



Matthew

CHAPTERS 8 THROUGH 11 // BOOK 1
ST. JOHN'S VANCOUVER
BIBLE STUDY

©2018 St. John's Vancouver

This book may be used and copied for study purposes only, not for resale.

Table of Contents

Page	Study	
4		How do I use this Bible Study?
6		Bookmark
9	1	Matthew 8:1-17
14	2	Matthew 8:18-9:8
21		Matthew Overview (removeable)
25	3	Matthew 9:9-17
31	4	Matthew 9:18-34
37	5	Matthew 9:35-38

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.

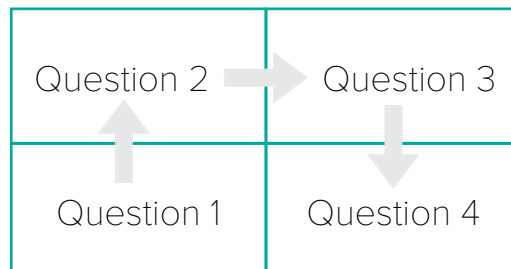
Share with Jesus what you have learned about him.

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



- 8:1 When he came down from the mountain,
great crowds followed him.
- 2 And behold, a leper came to him and knelt before him,
saying, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean."
- 3 And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him,
saying, "I will; be clean."
And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.
- 4 And Jesus said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone,
but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded,
for a proof to them."
- 5 When he had entered Capernaum,
a centurion came forward to him,
appealing to him,
- 6 "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering terribly."
7 And he said to him, "I will come and heal him."
8 But the centurion replied,
"Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof,
but only say the word, and my servant will be healed.
9 For I too am a man under authority,
with soldiers under me.
And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes,
and to another, 'Come,' and he comes,
and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."
- 10 When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him,
"Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith.
11 I tell you, many will come from east and west
and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven,
12 while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness.
In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."
13 And to the centurion Jesus said,
"Go; let it be done for you as you have believed."
And the servant was healed at that very moment.
- 4 And when Jesus entered Peter's house,
he saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever.
15 He touched her hand, and the fever left her,
and she rose and began to serve him.
- 16 That evening they brought to him many who were oppressed by demons,
and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick.
- 17 This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah:
"He took our illnesses and bore our diseases."

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

STUDY 2

- 8:18 Now when Jesus saw a crowd around him,
he gave orders to go over to the other side.
- 19 And a scribe came up and said to him,
“Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.”
- 20 And Jesus said to him,
“Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests,
but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.”
- 21 Another of the disciples said to him,
“Lord, let me first go and bury my father.”
- 22 And Jesus said to him,
“Follow me,
and leave the dead to bury their own dead.”
- 23 And when he got into the boat,
his disciples followed him.
- 24 And behold, there arose a great storm on the sea,
so that the boat was being swamped by the waves;
but he was asleep.
- 25 And they went and woke him,
saying, “Save us, Lord; we are perishing.”
- 26 And he said to them,
“Why are you afraid, O you of little faith?”
Then he rose and rebuked the winds and the sea,
and there was a great calm.
- 27 And the men marveled, saying,
“What sort of man is this,
that even winds and sea obey him?”
- 28 And when he came to the other side,
to the country of the Gadarenes,
two demon-possessed men met him,
coming out of the tombs,
so fierce that no one could pass that way.
- 29 And behold, they cried out,
“What have you to do with us, O Son of God?
Have you come here to torment us before the time?”
- 30 Now a herd of many pigs was feeding at some distance from them.
- 31 And the demons begged him, saying,
“If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of pigs.”
- 32 And he said to them, “Go.”
So they came out and went into the pigs,
and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank
into the sea and drowned in the waters.

-
- 33 The herdsmen fled,
and going into the city they told everything,
especially what had happened to the demon-possessed men.
- 34 And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus,
and when they saw him,
they begged him to leave their region.
- 9:1 And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.
- 2 And behold, some people brought to him a paralytic, lying on a bed.
And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic,
“Take heart, my son; your sins are forgiven.”
- 3 And behold, some of the scribes said to themselves,
“This man is blaspheming.”
- 4 But Jesus, knowing their thoughts,
said, “Why do you think evil in your hearts?
5 For which is easier, to say,
‘Your sins are forgiven,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’?
6 But that you may know
that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”
—he then said to the paralytic—
“Rise, pick up your bed and go home.”
- 7 And he rose and went home.
- 8 When the crowds saw it,
they were afraid,
and they glorified God,
who had given such authority to men.

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

Matthew Overview (removeable)

AUTHOR: ...



30-40 YEARS
OF
ORAL TRADITION



Matthew

SEE 9: 9 & 10:3



THE GOSPEL A MATT

1.



MESSIAH
FROM THE LINE OF
DAVID

2.



1-3

ABRAHAM DAVID JESUS



CONNECT JESUS TO OLD TESTAMENT



FULFILL

MOSES	JESUS
• OUT OF EGYPT	• OUT OF EGYPT
• CROSS THE RED SEA	• BAPTISM IN THE JORDAN RIVER
• WILDERNESS FOR 40 YEARS	• WILDERNESS FOR 40 DAYS
• RECEIVES LAW FROM MOUNTAIN	• GIVES LAW FROM MOUNTAIN

JESUS > MOSES

- DELIVER FROM SLAVERY
- GIVE NEW DIVINE TEACHING
- SAVE FROM SIN
- INITIATE A NEW COVENANT

4-7

ANNOUNCE
GOD'S
KINGDOM

SERMON ON THE MOUNT
(CH 5-7)



GOD'S RESCUE OPERATION FOR THE WORLD



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

HOW TO LIVE IN GOD'S KINGDOM



FULFILL THE TORAH

TRANSFORM HEARTS TO LOVE

8-10

JESUS BRINGS KINGDOM INTO PEOPLE'S LIVES

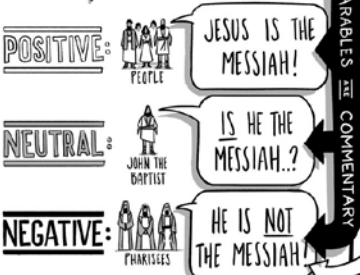
SENDING THE 12
(CH 10)
EXPECT ACCEPTANCE AND REJECTION



11-13

RESPONSES TO JESUS

PARABLES ABOUT THE KINGDOM
(CH 13)



26-28



PASSOVER MEAL RETELLS THE STORY OF...

- RESCUE FROM SLAVERY
- DEATH OF PASSOVER LAMB



NEW MEANING RESCUE FROM...

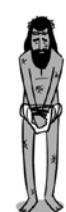
- EVIL & SIN
- DEATH OF JESUS

YOU'RE NOT THE MESSIAH!

YOU HAVE BLASPHEMED GOD!



SANHEDRIN (JEWISH LEADERS)



HE'S INNOCENT BUT...

LET HIM BE CRUCIFIED!

ACCORDING TO THE W

Things to look for

#1 ? **QUOTATIONS** (THERE ARE A LOT)

LOOK UP OLD TESTAMENT QUOTATIONS

#2 LOOK CLOSELY AT THE PEOPLE WHO ACCEPT JESUS

IRRELIGIOUS & UNIMPORTANT + FAITH = TRANSFORMATION

3.  **GOD WITH US**

NEW MOSES

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETIC PROMISES

 ISAIAH 60

 BETHLEHEM MICAH 5

 VIRGIN BIRTH ISAIAH 7

Immanuel = **GOD WITH US**

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

SUFFERING SERVANT ISAIAH 53

VICTORIOUS! DEFEATS PAGANS! PSALM 2 & DANIEL 2

JEWISH vs NON-JEWISH

PHARISEES vs PETER & DISCIPLES

HE'S THE MESSIAH! vs YOU'RE THE MESSIAH!

WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?

21-25 CLASH OF KINGDOMS

CRITIQUE OF PHARISEES & HYPOCRITES! (CH 23-25)

NEW JERUSALEM

ASSERTING AUTHORITY

- SAW TEMPLE AS COMPROMISED BECAUSE OF HYPOCRISY

OFFENDED

- DECIDE TO KILL JESUS

NOT A FAILURE

FULFILLED 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 -

1

2

3

4

5

BOOKS OF MOSES (TORAH)

Matthew Overview (removeable)

- 9:9 As Jesus passed on from there,
he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth,
and he said to him, "Follow me."
And he rose and followed him.
- 10 And as Jesus reclined at table in the house,
behold, many tax collectors and sinners came
and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples.
- 11 And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples,
"Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"
- 12 But when he heard it, he said,
"Those who are well have no need of a physician,
but those who are sick.
- 13 Go and learn what this means:
'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.'
For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."
- 14 Then the disciples of John came to him, saying,
"Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?"
- 15 And Jesus said to them,
"Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days
will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them,
and then they will fast.
- 16 No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment,
for the patch tears away from the garment,
and a worse tear is made.
- 17 Neither is new wine put into old wineskins.
If it is, the skins burst and the wine is spilled and the skins are destroyed. But new
wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved."

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

- 9:18 While he was saying these things to them,
 behold, a ruler came in and knelt before him,
 saying, “My daughter has just died,
 but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.”
- 19 And Jesus rose and followed him,
 with his disciples.
- 20 And behold,
 a woman who had suffered from a discharge of blood for twelve years came up
 behind him and touched the fringe of his garment,
- 21 for she said to herself, “If I only touch his garment,
 I will be made well.”
- 22 Jesus turned, and seeing her he said,
 “Take heart, daughter;
 your faith has made you well.”
 And instantly the woman was made well.
- 23 And when Jesus came to the ruler’s house
 and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion,
- 24 he said, “Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping.”
 And they laughed at him.
- 25 But when the crowd had been put outside,
 he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose.
- 26 And the report of this went through all that district.
- 27 And as Jesus passed on from there,
 two blind men followed him,
 crying aloud, “Have mercy on us, Son of David.”
- 28 When he entered the house,
 the blind men came to him,
 and Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?”
 They said to him, “Yes, Lord.”
- 29 Then he touched their eyes,
 saying, “According to your faith be it done to you.”
- 30 And their eyes were opened.
 And Jesus sternly warned them, “See that no one knows about it.”
- 31 But they went away and spread his fame through all that district.
- 32 As they were going away,
 behold, a demon-oppressed man who was mute was brought to him.
- 33 And when the demon had been cast out,
 the mute man spoke.
 And the crowds marveled, saying,
 “Never was anything like this seen in Israel.”
- 34 But the Pharisees said, “He casts out demons by the prince of demons.”

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

- 9:35 And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages,
teaching in their synagogues
and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom
and healing every disease and every affliction.
- 36 When he saw the crowds,
he had compassion for them,
because they were harassed and helpless,
like sheep without a shepherd.
- 37 Then he said to his disciples,
“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few;
- 38 therefore pray earnestly
to the Lord of the harvest
to send out laborers into his harvest.”

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

