

Bible Study, Matthew, Week 1

Day: 1

Read Matthew 3: 1-17

In this Bible Study we are going to look at the life of Jesus from the time He was baptized by John until the night of the Passover meal. It is only going to be a brief look at all His work. Hopefully it will inspire us all to dig deeper.

The way this study is going to work is a little different. On the first day there will only be a reading of a preparatory piece. On these readings there will be no questions and you should try and get the message on your own. As the other studies progress you should be able to see how these readings fit into the picture.

I know this is a little unusual, but that is the way this Bible Study has been worked out. (Not by me, of course, I do not know enough for that!)

So read Matthew 3 and think about the meaning of Christ's baptism.

Day: 2

Read Matthew 4: 1-11

1. Today, going to the desert may seem like a fun excursion. We are equipped to handle it and many outreaches are taken to the desert countries. How do you think it was for Jesus?
2. Think of Israel in the desert for 40 years. Do you think there is any significance to Jesus being driven out to the desert after John baptized Him?
3. What is the difference between the way Jesus handles the temptations of the devil and they way the Israelites handled it?
4. What does Jesus use as a weapon against the devil?
5. What does it teach us about how we should handle temptations and problems in our lives? 3

Day: 3

Read Matthew 4: 12-17

1. Where you ever lost in the dark?
2. Have you ever stayed in a dangerous place?
3. After He returned from the desert, Jesus went to stay in such a place. Northern part of Israel far from the protection of the Kings soldiers and the worshippers at the temple. Why did He do it?
4. What about Herod's plans in the south of Israel?
5. Why could His light not be dimmed?
6. What does it tell us about God's way of working?
7. What should we do if we are in such dangerous places?
8. Can we still do God's work there?
9. What does it tell us about the "Light" that cannot be put out?

10. What light is this?
11. Does our daily work play any part in it?

Day: 4

Read: Matthew 4: 18-22

1. Why does Jesus call ordinary men and give them the dream of becoming fishers of men.
2. Do you think they had any idea of what lay ahead of them?
3. Do you think that it is also sometimes necessary for us to be "schooled" for "three years" before we are ready for our task?
4. Can we learn anything by "taking up our cross" and following Him without asking any questions?
5. Do you think we can accomplish something in such a way?
6. How do you think Jesus wants to use you? Not how you want to be used!

Day: 5

Read Matthew 4: 23-25

1. You get people that love sensation. They love some excitement and they are at all mass assemblies etc. where things are "happening" Do you think some of the people following Jesus came from that group of people?
2. The other side of the coin is that people are in need, they are ill, they have problems and they will do anything to get out of it. In Jesus' time there were many of those. Do you think some of the followers fell in that group?
3. What did they find when they actually saw and followed Jesus?
4. Do you think we still need it in life today?
5. How can we as Christians spread that in every day life?
6. If Jesus were here today, He would have spread the "cheer" do you think there are still followers that are only in for a "good" time? How do we know we do not fall in that category?
7. God is with us today, The Holy Spirit is with us every day and we can go to Him freely. Do we make use of it enough?

Day: 6

Read Matthew 5: 1-12

You can also have a look at the following Bible Study:

A New Testament women's bible study on the Beatitudes (Read Matthew 5:1-12)

I think you will find it a very big blessing.

1. Do you have the need to be blessed by someone?
2. If someone asked you to put your hand on your own head and bless yourself, will it satisfy you?
3. I think we all really want to be blessed by God.
4. If I ask you why you think you should be blessed by God, what would your answer be?

5. If we look at Jesus' list, we may feel we have to return before you can be blessed.
6. Only when you understand that, through your faith, you are one with Jesus and all His dependence on God, His compassion for a suffering world, His love, His hunger and thirst for what is right and anything else you can name, is yours!
7. Do you understand now that you are blessed with all the blessings in heaven and on earth?

Day: 7

Read Matthew 5: 3-10

You can also have a look at the following Bible Study:

A New Testament women's bible study on the Beatitudes (Read Matthew 5:1-12)

1. What are the eight blessings mentioned in these verses?
2. What can you say about the format of these blessings?
3. Do you think verse eleven is an addition to this package of beatitudes?
4. What is the difference? What are the blessings you will get in verse 3-10 different from verse 11?
5. What are the things verse 4, 6 and 8 speaks about?
6. What are the things verse 5, 7 and 9 speaks about?
7. How do you get the beautiful things inside yourself first before you can "open the tap" and let it flow outwards?
8. Do you think it is the work of the Holy Spirit in you?
9. Do you think it is God in action?
10. When did it start?