing on these questions will help you move through the study without having to answer every single question we've provided for personal reflection. They have been written specifically to facilitate group conversation and sharing out of what people have discovered during their own preparation time.

## DESIRE TO GROW

May our hunger and thirst for God grow from week to week as we come to him, have our eyes opened, our ears unstopped, and our hearts softened - as we see him, know him, love him, and so follow him with joy.

A prayer as you begin your study:

*Dear Father,*

*As I study your word, with the Holy Spirit as my helper, may I hear your voice and carefully consider what you are saying. Open my eyes and reveal to me your gospel.*

*Help me love you more, and grow my desire to respond to what you have revealed through your word. Strengthen me to give you glory in all of my life.*

*In Jesus name, Amen.*

## START WITH PRAYER

### Q1: WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Look carefully at:

**the words and phrases:**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
- Big Bible Words
- Characters
- Dialogue – who is talking to whom?
- Setting (timeline and place) – does it change?
- Mark any Old Testament quotes or allusions

**the whole passage:**

- What kind of writing is this? (eg. narrative, poetry, parable, teaching)
- How does the plot unfold? (Conflict? Climax? Resolution?)
- Divide the passage into its natural sections
- Create a heading for each section
- Summarize the section in your own words

### Q2: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

**Look at the context:**

- Read the passage immediately before and after
- How does the context help us understand the meaning of the text?
- Look up cross references
- How do they help us better understand the passage?

**What's the main idea of this passage?**

## STOP TO PRAY

### Q3: WHAT HAS BEEN REVEALED ABOUT JESUS THROUGH THIS PASSAGE?

What do we learn about:

- His identity?
- His mission?
- His relationship with the Father and the Spirit?
- His relationship with us?

Write your response to this question as a prayer.

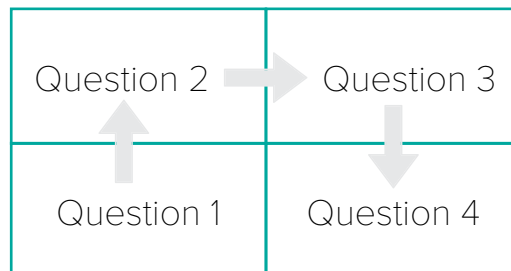
Share with Jesus what you have learned about him.

### Q4: HOW WILL I RESPOND? WHAT WILL I PRAY?

Choose one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage. Spend some time throughout your week thinking and praying through these questions:

- How has God convicted, challenged, or comforted you through this truth?
- What will it look like to respond? How is God calling you to grow?
- As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, what do you need to be praying for?

## FINISH IN PRAYER







- 10:1 And he called to him his twelve disciples  
and gave them authority over unclean spirits,  
to cast them out,  
and to heal every disease and every affliction.
- 2 The names of the twelve apostles are these:  
first, Simon, who is called Peter,  
and Andrew his brother;  
James the son of Zebedee,  
and John his brother;
- 3 Philip and Bartholomew;  
Thomas and Matthew the tax collector;  
James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus;
- 4 Simon the Zealot,  
and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.
- 5 These twelve Jesus sent out,  
instructing them, "Go nowhere among the Gentiles  
and enter no town of the Samaritans,  
6 but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.  
7 And proclaim as you go,  
saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.'  
8 Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons.  
You received without paying; give without pay.  
9 Acquire no gold or silver or copper for your belts,  
10 no bag for your journey,  
or two tunics or sandals or a staff,  
for the laborer deserves his food.  
11 And whatever town or village you enter,  
find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart.  
12 As you enter the house, greet it.  
13 And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it,  
but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you.  
14 And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words,  
shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town.  
15 Truly, I say to you,  
it will be more bearable on the day of judgment  
for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town.

# QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

---

## PRAY

Look carefully at

### The **words and phrases**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
- Big Bible Words
- Characters
- Dialogue – who is talking to whom?
- Setting (timeline and place) – does it change?
- Mark any Old Testament quotes or allusions

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share something you noticed.

### The **whole passage**

- What kind of writing is this? (eg. narrative, poetry, parable, teaching)
- How does the plot unfold? (Conflict? Climax? Resolution?)
- Divide the passage into its natural sections

**NOTE:**

*Looking for transitions in setting, speaker, or theme can help with this*

- Create a heading for each section
- Summarize the section in your own words

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Have a couple of people share how they divided up the passage and why.

## QUESTION 2 // WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

---

Look at the **context**

- Read the passage immediately before and after
- How does the context help us understand the meaning of the text?
- Look up cross references.
- How do they help us better understand the passage?

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share how the context has added to your understanding of this week's passage.

**So, what's the main idea of the passage? How would you title this passage?**

MAIN IDEA

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Have a few people share their "main idea."

### STOP TO PRAY

Thank God for all he has already revealed to you,  
and ask him to help you see Jesus more clearly,  
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

# QUESTION 3 // WHAT HAS BEEN REVEALED ABOUT JESUS THROUGH THIS PASSAGE?

---

What do we learn about

- His identity?
- His mission?
- His relationship with the Father and the Spirit?
- His relationship with us?

Write your response to this question as a prayer – sharing with Jesus what you have learned about him.

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share how you have gotten to know Jesus better through this passage.

# QUESTION 4 // HOW WILL I RESPOND? WHAT WILL I PRAY?

---

Choose one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.

Spend some time throughout your week thinking and praying through these questions:

- How has God convicted, challenged, or comforted you through this truth?

- What will it look like to respond? How is God calling you to grow?

- As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, what do you need to be praying for?

## IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how God is calling you to grow, and ask your group to pray for you!

PRAY



- 16 “Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves,  
so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.
- 17 Beware of men,  
for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues,
- 18 and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake,  
to bear witness before them and the Gentiles.
- 19 When they deliver you over,  
do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say,  
for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour.
- 20 For it is not you who speak,  
but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.
- 21 Brother will deliver brother over to death,  
and the father his child,  
and children will rise against parents and have them put to death,
- 22 and you will be hated by all for my name’s sake.  
But the one who endures to the end will be saved.
- 23 When they persecute you in one town,  
flee to the next,  
for truly, I say to you,  
you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel  
before the Son of Man comes.
- 24 “A disciple is not above his teacher,  
nor a servant above his master.
- 25 It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher,  
and the servant like his master.  
If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul,  
how much more will they malign those of his household.
- 26 “So have no fear of them,  
for nothing is covered that will not be revealed,  
or hidden that will not be known.
- 27 What I tell you in the dark, say in the light,  
and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops.
- 28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul.  
Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.
- 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny?  
And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.
- 30 But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.
- 31 Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows.
- 32 So everyone who acknowledges me before men,  
I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven,
- 33 but whoever denies me before men,  
I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

# QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

---

## PRAY

Look carefully at

### The **words and phrases**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
- Big Bible Words
- Characters
- Dialogue – who is talking to whom?
- Setting (timeline and place) – does it change?
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**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share something you noticed.

### The **whole passage**

- What kind of writing is this? (eg. narrative, poetry, parable, teaching)
- How does the plot unfold? (Conflict? Climax? Resolution?)
- Divide the passage into its natural sections

**NOTE:**

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- Create a heading for each section
- Summarize the section in your own words

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Have a couple of people share how they divided up the passage and why.



## QUESTION 2 // WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

---

Look at the **context**

- Read the passage immediately before and after
- How does the context help us understand the meaning of the text?
- Look up cross references.
- How do they help us better understand the passage?

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share how the context has added to your understanding of this week's passage.

**So, what's the main idea of the passage? How would you title this passage?**

MAIN IDEA

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Have a few people share their "main idea."

### STOP TO PRAY

Thank God for all he has already revealed to you,  
and ask him to help you see Jesus more clearly,  
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

# QUESTION 3 // WHAT HAS BEEN REVEALED ABOUT JESUS THROUGH THIS PASSAGE?

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What do we learn about

- His identity?
- His mission?
- His relationship with the Father and the Spirit?
- His relationship with us?

Write your response to this question as a prayer – sharing with Jesus what you have learned about him.

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share how you have gotten to know Jesus better through this passage.

# QUESTION 4 // HOW WILL I RESPOND? WHAT WILL I PRAY?

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Choose one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.

Spend some time throughout your week thinking and praying through these questions:

- How has God convicted, challenged, or comforted you through this truth?

- What will it look like to respond? How is God calling you to grow?

- As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, what do you need to be praying for?

## IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how God is calling you to grow, and ask your group to pray for you!

PRAY



- 10:34 “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth.  
I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.
- 35 For I have come to set a man against his father,  
and a daughter against her mother,  
and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.
- 36 And a person’s enemies will be those of his own household.
- 37 Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me,  
and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.
- 38 And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me.
- 39 Whoever finds his life will lose it,  
and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.
- 40 “Whoever receives you receives me,  
and whoever receives me receives him who sent me.
- 41 The one who receives a prophet  
because he is a prophet  
will receive a prophet’s reward,  
and the one who receives a righteous person  
because he is a righteous person  
will receive a righteous person’s reward.
- 42 And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water  
because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you,  
he will by no means lose his reward.”

# QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

---

## PRAY

Look carefully at

### The **words and phrases**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
- Big Bible Words
- Characters
- Dialogue – who is talking to whom?
- Setting (timeline and place) – does it change?
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**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share something you noticed.

### The **whole passage**

- What kind of writing is this? (eg. narrative, poetry, parable, teaching)
- How does the plot unfold? (Conflict? Climax? Resolution?)
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- Summarize the section in your own words

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Have a couple of people share how they divided up the passage and why.

## QUESTION 2 // WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

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Look at the **context**

- Read the passage immediately before and after
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**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share how the context has added to your understanding of this week's passage.

**So, what's the main idea of the passage? How would you title this passage?**

MAIN IDEA

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Have a few people share their "main idea."

### STOP TO PRAY

Thank God for all he has already revealed to you,  
and ask him to help you see Jesus more clearly,  
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

# QUESTION 3 // WHAT HAS BEEN REVEALED ABOUT JESUS THROUGH THIS PASSAGE?

---

What do we learn about

- His identity?
- His mission?
- His relationship with the Father and the Spirit?
- His relationship with us?

Write your response to this question as a prayer – sharing with Jesus what you have learned about him.

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share how you have gotten to know Jesus better through this passage.



# QUESTION 4 // HOW WILL I RESPOND? WHAT WILL I PRAY?

---

Choose one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.

Spend some time throughout your week thinking and praying through these questions:

- How has God convicted, challenged, or comforted you through this truth?

- What will it look like to respond? How is God calling you to grow?

- As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, what do you need to be praying for?

#### IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how God is calling you to grow, and ask your group to pray for you!

PRAY

# STUDY 9

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- 11:1 When Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples,  
he went on from there to teach and preach in their cities.
- 2 Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ,  
he sent word by his disciples
- 3 and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come,  
or shall we look for another?”
- 4 And Jesus answered them,  
“Go and tell John what you hear and see:
- 5 the blind receive their sight and the lame walk,  
lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear,  
and the dead are raised up,  
and the poor have good news preached to them.
- 6 And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”
- 7 As they went away,  
Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John:  
“What did you go out into the wilderness to see?  
A reed shaken by the wind
- 8 What then did you go out to see?  
A man dressed in soft clothing?  
Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses.
- 9 What then did you go out to see?  
A prophet?  
Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.
- 10 This is he of whom it is written,  
“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.’
- 11 Truly, I say to you, among those born of women  
there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist.  
Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.
- 12 From the days of John the Baptist until now  
the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence,  
and the violent take it by force.
- 13 For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John,  
14 and if you are willing to accept it,  
he is Elijah who is to come.
- 15 He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

- 16 “But to what shall I compare this generation?  
It is like children sitting in the marketplaces  
and calling to their playmates,
- 17 “We played the flute for you,  
and you did not dance;  
we sang a dirge,  
and you did not mourn.’
- 18 For John came neither eating nor drinking,  
and they say, ‘He has a demon.’
- 19 The Son of Man came eating and drinking,  
and they say, ‘Look at him!  
A glutton and a drunkard,  
a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’  
Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

# QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

---

## PRAY

Look carefully at

### The **words and phrases**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
- Big Bible Words
- Characters
- Dialogue – who is talking to whom?
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**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share something you noticed.

### The **whole passage**

- What kind of writing is this? (eg. narrative, poetry, parable, teaching)
- How does the plot unfold? (Conflict? Climax? Resolution?)
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**NOTE:**

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- Create a heading for each section
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**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Have a couple of people share how they divided up the passage and why.

## QUESTION 2 // WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

---

Look at the **context**

- Read the passage immediately before and after
- How does the context help us understand the meaning of the text?
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**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share how the context has added to your understanding of this week's passage.

**So, what's the main idea of the passage? How would you title this passage?**

MAIN IDEA

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Have a few people share their "main idea."

### STOP TO PRAY

Thank God for all he has already revealed to you,  
and ask him to help you see Jesus more clearly,  
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

# QUESTION 3 // WHAT HAS BEEN REVEALED ABOUT JESUS THROUGH THIS PASSAGE?

---

What do we learn about

- His identity?
- His mission?
- His relationship with the Father and the Spirit?
- His relationship with us?

Write your response to this question as a prayer – sharing with Jesus what you have learned about him.

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share how you have gotten to know Jesus better through this passage.

# QUESTION 4 // HOW WILL I RESPOND? WHAT WILL I PRAY?

---

Choose one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.

Spend some time throughout your week thinking and praying through these questions:

- How has God convicted, challenged, or comforted you through this truth?

- What will it look like to respond? How is God calling you to grow?

- As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, what do you need to be praying for?

## IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how God is calling you to grow, and ask your group to pray for you!

PRAY





- 20 Then he began to denounce the cities  
where most of his mighty works had been done,  
because they did not repent.
- 21 “Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida!  
For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon,  
they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.
- 22 But I tell you,  
it will be more bearable on the day of judgment  
for Tyre and Sidon than for you.
- 23 And you, Capernaum,  
will you be exalted to heaven?  
You will be brought down to Hades.  
For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Sodom,  
it would have remained until this day.
- 24 But I tell you that  
it will be more tolerable on the day of judgment  
for the land of Sodom than for you.”
- 25 At that time Jesus declared,  
“I thank you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and earth,  
that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding  
and revealed them to little children;
- 26 yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.
- 27 All things have been handed over to me by my Father,  
and no one knows the Son except the Father,  
and no one knows the Father except the Son  
and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.
- 28 Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden,  
and I will give you rest.
- 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me,  
for I am gentle and lowly in heart,  
and you will find rest for your souls.
- 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

# QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

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## PRAY

Look carefully at

### The **words and phrases**

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**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

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### STOP TO PRAY

Thank God for all he has already revealed to you,  
and ask him to help you see Jesus more clearly,  
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

# QUESTION 3 // WHAT HAS BEEN REVEALED ABOUT JESUS THROUGH THIS PASSAGE?

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What do we learn about

- His identity?
- His mission?
- His relationship with the Father and the Spirit?
- His relationship with us?

Write your response to this question as a prayer – sharing with Jesus what you have learned about him.

**IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:**

Share how you have gotten to know Jesus better through this passage.

# QUESTION 4 // HOW WILL I RESPOND? WHAT WILL I PRAY?

---

Choose one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.

Spend some time throughout your week thinking and praying through these questions:

- How has God convicted, challenged, or comforted you through this truth?

- What will it look like to respond? How is God calling you to grow?

- As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, what do you need to be praying for?

#### IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how God is calling you to grow, and ask your group to pray for you!

PRAY





