

matthew

ST. JOHN'S VANCOUVER
BIBLE STUDY // 2018



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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
- If there is 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? (ie. 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
- Is there a major idea being communicated?

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 DOES THIS PASSAGE REVEAL ABOUT THE GOSPEL?

What do we learn about...

- How and why God saves us?
- Jesus' role in God's salvation plan?
- What it means to follow Jesus?

Q4: HOW DO I RESPOND TO WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED?

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

The questions below may be helpful:

SPECK

S—Is there a Sin to repent of and to avoid?

P—is there a Promise to believe and rejoice in?

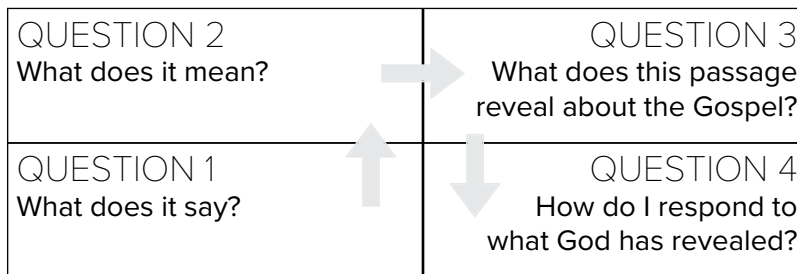
E—is there an Example for me to follow?

C—is there a Command for me to obey?

K—is there Knowledge for me to freshly understand?

As you seek to follow Jesus in light of this truth, how can you pray, and ask for prayer?

FINISH IN PRAYER



STUDY 1: GOD'S PROMISED KING

- 1:1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.
- 17 So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations,
and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations,
and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.
- 18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way.
When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph,
before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.
- 19 And her husband Joseph,
being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.
- 20 But as he considered these things,
behold,
an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying,
“Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife,
for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.
- 21 She will bear a son,
and you shall call his name Jesus,
for he will save his people from their sins.”
- 22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:
- 23 “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel” (which means, God with us).
- 24 When Joseph woke from sleep,
he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,
25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son.
And he called his name Jesus.
- 2:1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king,
behold,
wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,
2 saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews?
For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”
- 3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled,
and all Jerusalem with him;
- 4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people,
he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.
- 5 They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea,
for so it is written by the prophet:
- 6 “And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”
- 7 Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly
and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared.
- 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying,
“Go and search diligently for the child,

- and when you have found him, bring me word,
that I too may come and worship him.”
- 9 After listening to the king, they went on their way.
And behold,
the star that they had seen when it rose went before them
until it came to rest over the place where the child was.
- 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.
- 11 And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother,
and they fell down and worshiped him.
Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts,
gold and frankincense and myrrh.
- 12 And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod,
they departed to their own country by another way.
- 13 Now when they had departed,
behold,
an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said,
“Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you,
for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.”
- 14 And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt
15 and remained there until the death of Herod.
This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet,
“Out of Egypt I called my son.”
- 16 Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious,
and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem
and in all that region who were two years old or under,
according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men.
- 17 Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah:
18 “A voice was heard in Ramah,
weeping and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.”
- 19 But when Herod died,
behold,
an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt,
20 saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel,
for those who sought the child’s life are dead.”
- 21 And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel.
22 But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father
Herod, he was afraid to go there,
and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee.
- 23 And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth,
so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled,
that he would be called a Nazarene.

QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Look carefully at

The **words and phrases**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
- Big Bible Words
- Characters
- If there is 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? (ie. 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
- Is there a major idea being communicated?

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 after this week's text.
- Quoted in this passage: Isaiah 7:14, Micah 5:2-5, Hosea 11:1, Jeremiah 31:15

NOTE:

Matthew frequently quotes and interprets the Old Testament in the midst of his narrative. This is to point to how Jesus fulfils the promises and hopes of the Old Testament.

What do the quotations in this passage teach us about who Jesus is?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how the context helps us understand this week's text.

So, what's the main idea of the 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 him more clearly,
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

QUESTION 3 // WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE REVEAL ABOUT THE GOSPEL?

What do we learn about Jesus' identity in these first two chapters of Matthew's Gospel?

What do we learn about God's plan for salvation?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how you have grown in your understanding of the gospel and our need for Jesus.

QUESTION 4 // HOW DO I RESPOND TO WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED?

Identify one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.
Use the questions on the bookmark to help you with this.

As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, how can you pray, and ask for prayer?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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

PRAY

STUDY 2: THE KING COMES

- 3:1 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea,
2 “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
3 For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,
“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;
make his paths straight.’”
4 Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist,
and his food was locusts and wild honey.
5 Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about the Jordan
were going out to him,
6 and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan,
confessing their sins.
7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism,
he said to them, “You brood of vipers!
Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?
8 Bear fruit in keeping with repentance.
9 And do not presume to say to yourselves,
‘We have Abraham as our father,’
for I tell you,
God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham.
10 Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees.
Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into
the fire.
11 “I baptize you with water for repentance,
but he who is coming after me is mightier than I,
whose sandals I am not worthy to carry.
He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
12 His winnowing fork is in his hand,
and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn,
but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

- 13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John,
to be baptized by him.
- 14 John would have prevented him,
saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"
- 15 But Jesus answered him,
"Let it be so now,
for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."
Then he consented.
- 16 And when Jesus was baptized,
immediately he went up from the water,
and behold,
the heavens were opened to him,
and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him;
- 17 and behold,
a voice from heaven said,
"This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Look carefully at

The **words and phrases**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
- Big Bible Words
- Characters
- If there is dialogue, who is talking to whom?
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IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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The **whole passage**

- What kind of writing is this? (ie. 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
- Is there a major idea being communicated?

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 passages before and after this week's text.
- Quoted in this passage: Isaiah 40:3

How does the quotation from Isaiah deepen our understanding of what is happening in this passage?

John's words here, "Repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand" are echoed by Jesus throughout Matthew. (4:17, 6:10, 10:7). How is the meaning of these words expanded upon in this week's passage?

What does this tell us about Jesus' mission?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how the context helps us understand this week's text.

So, what's the main idea of the 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 him more clearly, and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

QUESTION 3 // WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE REVEAL ABOUT THE GOSPEL?

How do we see God unfolding his plan for salvation in this text?

a. In Jesus' motivation?

b. In the Father's response?

NOTE:

God the Father quotes two Old Testament passages in v.17 - Psalm 2:7 and Isaiah 42:1-7

c. In the Spirit's response?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how you have grown in your understanding of the gospel and our need for Jesus.

QUESTION 4 // HOW DO I RESPOND TO WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED?

Identify one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.
Use the questions on the bookmark to help you with this.

As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, how can you pray, and ask for prayer?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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

PRAY

- 4:1 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.
- 2 And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.
- 3 And the tempter came and said to him,
“If you are the Son of God,
command these stones to become loaves of bread.”
- 4 But he answered,
“It is written,
“Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.””
- 5 Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple
- 6 and said to him,
“If you are the Son of God,
throw yourself down,
for it is written,
“He will command his angels concerning you,
and
“On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.””
- 7 Jesus said to him,
“Again it is written,
‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’”
- 8 Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain
and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory.
- 9 And he said to him,
“All these I will give you,
if you will fall down and worship me.”
- 10 Then Jesus said to him,
“Be gone, Satan!
For it is written,
“You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.””
- 11 Then the devil left him,
and behold,
angels came and were ministering to him.

QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Look carefully at

The **words and phrases**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
- Big Bible Words
- Characters
- If there is 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? (ie. 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
- Is there a major idea being communicated?

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 passages before and after this week's text. Think through why this passage follows what happened previously.
- Quoted in this passage: Deuteronomy 8:1-3, Psalm 91:11-12, Deuteronomy 6:13-16

How does Satan test Jesus? How does Jesus respond?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how the context helps us understand this week's text.

So, what's the main idea of the 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 him more clearly,
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

QUESTION 3 // WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE REVEAL ABOUT THE GOSPEL?

We see, in this passage, Jesus tested by Satan and not succumbing. What is the significance of this for us? Read Hebrews 4:14-16.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how you have grown in your understanding of the gospel and our need for Jesus.

QUESTION 4 // HOW DO I RESPOND TO WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED?

Identify one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.
Use the questions on the bookmark to help you with this.

As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, how can you pray, and ask for prayer?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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

PRAY

STUDY 4: THE GOOD NEWS OF THE KINGDOM

- 4:12 Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, MATTHEW 4:12-25
he withdrew into Galilee.
- 13 And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea,
in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali,
- 14 so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:
15 “The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan,
Galilee of the Gentiles—
16 the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light,
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,
on them a light has dawned.”
- 17 From that time Jesus began to preach,
saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”
- 18 While walking by the Sea of Galilee,
he saw two brothers,
Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother,
casting a net into the sea,
for they were fishermen.
- 19 And he said to them,
“Follow me,
and I will make you fishers of men.”
- 20 Immediately they left their nets and followed him.
- 21 And going on from there he saw two other brothers,
James the son of Zebedee and John his brother,
in the boat with Zebedee their father,
mending their nets, and he called them.
- 22 Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.
- 23 And he went throughout all Galilee,
teaching in their synagogues
and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom
and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.
- 24 So his fame spread throughout all Syria,
and they brought him all the sick,
those afflicted with various diseases and pains,
those oppressed by demons,
those having seizures,
and paralytics,
and he healed them.
- 25 And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis,
and from Jerusalem and Judea,
and from beyond the Jordan.

QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Look carefully at

The **words and phrases**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
- Big Bible Words
- Characters
- If there is 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? (ie. 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
- Is there a major idea being communicated?

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 passages before and after this week's text.
- Quoted in this passage: Isaiah 9:1-2

How does Jesus fulfill Isaiah's prophecy in this passage?

In what we have read previously in Matthew?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how the context helps us understand this week's text.

So, what's the main idea of the 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 him more clearly,
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

QUESTION 3 // WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE REVEAL ABOUT THE GOSPEL?

What do we learn about Jesus' role in God's plan of salvation?

What does this passage teach us about following Jesus?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how you have grown in your understanding of the gospel and our need for Jesus.

QUESTION 4 // HOW DO I RESPOND TO WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED?

Identify one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.
Use the questions on the bookmark to help you with this.

As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, how can you pray, and ask for prayer?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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

PRAY

STUDY 5: BLESSINGS FROM THE KING

- 5:1 Seeing the crowds,
he went up on the mountain,
and when he sat down,
his disciples came to him.
- 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
- 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 “Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.
- 5 “Blessed are the meek,
for they shall inherit the earth.
- 6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they shall be satisfied.
- 7 “Blessed are the merciful,
for they shall receive mercy.
- 8 “Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they shall see God.
- 9 “Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called sons of God.
- 10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 11 “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you
and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
- 12 Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward is great in heaven,
for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
- 13 “You are the salt of the earth,
but if salt has lost its taste,
how shall its saltiness be restored?
It is no longer good for anything
except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

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

UPSIDE DOWN 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

FOLLOW ME!

- LEPER
- CENTURION'S SERVANT
- SICK MOTHER
- STORMY SEAS
- DEPRIZED MEN
- PARALYZED MAN
- DEAF GIRL & SICK WOMAN
- TWO BLIND MEN
- MUTE MAN

11-13

RESPONSES TO JESUS

PARABLES ABOUT THE KINGDOM
(CH 13)

POSITIVE: JESUS IS THE MESSIAH!

NEUTRAL: IS HE THE MESSIAH..?

NEGATIVE: HE IS NOT THE MESSIAH!

PARABLES COMMENTARY

26-28

PASSOVER MEAL - NEW MEANING

RETELS THE STORY OF...

- RESCUE FROM SLAVERY
- DEATH OF PASSOVER LAMB

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!

PILATE

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

Immanuel = **GOD WITH US**

BETHLEHEM (MICAH 5:2)

VIRGIN BIRTH (ISAIAH 7:14)

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)

HE'S THE MESSIAH!
WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?
YOU'RE THE MESSIAH!

JEWISH, NON-JEWISH, PHARISEES, PETER & DISCIPLES

21-25 CLASH OF KINGDOMS

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

YOU HYPOCRITES!

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

NEW JERUSALEM

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)

- 14 “You are the light of the world.
A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.
- 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket,
but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.
- 16 In the same way,
let your light shine before others,
so that they may see your good works
and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
- 17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets;
I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.
- 18 For truly, I say to you,
until heaven and earth pass away,
not an iota, not a dot,
will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.
- 19 Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments
and teaches others to do the same
will be called least in the kingdom of heaven,
but whoever does them and teaches them
will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.
- 20 For I tell you,
unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees,
you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Look carefully at

The **words and phrases**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
- Big Bible Words
- Characters
- If there is 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? (ie. 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
- Is there a major idea being communicated?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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

QUESTION 2 // WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

NOTE:

Matthew's gospel is structured around five sections of Jesus' teaching placed within the narrative. Each section ends with the refrain "When Jesus had finished these sayings." This passage marks the beginning of the first of these teaching blocks - as Jesus preaches the "Gospel of the Kingdom." (Matthew 4:23). It concludes in chapter 7:29. (See overview insert on page 32)

Look at the **context**

- Read the passages before and after this week's text.

Having chosen and called his disciples, Jesus teaches them what it looks like to follow him, in the midst of the world. What, according to Jesus, does this blessed life look like?

NOTE:

These nine Blessings are not commands, but Jesus declaring true reality. This is also true of v.13 and 14.

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how the context helps us understand this week's text.

So, what's the main idea of the 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 him more clearly,
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

QUESTION 3 // WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE REVEAL ABOUT THE GOSPEL?

The Beatitudes follow on from one another in logical progression; laying out what God declares blessed. Why is being “poor in Spirit” the first and foundational beatitude? How do the other beatitudes build on this?

What does Jesus reveal to be the motivation driving a life that is radically different from the world? (v2-16)

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how you have grown in your understanding of the gospel and our need for Jesus.

QUESTION 4 // HOW DO I RESPOND TO WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED?

Identify one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.
Use the questions on the bookmark to help you with this.

As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, how can you pray, and ask for prayer?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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

PRAY

STUDY 6: FAMILY LIKENESS

- 5:21 “You have heard that it was said to those of old,
‘You shall not murder;
and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.’
- 22 But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment;
whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council;
and whoever says, ‘You fool!’ will be liable to the hell of fire.
- 23 So if you are offering your gift at the altar
and there remember that your brother has something against you,
24 leave your gift there before the altar and go.
First be reconciled to your brother,
and then come and offer your gift.
- 25 Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court,
lest your accuser hand you over to the judge,
and the judge to the guard,
and you be put in prison.
- 26 Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.
- 27 “You have heard that it was said,
‘You shall not commit adultery.’
- 28 But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent
has already committed adultery with her in his heart.
- 29 If your right eye causes you to sin,
tear it out and throw it away.
For it is better that you lose one of your members
than that your whole body be thrown into hell.
- 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin,
cut it off and throw it away.
For it is better that you lose one of your members
than that your whole body go into hell.
- 31 “It was also said, ‘
Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’
- 32 But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife,
except on the ground of sexual immorality,
makes her commit adultery,
and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.
- 33 “Again you have heard that it was said to those of old,
‘You shall not swear falsely,
but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.’

- 34 But I say to you,
Do not take an oath at all,
either by heaven, for it is the throne of God,
- 35 or by the earth, for it is his footstool,
or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.
- 36 And do not take an oath by your head,
or you cannot make one hair white or black.
- 37 Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No';
anything more than this comes from evil.
- 38 "You have heard that it was said,
'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'
- 39 But I say to you,
Do not resist the one who is evil.
But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek,
turn to him the other also.
- 40 And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic,
let him have your cloak as well.
- 41 And if anyone forces you to go one mile,
go with him two miles.
- 42 Give to the one who begs from you,
and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.
- 43 "You have heard that it was said,
'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'
- 44 But I say to you,
Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you,
45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven.
For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good,
and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.
- 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?
Do not even the tax collectors do the same?
- 47 And if you greet only your brothers,
what more are you doing than others?
Do not even the Gentiles do the same?
- 48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Look carefully at

The **words and phrases**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
- Big Bible Words
- Characters
- If there is 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? (ie. 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
- Is there a major idea being communicated?

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 this week's text, including Matthew 5:17-20.

NOTE:

Jesus quotes here from Exodus, Deuteronomy, Leviticus, and Jeremiah and then expands on each text. God gave his law to reveal to Israel, who HE was as a HOLY God, and who THEY were to be as HIS chosen people. These OT texts instructed Israel on how to live as God's chosen people in the midst of the cultural norms of the surrounding nations.

What is consistent between each of these laws “written” and what Jesus has to say? What is different?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how the context helps us understand this week's text.

So, what's the main idea of the 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 him more clearly,
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

QUESTION 3 // WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE REVEAL ABOUT THE GOSPEL?

Jesus concludes by saying “you shall therefore, be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” This refers back to Leviticus 19:2 and 20:22-26. Read these passages.

NOTE:

The word "perfect" here does not mean "morally flawless" but "mature" or "complete" in the sense of being who we really are - children of the "heavenly Father".

How does knowing that you are the chosen child of your Holy Heavenly Father motivate you to live for him?
How is that different from striving to be morally upright?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how you have grown in your understanding of the gospel and our need for Jesus.

QUESTION 4 // HOW DO I RESPOND TO WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED?

Identify one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.
Use the questions on the bookmark to help you with this.

As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, how can you pray, and ask for prayer?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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

PRAY

STUDY 7: KINGDOM MOTIVATION

- 6:1 “Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people
in order to be seen by them,
for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.
- 2 “Thus, when you give to the needy,
sound no trumpet before you,
as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets,
that they may be praised by others.
Truly, I say to you,
they have received their reward.
- 3 But when you give to the needy,
do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing,
- 4 so that your giving may be in secret.
And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.
- 5 “And when you pray,
you must not be like the hypocrites.
For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners,
that they may be seen by others.
Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.
- 6 But when you pray,
go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret.
And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.
- 7 “And when you pray,
do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do,
for they think that they will be heard for their many words.
- 8 Do not be like them,
for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

- 9 Pray then like this:
“Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
- 10 Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
- 11 Give us this day our daily bread,
12 and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
- 13 And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
- 14 For if you forgive others their trespasses,
your heavenly Father will also forgive you,
15 but if you do not forgive others their trespasses,
neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.
- 16 “And when you fast,
do not look gloomy like the hypocrites,
for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others.
Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward.
- 17 But when you fast,
anoint your head and wash your face,
18 that your fasting may not be seen by others
but by your Father who is in secret.
And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Look carefully at

The **words and phrases**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
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- 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? (ie. narrative, poetry, parable, teaching)
- How does the plot unfold? (Conflict? Climax? Resolution?)
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- Create a heading for each section
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NOTE:

Jesus' frequent use of groups of three illustrations in his teaching. (eg. in ch. 5:13-17 salt, city, and light)

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 passages immediately before and after this week's text, review Matthew 5:17-21.

According to this passage, what is the difference between acts of devotion that receive their reward now, and those that will be rewarded by God the Father?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how the context helps us understand this week's text.

So, what's the main idea of the 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 him more clearly,
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

QUESTION 3 // WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE REVEAL ABOUT THE GOSPEL?

How does knowing God as our Heavenly Father impact our motivation in the three areas of application Jesus addresses in this teaching? (giving, praying, fasting)

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how you have grown in your understanding of the gospel and our need for Jesus.

QUESTION 4 // HOW DO I RESPOND TO WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED?

Identify one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.
Use the questions on the bookmark to help you with this.

As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, how can you pray, and ask for prayer?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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

PRAY

STUDY 8: KINGDOM PRIORITY

- 19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth,
where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal,
- 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven,
where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.
- 21 For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also.
- 22 “The eye is the lamp of the body.
So, if your eye is healthy,
your whole body will be full of light,
- 23 but if your eye is bad,
your whole body will be full of darkness.
If then the light in you is darkness,
how great is the darkness!
- 24 “No one can serve two masters,
for either he will hate the one and love the other,
or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other.
You cannot serve God and money.
- 25 “Therefore I tell you,
do not be anxious about your life,
what you will eat or what you will drink,
nor about your body,
what you will put on.
Is not life more than food,
and the body more than clothing?
- 26 Look at the birds of the air:
they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns,
and yet your heavenly Father feeds them.
Are you not of more value than they?
- 27 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?

- 28 And why are you anxious about clothing?
Consider the lilies of the field,
how they grow:
they neither toil nor spin,
29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field,
which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven,
will he not much more clothe you,
O you of little faith?
31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying,
'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?'
32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things,
and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.
33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness,
and all these things will be added to you.
34 "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow,
for tomorrow will be anxious for itself.
Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Look carefully at

The **words and phrases**

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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 passages immediately before and after this week's text, including Matthew 5:14-16.

Why does Jesus follow his teaching from ch. 5-6:18 by teaching on anxiety?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share what you have learned about the meaning of this week's text.

So, what's the main idea of the 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 him more clearly,
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

QUESTION 3 // WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE REVEAL ABOUT THE GOSPEL?

What do we learn about being disciples of Christ in this passage?

What does Jesus promise to those who seek to follow him with single -hearted purpose?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how you have grown in your understanding of the gospel and our need for Jesus.

QUESTION 4 // HOW DO I RESPOND TO WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED?

Identify one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.
Use the questions on the bookmark to help you with this.

As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, how can you pray, and ask for prayer?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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

PRAY

STUDY 9: KINGDOM PROMISE, KINGDOM WARNING

- 7:1 “Judge not, that you be not judged.
2 For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged,
and with the measure you use it will be measured to you.
3 Why do you see the speck that is in your brother’s eye,
but do not notice the log that is in your own eye?
4 Or how can you say to your brother,
‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’
when there is the log in your own eye?
5 You hypocrite,
first take the log out of your own eye,
and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.
6 “Do not give dogs what is holy,
and do not throw your pearls before pigs,
lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.
7 “Ask, and it will be given to you;
seek, and you will find;
knock, and it will be opened to you.
8 For everyone who asks receives,
and the one who seeks finds,
and to the one who knocks it will be opened.
9 Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone?
10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent?
11 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children,
how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who
ask him!
12 “So whatever you wish that others would do to you,
do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.
13 “Enter by the narrow gate.
For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction,
and those who enter by it are many.
14 For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life,

- and those who find it are few.
- 15 “Beware of false prophets,
who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.
- 16 You will recognize them by their fruits.
Are grapes gathered from thornbushes,
or figs from thistles?
- 17 So, every healthy tree bears good fruit,
but the diseased tree bears bad fruit.
- 18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit,
nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit.
- 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.
- 20 Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.
- 21 “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven,
but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.
- 22 On that day many will say to me,
‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name,
and cast out demons in your name,
and do many mighty works in your name?’
- 23 And then will I declare to them,
‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’
- 24 “Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them
will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.
- 25 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house,
but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.
- 26 And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them
will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.
- 27 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that
house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it.”
- 28 And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching,
29 for he was teaching them as one who had authority,
and not as their scribes.

QUESTION 1 // WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Look carefully at

The **words and phrases**

- Repetitions, Contrasts, Surprises
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IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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The **whole passage**

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- How does the plot unfold? (Conflict? Climax? Resolution?)
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- Create a heading for each section
- Is there a major idea being communicated?

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 passages immediately before and after this week's text.

What key promises does Jesus make to his followers in the centre of this passage? v.7-11

What warnings and guidance on how to stay on the path of life are there in this passage?

How are these two things connected?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how the context helps us understand this week's text.

So, what's the main idea of the 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 him more clearly,
and love him more deeply, through the next steps of your study.

QUESTION 3 // WHAT DOES THIS PASSAGE REVEAL ABOUT THE GOSPEL?

How has the identity of Jesus as the Son of God been revealed by what and how he taught through this section?

At the end of our passage Matthew concludes by writing “The crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority and not as one of the scribes”. How has the identity of Christ as the Son of God been revealed by what and how he taught through this section?

How has Christ’s fulfilment of the law and the prophets in his death and resurrection made the new life he calls us to possible?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

Share how you have grown in your understanding of the gospel and our need for Jesus.

QUESTION 4 // HOW DO I RESPOND TO WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED?

Identify one thing in particular that God has revealed to you in this passage.
Use the questions on the bookmark to help you with this.

As you seek to follow Jesus in the light of this truth, how can you pray, and ask for prayer?

IN YOUR SMALL GROUP:

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

PRAY

