

The Book of Matthew Reflection and Discussion Questions

(special thank you to the leadership team: Mandy, Misty, Bridget and Rosilind for creating these questions for us.)

Matthew 1 – Joseph was a man of faith, willing to follow God's lead despite his own initial reaction.

Has there been a time when you had to set aside your own will, to follow God's plans for you?

Matthew 2 – Mary, Joseph and Jesus were removed from harm's way.

Name a time when God stepped in and removed you from a bad situation. How have you used this to glorify God?

Matthew 3 – John knew he was unworthy to serve Jesus. Yet, he did not let that stand in the way of sharing the news of Jesus' coming. Ultimately, he was given the privilege to baptize Jesus.

Has there been a time when you felt unworthy of doing God's work and yet once you did, you received a great blessing?

Matthew 4 – Jesus was tempted by Satan with desires of the flesh; however, He combated them with scripture.

Share your go-to scripture when you are faced with desires of the flesh.

Matthew 5 - Today we are reminded that we are blessed. We are also reminded that we are the light of this dark world.

What is one thing that we can do for someone today to share our light and be a blessing to someone else?

Matthew 6: God promises to provide all of our needs. But, we still tend to be anxious about how it will work out. What is an area that you are trusting God to meet your needs in right now.

Matthew 7: Foundations are key. What you build your life on, will be what it is all about. How are you building your family, or your personal life, on the rock that is Jesus Christ?

Matthew 8: "Save Us Lord" - how often do we pray that prayer? What is a storm that you are going through, that you need increased faith?

Matthew 9: The harvest is plentiful - but the laborers are few. How are you sharing the good news of the gospel to those around you?

Matthew 10: Jesus tells us not to fear- even the hairs on our head are numbered. What is one area where you are fearful?

Matthew 11: Jesus offers rest for the weary to those that are willing to learn of Him and live in submission to Him.

Are you weary today? How can we pray for you?

Matthew 12: The Pharisees got so caught up with living by the letter of the law that they forgot about mercy. As Christians today, we still struggle with judgment vs. mercy.

Is there someone in need of mercy (and grace) from you today?

Matthew 13: In Jesus' own country, the people did not believe in Him because they knew His family. They didn't accept that someone they knew could be the Son of God.

It is hard to witness close to home, to our family and friends sometimes, yet if we follow Christ's example, He still tried.

Is there someone in your life that is in need of salvation? Follow Jesus' example and share God's love and gift of salvation today.

Matthew 14: Herod spoke unwisely without thinking of the consequences of his oath and in doing so, he ended up living with the blood of John the Baptist on his hands.

Have you ever spoken out of haste or in lack of wisdom and the consequences were life changing?

Thanks be to God for His abundant mercy and grace for our unwise decisions and actions.

Matthew 15 : There is a saying liken to what Jesus said of the scribes and Pharisees..."You can talk the talk, but can you walk the walk?" Simply put, just having Bible knowledge does not save us or make us better than anyone else.

In what ways do you struggle with actually living out the Bible knowledge you have?

Matthew 16: We are presented with what could seem like an oxymoron: if we try to save our lives, we'll lose them. But if we lose our life for Christ's sake, we'll find it. Sounds like a riddle.

In what way have you tried to hang on to your life? What is Christ asking you today to sacrifice for His sake?

Matthew 17: Jesus tells us, if we have faith even as small as a mustard seed we can accomplish great things for Him.

Has there been a time in your life that you can point to, when you know that your faith - perhaps even a little shaky - gave you the strength to believe for the impossible...and it became reality?

Matthew 18: Jesus illustrated for us the importance of forgiveness. We are the servant - He has forgiven us of an immeasurable amount of offense, so how can we not find grace enough to forgive our offender of a much lesser matter?

Is there someone in your life that you know you need to forgive? Have you experienced the freedom of forgiving?

Matthew 19: The rich young ruler found out, money can't buy everything. Jesus has to occupy your heart. He touched on the one thing that occupied this man's heart - but the cost was too great for him.

What occupies your heart? Is it Jesus, or is it something else. Do you need to dethrone something in your life so Jesus can occupy first place?

Matthew 20: Imagine what it was like for those blind men that day: their eyes were opened and the first thing they ever saw in their life was Jesus' face!

How long has it been since you truly "saw" Jesus? How long has it been since you really looked at the Word and "saw" Him? Is your prayer today, "Lord, that my eyes be opened"?

Matthew 21: We were reminded that God's kingdom is given to those who produce fruits.

In what ways are you producing fruit for God's kingdom in your daily life?

Matthew 22: The greatest commandment we are given is to love God with all our hearts and soul. In today's world however it is easy to have other things consume us.

What is something that you need to shift focus from so that all your love and devotions are going solely to God?

Matthew 23: Today we were reminded that it is one thing to talk about what is right. Yet, it is another to simply do what is right.

In what ways can we make sure that we are not only talking about what is right but also show others what is right as well?

Matthew 24: We are warned that Jesus could come back at anytime so we must always be prepared.

Are you prepared today or are there some things that you need to work on still?

Matthew 25: When we are doing kind acts for others, it is the same as doing those things for God.

What kind things can you do for someone today?

Matthew 26: Jesus asked the disciples to watch and pray. Yet, they slept. Something so simpleand yet, it was a struggle. What is one thing God is asking you to do that you are struggling to do.

Matthew 27: Jesus Christ died on the cross for YOUR sins. It was personal - for you. Share today about the time you surrendered your life to Him.

Matthew 28: After Jesus' resurrection, He left us a commission - to go and make disciples of all nations. It was a command- not a suggestion. Starting in our homes- to our neighborhoods, towns, cities, our nation - and our world. How are you living out the great commission?