

The Gospel of Matthew

A Peace ~ Love ~ Pray Ministry Bible Study

"The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham." — Matthew 1:1 (ESV)

How This Study Works

Each lesson in this study is built around one chapter of Matthew's Gospel at a time. Before each session, you will **read the entire chapter** from your Bible. Taking time to read God's Word for yourself is essential - this study is not meant to replace Scripture but to help you understand and apply it to your life.

As you read, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to open your heart and mind to what God wants to reveal to you through His Word.

What Each Lesson Includes

Chapter Reading: You will read the full chapter being studied, allowing Scripture to speak for itself before diving into discussion.

Chapter Summary: A brief overview of the key events, teachings, and themes within the chapter to help orient your study.

Study Questions: Thoughtful questions designed to help you dig deeper into the text, examine its meaning, and consider how it applies to your life. These questions work well for personal reflection or group discussion.

Discipleship Application: A practical application section that highlights a key discipleship principle from the chapter. This feature helps you move from simply knowing God's Word to actively living it out as a follower of Jesus.

Let's discover the King together!

"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me." — Matthew 28:18



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Gospel of Matthew

Chapter 1 - The Genealogy & Birth of Jesus

Summary

Matthew begins by showing Jesus' family line—from Abraham to David all the way to Joseph. This proves Jesus is the promised Messiah of the Old Testament. We also learn how the birth of Jesus happened: Mary was found with child by the Holy Spirit, and Joseph obeyed God's instruction to take her as his wife.

Study Questions (New Believer Friendly)

1. What does the genealogy show about God's long-term plan for sending Jesus?
2. How did Joseph respond to the angel's instructions, and what does that teach us about obedience?
3. What does the name "**Immanuel – God with us**" mean for you personally?

Discipleship Application

- **Trust God's timing.** Matthew 1 shows God works through generations. You can trust His timing in your own life.
- **Choose obedience even when it's uncomfortable.** Joseph models courage and humility.
- **Rest in the truth that Jesus is "God with you."** When you feel alone or uncertain, this promise is your foundation for spiritual growth.



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Chapter 2 - The Visit of the Wise Men & Flight to Egypt

Summary

Wise men from the East followed a God-given star to worship Jesus. King Herod, threatened by this news, tried to destroy Him. God protected Jesus by guiding Joseph to flee to Egypt, fulfilling prophecy.

Study Questions

1. Why do you think the wise men traveled so far just to worship Jesus?
2. What does Herod's reaction reveal about human pride compared to God's plans?
3. How do you see God's protection and guidance over Joseph and Jesus?

Discipleship Application

- **Seek Jesus with intention.** The wise men didn't let distance or difficulty stop them. Let your spiritual hunger drive you toward Jesus daily.
- **Discern spiritual threats.** Not everyone who talks about God honors Him. Be grounded in Scripture.
- **Follow God's direction promptly.** Like Joseph, believers grow through responsiveness to God's voice.



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Chapter 3 - John the Baptist & the Baptism of Jesus

Summary

John the Baptist prepares the way for Jesus by calling people to repent and be baptized. Jesus Himself is baptized—not because He sinned, but to fulfill righteousness and begin His ministry. God affirms Jesus as His beloved Son.

Study Questions

1. What does John mean by calling people to “repent”?
2. Why do you think Jesus chose to be baptized even though He was without sin?
3. What does God’s voice at Jesus' baptism teach you about His identity?

Discipleship Application

- **Practice repentance as a lifestyle.** It’s not just feeling sorry—it’s turning your life toward God.
- **Embrace baptism.** If you haven't been baptized, this is an important next step of obedience.
- **Anchor your identity in God’s love.** Before Jesus performed one miracle, the Father declared His delight in Him. As a believer, God delights in you too.



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Chapter 4 - The Temptation of Jesus & the Start of His Ministry

Summary

Before beginning His public ministry, Jesus is tempted by Satan in the wilderness. He responds to every temptation with Scripture. Afterward, Jesus begins preaching, calls His first disciples, and starts healing and teaching.

Study Questions

1. How did Jesus respond to temptation, and what does that teach you about spiritual battles?
2. Why is Scripture so powerful in resisting sin and lies?
3. What does Jesus' calling of the first disciples show about following Him?

Discipleship Application

- **Use Scripture as your weapon.** Spiritual warfare is real; memorizing verses strengthens you.
- **Follow Jesus immediately.** The disciples dropped their nets without delay; discipleship requires responsiveness.
- **Serve others.** Jesus healed, taught, and cared for people. Following Him means joining His work.



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Matthew 5 - The Beatitudes & Jesus' Teaching on Kingdom Living

Summary

Jesus begins the Sermon on the Mount by teaching what a blessed life looks like in God's kingdom. He explains attitudes of the heart—humility, mercy, purity, and peacemaking. He also teaches on anger, lust, honesty, loving enemies, and living in a way that reflects God's character.

Study Questions

1. Which Beatitude stands out to you, and why do you think Jesus calls that person “blessed”?
2. What does Jesus mean when He says believers are “the light of the world”?
3. How does Jesus raise the standard from outward obedience to inner transformation?

Discipleship Application

- **Pursue kingdom character.** Let the Beatitudes shape your attitude, reactions, and relationships.
- **Shine intentionally.** Choose actions that point others toward Jesus—kindness, forgiveness, integrity.
- **Let Jesus transform your heart.** Following Him is more than behavior; it's about allowing the Holy Spirit to change your inner life.



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Matthew 6 - Prayer, Trust, and Kingdom Priorities

Summary

Jesus teaches believers how to give quietly, pray sincerely, and trust God deeply. He shares the Lord's Prayer as a model. He reminds us not to worry about life's needs but to seek first God's kingdom, trusting Him to provide.

Study Questions

1. What part of the Lord's Prayer speaks to you most, and why?
2. Why do you think Jesus teaches us not to worry?
3. What does "seek first the kingdom of God" look like in your daily life?

Discipleship Application

- **Practice daily prayer.** Pray simply, sincerely, and regularly—God wants relationship.
- **Let go of worry.** When anxiety rises, turn to Scripture and prayer instead of fear.
- **Live with eternal priorities.** The way you spend your time, energy, and resources should reflect God's kingdom first.



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Matthew 7 - Judging, Asking, and the Wise Foundation

Summary

Jesus warns against hypocritical judgment, encourages persistent prayer, and teaches the Golden Rule. He urges people to choose the narrow path of obedience and build their lives on His words like a wise builder who builds on rock.

Study Questions

1. What is the difference between judging others and discerning wisely?
2. What does Jesus promise to those who ask, seek, and knock?
3. What does it mean to build your life on the Rock of Jesus' teachings?

Discipleship Application

- **Examine your heart before correcting others.** Humility is essential for spiritual growth.
- **Pray boldly and consistently.** God is a good Father who welcomes your requests.
- **Build daily habits of obedience.** Read Scripture, practice what Jesus teaches, and stand firm during trials.



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Matthew 8 - Jesus' Authority Over Sickness, Storms, and Spirits

Summary

Jesus heals a man with leprosy, the centurion's servant, Peter's mother-in-law, and many others. He calms a storm, showing authority over nature, and frees two men tormented by demons. Matthew reveals that Jesus is Lord over every realm—physical, spiritual, and natural.

Study Questions

1. What does the centurion's faith teach you about trusting Jesus' authority?
2. How does Jesus respond to fear when the disciples panic during the storm?
3. What do these miracles show you about who Jesus truly is?

Discipleship Application

- **Practice real faith.** Believe that Jesus can work in every situation, big or small.
- **Give your fears to Him.** Invite Jesus into the “storms” in your life and learn to rest in His power.
- **Recognize His authority.** Let His Lordship shape how you live, pray, and make decisions.



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Matthew 9 - Jesus' Compassion and the Call to Follow

Summary

Jesus forgives and heals a paralyzed man, calls Matthew the tax collector, raises a dead girl, heals a bleeding woman, restores sight to the blind, and frees a mute man. Throughout the chapter, Jesus is moved with compassion for people who are lost and hurting.

Study Questions

1. Why is it significant that Jesus not only heals the paralyzed man but forgives his sins?
2. What stands out to you about Jesus calling Matthew, a tax collector?
3. What does Jesus mean when He says the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few?

Discipleship Application

- **Remember that Jesus came for sinners.** No one is too far gone for His mercy—including you.
- **Follow Him fully.** Like Matthew, be willing to leave anything behind that keeps you from Jesus.
- **Join the mission.** Pray for God to use you to share the Gospel, serve others, and show compassion.



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Matthew 10 - Jesus Sends Out the Twelve

Summary

Jesus gives His disciples authority to heal, preach, and cast out demons. He sends them out with instructions to trust God for their needs and warns them they will face opposition. He encourages them not to fear, reminding them that God cares deeply for them.

Study Questions

1. Why does Jesus tell the disciples not to be afraid even though they will face persecution?
2. How does Jesus want His followers to depend on God when serving Him?
3. What does it mean to put Jesus first—even above family or comfort?

Discipleship Application

- **Expect both open doors and opposition.** Following Jesus brings joy, but also challenges.
- **Trust God's provision.** Serve God without fear of lack—He knows your needs.

- **Put Christ at the center.** True discipleship means placing Jesus above every competing loyalty.



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Matthew 11 - Jesus' Invitation to the Weary

Summary

John the Baptist, in prison, sends his disciples to ask if Jesus is the promised Messiah. Jesus affirms His identity through His works. He then invites those who are weary and burdened to come to Him for rest, offering a gentle and humble yoke.

Study Questions

1. Why do you think John the Baptist began to doubt, and how does Jesus respond?
2. What does Jesus say to people who are tired, discouraged, or weighed down?
3. What does it mean to take Jesus' "yoke" upon you?

Discipleship Application

- **Bring your doubts to Jesus.** He does not reject honest questions.
- **Receive His rest.** Spiritual rest comes from trusting Him, not from trying to earn God's approval.
- **Walk closely with Him.** A yoke connects two together—discipleship means daily connection with Jesus.



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Matthew 12 - Lord of the Sabbath, True Authority, and the Heart

Summary

Religious leaders criticize Jesus for healing on the Sabbath. Jesus teaches that mercy is greater than ritual. He displays authority over evil spirits and warns against speaking against the Holy Spirit. He explains that true belonging to God comes from doing the Father's will.

Study Questions

1. Why does Jesus emphasize mercy over rigid rules?
2. How do Jesus' miracles reveal His true identity?
3. What does Jesus say about the condition of the heart and our words?

Discipleship Application

- **Practice mercy.** Let compassion guide your actions more than rules or tradition.
- **Recognize His authority.** Jesus is Lord over all—keep your faith rooted in His power.
- **Guard your heart.** Words flow from the heart; let the Spirit shape your thoughts and attitudes.



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Matthew 13 - Parables of the Kingdom

Summary

Jesus teaches in parables—stories with deep spiritual meaning. He shares the parable of the sower, the weeds, the mustard seed, the hidden treasure, and the pearl. These teachings show how God's kingdom grows, how people respond to God's Word, and how valuable the kingdom truly is.

Study Questions

1. Which type of soil in the parable of the sower do you most relate to right now—and why?
2. Why does Jesus compare the kingdom to hidden treasure and a priceless pearl?
3. What does Jesus teach about the reality of spiritual opposition (weeds among wheat)?

Discipleship Application

- **Cultivate good soil.** Spend time in God's Word so your faith grows deep roots.
- **Treasure the kingdom.** Following Jesus is worth more than anything you could gain in this world.
- **Stay faithful despite opposition.** God is patient, and He will ultimately bring justice.



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Matthew 14 - Faith, Fear, and the Compassion of Jesus

Summary

John the Baptist is killed, and Jesus withdraws to pray. Yet when crowds follow Him, He has compassion and feeds over 5,000 people. Later that night, Jesus walks on water, and Peter briefly walks with Him until fear overwhelms him. Jesus rescues him and calms the storm.

Study Questions

1. What does Jesus' reaction to the crowds teach you about His compassion?
2. Why does Peter start to sink even though he was walking toward Jesus?
3. What does this chapter teach you about bringing your fear to Jesus?

Discipleship Application

- **Show compassion even when tired.** Jesus models serving from a heart of love.
- **Keep your eyes on Him.** Fear grows when we focus on the storm instead of the Savior.
- **Bring everything to Jesus.** He reaches out immediately when we cry out in weakness or fear.



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Matthew 15 - True Purity & Persistent Faith

Summary

Religious leaders confront Jesus about handwashing traditions. Jesus teaches that true purity comes from the heart, not rituals. A Canaanite woman persistently seeks healing for her daughter, demonstrating great faith. Jesus also feeds 4,000 people with just a few loaves and fish.

Study Questions

1. Why does Jesus teach that purity is about what comes from the heart not ,outward rituals?
2. What stands out to you about the Canaanite woman's persistence and faith?
3. What does the miracle of feeding thousands reveal about Jesus' compassion and power?

Discipleship Application

- **Guard your heart more than your image.** Real transformation begins internally.
- **Pray with persistence.** Don't give up when answers seem slow—faith endures.
- **Trust His provision.** Jesus can multiply even the little you have when it's surrendered to Him.



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Matthew 16 - Revelation, the Cross, and True Discipleship

Summary

Peter boldly declares that Jesus is the Messiah. Jesus explains that this revelation came from God. He then teaches the disciples about His coming death and resurrection. Jesus explains that following Him means denying oneself, taking up the cross, and living for eternity.

Study Questions

1. Why is Peter's confession of Jesus as the Messiah so important?
2. What does Jesus mean when He says we must "take up our cross"?
3. How does Jesus challenge our priorities when He talks about gaining the world but losing the soul?

Discipleship Application

- **Build your faith on revelation from God.** Seek to know Jesus deeply, not just intellectually
- **Embrace sacrificial discipleship.** Following Jesus means surrendering your plans to His leadership
- **Live with eternity in mind.** Your soul is more valuable than anything the world can offer.



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Matthew 17 - The Transfiguration, Faith, and Jesus' Authority

Summary

Jesus takes Peter, James, and John to a mountain where He is transfigured—His glory shines, and Moses and Elijah appear. Jesus heals a boy after the disciples could not, teaching them about faith. He also speaks again about His death and resurrection.

Study Questions

1. What does the Transfiguration reveal about who Jesus truly is?
2. Why were the disciples unable to heal the boy, and what does Jesus teach about faith?
3. How does Jesus' repeated prediction of His death show His purpose and mission?

Discipleship Application

- **Fix your eyes on Jesus' glory.** When you see Him clearly, your faith grows.
- **Strengthen your faith through prayer.** Spiritual power comes from staying connected to Him.
- **Remember His mission.** Jesus intentionally went to the cross for you—let gratitude shape your life.



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Matthew 18 - Humility, Forgiveness, and Kingdom Relationships

Summary

Jesus teaches about humility, comparing greatness in the kingdom to a childlike heart. He warns against causing others to stumble and shares the parable of the lost sheep. Jesus also teaches believers how to resolve conflict and commands radical forgiveness—seventy times seven.

Study Questions

1. Why does Jesus say we must become like children to enter the kingdom?
2. What does the parable of the lost sheep show you about God's heart for the lost?
3. Why is forgiveness essential in the life of a believer?

Discipleship Application

- **Choose humility daily.** True greatness is found in lowliness, gentleness, and trust.
- **Care for the “one.”** Seek out people who feel forgotten, just as Jesus does.
- **Practice continual forgiveness.** Grace received must become grace given.



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Matthew 19 - Marriage, Children, Wealth, and Following Jesus

Summary

Jesus teaches about God's design for marriage. He welcomes little children, saying the kingdom belongs to such as them. A rich young man asks how to gain eternal life but walks away sad because he won't give up his wealth. Jesus teaches that salvation is impossible without God's power.

Study Questions

1. What does Jesus' teaching on children reveal about the heart posture God desires?
2. Why does the rich young ruler struggle to follow Jesus?
3. What does Jesus mean when He says "with God all things are possible"?

Discipleship Application

- **Come to Jesus with childlike trust.** Simplicity, openness, and humility lead to spiritual growth.
- **Surrender your idols.** Anything you cling to more than Jesus must be laid down.
- **Rely on God's power.** Salvation and transformation are God's work—not human effort.



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Matthew 20 - The Upside-Down Kingdom & Servant Leadership

Summary

Jesus tells a parable showing that God's generosity does not operate by human fairness. He predicts His death again. The mother of James and John asks for her sons to have special places, and Jesus teaches that greatness in His kingdom comes through serving. Jesus heals two blind men who call out to Him with persistent faith.

Study Questions

1. What does the parable of the workers in the vineyard teach about God's generosity?
2. Why does Jesus say that true greatness comes from being a servant?
3. What stands out to you about the faith and persistence of the blind men?

Discipleship Application

- **Embrace God's generosity.** He gives grace freely—not based on performance.
- **Choose servant leadership.** Look for ways to serve others in humility.
- **Persist in faith.** Call out to Jesus boldly, even when others overlook or silence you.



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Matthew 21 - The King Arrives & Confronts Unbelief

Summary

Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey as the promised King. He cleanses the temple, showing His zeal for true worship. He teaches through parables about Israel's unbelief and warns religious leaders who reject Him. He also teaches about praying with faith and bearing spiritual fruit.

Study Questions

1. What does Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey reveal about His mission?
2. Why is Jesus so passionate about cleansing the temple?
3. How does Jesus describe the importance of faith and fruitfulness?

Discipleship Application

- **Receive Jesus as King.** Surrender every area of your life to His leadership.
- **Honor God with pure worship.** Keep your heart free from distractions and corruption.
- **Grow in faith that produces fruit.** Let your life reflect love, obedience, and trust.



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Gospel of Matthew

Matthew 22 - Kingdom Invitations, Loving God, and Jesus' Authority

Summary

Jesus tells a parable about a king inviting guests to a wedding banquet—symbolizing God inviting people into His kingdom. Religious leaders try to trap Jesus with questions, but He answers with wisdom. Jesus summarizes the entire law with two commands: love God and love your neighbor.

Study Questions

1. What does the wedding banquet parable reveal about God's invitation to salvation?
2. How does Jesus answer the question about the "greatest commandment"?
3. What does this chapter show about Jesus' wisdom and authority?

Discipleship Application

- **Respond to God's invitation.** Salvation is a gift, receive it fully and joyfully.
- **Make love your foundation.** Every act of discipleship flows from loving God and others.
- **Trust Jesus' wisdom.** When faced with confusion or pressure, follow His teachings.



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Matthew 23 - Woes to Hypocrisy & the Call to Authentic Faith

Summary

Jesus warns against the hypocrisy of the religious leaders. He calls them out for outward show without inward truth. He urges His followers to pursue humility, sincerity, and justice. Jesus laments over Jerusalem's refusal to receive Him.

Study Questions

1. What is the difference between outward religion and inward transformation?
2. Why is Jesus so firm in confronting hypocrisy?
3. What does Jesus' sorrow over Jerusalem tell you about His heart?

Discipleship Application

- **Seek authenticity.** Let your faith be genuine—not for appearance, but for God.
- **Pursue humility.** Jesus warns against pride; discipleship begins low and grows deep.
- **Receive His compassion.** Even when people reject Him, Jesus longs to gather and restore.



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Matthew 24 - Signs of the End & Staying Faithful

Summary

Jesus teaches His disciples about future events: the destruction of the temple, increased deception, persecution, and gospel proclamation worldwide. He warns believers to stay alert and faithful, comparing His return to a thief in the night—unexpected but certain.

Study Questions

1. What warnings does Jesus give about deception and remaining watchful?
2. How should believers respond during difficult or confusing times?
3. Why is Jesus' teaching about His return meant to motivate faithfulness, not fear?

Discipleship Application

- **Stay spiritually awake.** Keep your heart anchored in Scripture, truth, and prayer.
- **Persevere through trials.** Hard times do not mean Jesus is absent, He is preparing you.
- **Live ready.** Let every day reflect hope, obedience, and a desire to honor Christ.



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Matthew 25 - Readiness, Faithfulness, and True Compassion

Summary

Jesus teaches three powerful lessons about the end times:

- **The Parable of the Ten Virgins** — be spiritually ready for His return.
- **The Parable of the Talents** — be faithful with what God has given you.
- **The Sheep and the Goats** — true followers show compassion to “the least of these.”

Study Questions

1. What does the parable of the ten virgins teach about spiritual readiness?
2. How does the parable of the talents challenge you to use what God has given you?
3. What does Jesus mean when He says serving “the least of these” is serving Him

Discipleship Application

- **Live ready.** Keep your walk with God active, intentional, and expectant.
- **Use your gifts.** God has entrusted you with abilities, time, and resources. Invest them for His kingdom.
- **Serve with compassion.** Look for ways to love the overlooked, hurting, and vulnerable.



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Matthew 26 - Betrayal, Surrender, and Jesus' Love in Suffering

Summary

The religious leaders plot to kill Jesus. A woman anoints Him with costly perfume. Jesus celebrates the Last Supper with His disciples, predicting His betrayal. In Gethsemane, Jesus prays in deep agony yet fully submits to the Father's will. Judas betrays Jesus, and He is arrested and put on trial.

Study Questions

1. What stands out to you about the woman who poured perfume on Jesus?
2. What does Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane reveal about surrender?
3. Why do you think Peter denied Jesus even though he loved Him?

Discipleship Application

- **Give Jesus your best.** Worship is costly, but He is worthy.
- **Practice surrender.** Pray like Jesus: "Not my will, but Yours be done."
- **Rely on the Spirit, not your strength.** Human courage is fragile—depend on God daily.



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Matthew 27 -The Crucifixion: Jesus' Sacrifice for Us

Summary

Jesus is condemned, mocked, beaten, and crucified. Even in suffering, He fulfills prophecy. On the cross, He bears our sin, cries out to the Father, and dies. The temple curtain tears—signifying restored access to God. Jesus is buried in a sealed tomb.

Study Questions

1. What does Jesus' silence before His accusers show about His purpose?
2. Why is the tearing of the temple curtain so important for believers today?
3. How does the crucifixion demonstrate God's love for you personally?

Discipleship Application

- **Remember the cost of your salvation.** Let gratitude shape your life and worship.
- **Live in the freedom Jesus purchased.** You have direct access to God-walk boldly in grace.
- **Carry the cross daily.** Follow Jesus with humility, courage, and self-sacrifice.



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Matthew 28 - The Resurrection & The Great Commission

Summary

Jesus rises from the dead. The angel announces, “He is not here; He is risen!” Jesus appears to the women, to His disciples, and gives the Great Commission—to go into all the world making disciples. He promises, “I am with you always.”

Study Questions

1. Why is the resurrection the foundation of the Christian faith?
2. What stands out to you about Jesus appearing first to the women?
3. What does the Great Commission mean for your personal walk with Christ?

Discipleship Application

- **Live with resurrection hope.** Nothing is impossible for God-Jesus conquered death.
- **Share the Good News.** Your life is meant to point others to Jesus.
- **Walk in His presence.** His promise “I am with you always” empowers every step of your discipleship journey.



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