

Study Guide on Matthew

by Dr. Manford George Gutzke

This study guide is designed to lead into a better grasp and a deeper understanding of the Gospel of Matthew.

Because the text itself is part of the Holy Scriptures, which are taken to be the only authority, and the student is the one to whom the Word of God is sent, the questions are arranged to lead into the study of what was written, and to challenge the student to reflect on the obvious meaning. Thus this guide is deliberately designed for personal use with the Scripture alone, and for personal reflection upon what has been written.

This study guide would be suitable for use in group study. You are encouraged to have a neighborhood Bible study group in your home. It can also serve as a useful aid in a Church Bible Class.

Other Aids

"Plain Talk On Matthew" has been prepared for the student. This study guide shows page numbers in parenthesis with some of the questions. These references are to pages in "Plain Talk On Matthew."

Some Suggestions

- Pray expectantly before you begin study, whether alone or "in a group".
- Read the passage to be studied more than once. Ask yourself -- What does this passage say? What does it mean to believers? What does it mean to me, personally?
- Try to let God speak to you through His Word. Use commentaries only after you have studied the passage in the text, and have noted what it seems to say to you. Do not read out of the commentaries to the group -- read the Bible.
- In group study start on time, and stick to the passage being studied. Ask for and expect God's Blessing.
- End on time. Announce time of next meeting. Close with prayer.

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I THE BIRTH OF THE KING

(Gospel of Matthew, Chapters 1-2; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 9-20).

1. Where can a person find factual data about Jesus Christ? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 9-10a).

2. What basic ideas must a person accept to be able to understand the recorded data about Jesus Christ? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 10b-12).

3. Why are there four Gospels? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 12-13)

4. What does the genealogy tell about Jesus of Nazareth? (Matthew 1:1-17; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 14-15)
5. What are some of the implications of the Virgin Birth? (Matthew 1:18-25; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 16-17).
6. What do we know about the Wise Men? (Matthew 2:1-12; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 18-19).
7. What did Herod try to do to Jesus of Nazareth? (Matthew 2:13-23; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 19-20).



II PREPARATION FOR THE KING

(Gospel of Matthew Chapters 3-4; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 21-34).

1. What are the two judgments a person must make to be ready to accept the salvation that is in Christ Jesus? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 21-23a).
2. What do you know about John the Baptist? (Matthew 3:1-6; Plain Talk on Matthew pp. 23b-25).
3. What does it mean to repent? (Matthew 3:7-12; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 26-28a).
4. What happened when Jesus of Nazareth came to be baptized? (Matthew 3:13-17; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 28b-30a).
5. What happened when Jesus of Nazareth was tempted in the desert? (Matthew 4:1-11; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 30b-32).
6. Why did Jesus of Nazareth call disciples? (Matthew 4:12-25; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 33-34)

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III THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

(Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 5; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 35-47).

1. What is the law of God? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 35-37).
2. What is meant by the Beatitudes? (Matthew 5:1-12; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 38-40a).
3. Why should the people of God act out their beliefs? (Matthew 5:13-16; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 40b-41).
4. When would a person's righteousness exceed that of the scribes and Pharisees? (Matthew 5:17-26; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 42-43a).
5. What does it mean to say God looks on the heart? (Matthew 5:27-37; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 43b-44).
6. How did Jesus of Nazareth teach that true godliness goes beyond the requirements of the law? (Matthew 5:38-48; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 45-47).

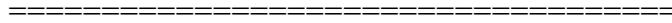
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IV SINCERE TRUST IN GOD IS REQUIRED

(Gospel of Matthew Chapter 6; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 48-57).

1. What are the three "first" things required? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 48-49).
2. Whom should we seek to please when we help the poor? (Matthew 6:1-4; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 50-61a).
3. What is the essential characteristic of true prayer? (Matthew 6:5-15; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 61b-53a).

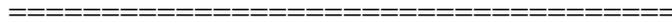
4. What is meant by fasting? (Matthew 6:16-18; Plain Talk On Matthew 53b-64a).
5. How can one truly lay up treasure? (Matthew 6:19-23; Plain Talk On Matthew 54b-56a).
6. How can one escape from worry? (Matthew 6:24-34; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 56b-57).



V THE BASIC REQUIREMENT TO PLEASE GOD

(Gospel of Matthew Chapter 7; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 58-67).

1. What seems to be the principle requirement God makes? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 58-59a).
2. What does "judge not" mean? (Matthew 7:1-6; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 59b-61a)
3. How should a person pray to get results? (Matthew 7:7-12; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 61b-62).
4. What is the danger in being broad-minded? (Matthew 7:13-14; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 63-64a).
5. What is the real proof of genuineness in a preacher or teacher? (Matthew 7:15-20; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 64b-66a).
6. How can a person be sure that a professing believer is trustworthy? (Matthew 7:21-29; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 66b-67).



VI JESUS OF NAZARETH BEGINS HIS PUBLIC MINISTRY

(Gospel of Matthew, 8:1-9:13; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 68-77).

1. How did Jesus of Nazareth show His power? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 68-69a).

2. How did Jesus of Nazareth show His purpose? (Matthew 8:1-17; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 69b-71a).
3. How did Jesus of Nazareth show that He was the Lord? (Matthew 8:18-27; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 71b-73a).
4. How did Jesus of Nazareth deal with demons? (Matthew 8:24-34; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 73b-74a).
5. How did Jesus of Nazareth deal with a sick man? (Matthew 9:1-8; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 74b-75a).
6. Why did Jesus of Nazareth associate with sinners? (Matthew 9:9-13; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 75b-77).

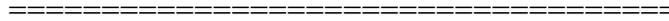


VII JESUS OF NAZARETH DEMONSTRATES THE POWER OF GOD

(Gospel of Matthew 9:14-38; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 78-86).

1. Why did Jesus of Nazareth do the miracles? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 77-80a).
2. How did Jesus of Nazareth emphasize that His work was more than an improvement on what others might do? (Matthew 9:14-17; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 80b-82a).
3. How did Jesus of Nazareth show that God had authority over the natural processes? (Matthew 9:18-19, 23-26; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 82b-83a)
4. How did Jesus of Nazareth show that nothing is impossible for God to do? (Matthew 9:20-22; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 83b-84a)
5. How did Jesus of Nazareth show that God is able to heal the sick and the diseased? (Matthew 9:27-35; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 84b-85a)

6. What did Jesus of Nazareth command believers to do about getting the help of God to the needy? (Matthew 9:36-38; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 85b-86).



VIII ON BEING A SERVANT

(Gospel of Matthew 10:1-11:19; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 87-96).

1. What does it mean to be a servant of Christ? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 87-89a).
2. What were the servants of Christ commissioned to do? (Matthew 10:1-15; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 89b-90a).
3. What sort of opposition did the servants of Christ face? (Matthew 10:16-31; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 90b-92a).
4. How did the servants challenge all men? (Matthew 10:32-42; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 92b-93a).
5. What were to be marks of the King? (Matthew 11:1-6; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 93b-95a).
6. What reward can a servant expect in this world? (Matthew 11:7-19; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 95b-96).



IX OPPOSITION TO THE COMING KING

(Gospel of Matthew 11:20-12:30; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 97-106).

1. How did Jesus of Nazareth respond to the opposition He met? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 97-99a).
2. How did Jesus of Nazareth feel about persons who professed to belong to God? (Matthew 11: 20-27; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 99b-100a).

3. What did Jesus of Nazareth promise to any weary soul that came to Him for help? (Matthew 11:28-30; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 100b-101).
4. Why did the Pharisees criticize the disciples of Christ in the cornfield? (Matthew 12:1-9; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 102-103a).
5. Why did the Pharisees criticize Jesus of Nazareth when He healed the withered hand of the man? (Matthew 12:10-21; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 103b-104).
6. How did Jesus of Nazareth show that He was not working in league with Satan? (Matthew 12:22-30; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 105-106).



X THE MASTER TEACHER

(Gospel of Matthew 12:31-13:43; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 107-116).

1. How did Jesus of Nazareth teach? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 107-109a).
2. What is the sin against the Spirit? (Matthew 12:31-37; Plain Talk On Matthew 109b-110a).
3. What is the sign of Jonah? (Matthew 12:38-46; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 110b-111).
4. How did Jesus of Nazareth deal with natural and spiritual relationships? (Matthew 12:46-50; Plain Talk On Matthew p. 112).
5. What did the parable of the Sower and the Seed show? (Matthew 13:1-23; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 113-115a)
6. What did the parable of the Wheat and the Tares show? (Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 115b-116).

XI OBEDIENCE IN FAITH

(Gospel of Matthew 13:31-14:21; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 117-125).

1. What is the nature of unbelief? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 117-118a).
2. How are parables related to faith? (Matthew 13:31-35, 44-46; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 118b-120a).
3. What is the lesson in the parable of the Net? (Matthew 13:47-52; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 120b-121a).
4. How great is the power of unbelief? (Matthew 13:53-68; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 121b-122a).
5. What is the sad lesson of the case of Herod the tetrarch? (Matthew 14:1-12; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 122b-123).
6. What lessons can be learned from the Feeding of the Five Thousand? (Matthew 14:13-21; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 124-125)

XII DEMONSTRATING THE POWER OF GOD

(Gospel of Matthew 14:22-15:39; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 126-136).

1. How does the Bible report the power of God? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 126-128a).
2. What lessons can be learned from Peter walking on the water? (Matthew 14:22-36; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 128b-130a).
3. What truth about God discourages hypocrisy? (Matthew 15:1-9; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 130b-131a).

4. How did Jesus of Nazareth deal with the criticism which found fault with His disciples for eating with unwashed hands? (Matthew 15:10-20; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 131b-132).

5. How did the woman of Canaan show her faith in the Lord Jesus? (Matthew 15:21-31; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 133-134a).

6. What lessons are demonstrated in the feeding of the 4,000? (Matthew 15:32-39; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 134b-136).

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XIII THE KING REVEALS HIMSELF

(Gospel of Matthew Chapters 16-17; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 137-151).

1. What does the word "church" mean (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 137-138a).

2. What was the error in the doctrine of the Pharisees and the Sadducees (respectively)? (Matthew 16:1-12; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 138b-140a).

3. What is the basic conviction about Jesus Christ in the heart of a believer? (Matthew 16:13-16; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 140b-142a).

4. What qualifies a person to be a member of the church? (Matthew 16:17-20; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 142b-143).

5. What experience in living can a person expect who has chosen to follow the Lord? (Matthew 16:21-28; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 144-145a).

6. What happened to Jesus Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration? (Matthew 17:1-13; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 145b-147a).

7. Why could the disciples not deliver the afflicted son? (Matthew 17:14-21; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 147b-149a).

8. What is the right attitude for a Christian toward civil government? (Matthew 17:22-27; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 149b-151).

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XIV CONDUCT OF A BELIEVER

(Gospel of Matthew Chapter 18; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 152-158).

1. What is the outstanding characteristic of one who is in Christ? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 152-153a).
2. Who is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven? (Matthew 18:1-9; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 153b-155a).
3. What should one do to promote the will of God among other persons? (Matthew 18:10-20; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 155b-156a).
4. What should one do when he suffers wrongs (Matthew 18:21-35; Plain Talk On Matthew 156b-158)

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XV LIVING IN THE KINGDOM WILL BE DIFFERENT

(Gospel of Matthew 19:1-20:28; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 159-168).

1. What is the basic attitude toward self a believer will be led to adopt? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 159-160a)
2. What did Jesus of Nazareth teach about divorce? (Matthew 19:1-12; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 160b-161)
3. Should little children be encouraged to turn to the Lord? (Matthew 19:13-16; Plain Talk On Matthew p. 162a).
4. What is eternal life? (Matthew 19:16-22; Plain Talk On Matthew 162b-164a).

5. What must a person do with his advantages? (Matthew 19:23-30; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 164b-165a).
6. What lesson does the parable of the Vineyard teach? (Matthew 20:1-16; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 165b-166)
7. What is the secret of being great in the Lord? (Matthew 20:17-28; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 167-168).

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XVI THE KING COMES TO JERUSALEM

(Gospel of Matthew 20:29-21:22; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 169-176).

1. How did Jesus of Nazareth show His authority when He came to Jerusalem in the triumphal entry? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 169-170a).
2. Point out the important aspects in the healing of the three blind men. (Matthew 20:29-34; Plain Talk on Matthew pp. 170b-171)
3. How did the triumphal entry show the power of Christ? (Matthew 21:1-11; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 172-173a).
4. Why did Jesus of Nazareth put the moneychangers out of the temple? (Matthew 21:12-16; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 173b-175a).
5. What does the cursing of the fig tree predict? (Matthew 21:17-22; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 175b-176).

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XVII JESUS OF NAZARETH FACES HIS ENEMIES

(Gospel of Matthew 21:23-22:14; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 177-185).

1. How did Jesus of Nazareth understand His enemies? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 177-178a).

2. Why did Jesus of Nazareth refuse to answer when questioned as to His authority? (Matthew 21:23-27; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 178b-179a).
3. Why was the first son in the parable preferred above the second? (Matthew 21:28-32; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 179b-180).
4. How did the parable of the vineyard reveal the truth about the chief priests and the Pharisees? (Matthew 21:33-46; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 181-182a).
5. How does the parable of the wedding feast reveal the course of Gospel history? (Matthew 22:1-10; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 182b-183).
6. What is the significance of the wedding garment? (Matthew 22:11-14; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 184-185)

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XVIII FOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT LIVING

(Gospel of Matthew 22:15-46; Plain Talk On Matthew pp 186-193).

1. Describe four significant attitudes toward living. (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 186-187a).
2. Should a child of God pay secular taxes? (Matthew 22:15-22; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 187b-189a).
3. What is necessary to be able to believe in the resurrection? (Matthew 22:23-33; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 189b-190a).
4. What are the two most important commandments? (Matthew 22:34-40; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 190b-191).
5. Whose Son is Christ? (Matthew 22:41-46; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 192-193)

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XIX THE RESPONSIBILITY OF LEADERS

(Gospel of Matthew 23; Plain Talk On Matthew. pp. 194-200).

1. What really makes a person a false teacher? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 194-196a).
2. What did Jesus of Nazareth find wrong about the scribes and Pharisees? (Matthew 23:1-12; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 195b-196a).
3. Why did Jesus of Nazareth accuse the scribes and Pharisees of being hypocrites? (Matthew 23:13-33; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 196b-198a).
4. Why were the prophets killed? (Matthew 23:34-39; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 198b-200).

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XX THE PLAN OF GOD FOR TOMORROW

(Gospel of Matthew Chapters 24-25; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 201-212).

1. What is known about the future of the world? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 201-203a).
2. What will happen before the end comes? (Matthew 24:1-14; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 203b-204).
3. What did Jesus of Nazareth predict about the natural world? (Matthew 24:15-41; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 205-206a).
4. What one thing should a servant of the Lord do about the coming of the Lord? (Matthew 24:42-61; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 206b-207a).
5. What lesson is revealed in the Foolish Virgins? (Matthew 25:1-13; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 208b-209a).

6. Why was the one talent servant judged to be wicked? (Matthew 25:14-30; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 209b-210a).

7. What was the real difference between the sheep and the goats? (Matthew 26:31-46; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 210b-211).

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XXI PREPARATION FOR THE END

(Gospel of Matthew 26:1-35; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 213-221).

1. What different attitudes were manifested by the disciples on their last night with Jesus of Nazareth? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 213-215a).

2. Why did Mary anoint Jesus of Nazareth? (Matthew 26:1-13; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 215b-216a).

3. Why did Judas Iscariot betray Jesus of Nazareth? (Matthew 26:14-16; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 216b-218a).

4. What can we learn from the reaction of the disciples to the announcement that one of them would betray their Lord? (Matthew 26:17-25; Plain Talk On Matthew 218b-219a).

5. How does the Last Supper demonstrate the significance of personal response to the Gospel? (Matthew 26:26-30; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 219b-220a).

6. How did the disciples respond when they were told they would all forsake their Lord? (Matthew 26:31-35; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 220b-221)

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XXII THE SON OF GOD ON TRIAL

(Gospel of Matthew 26:36-75; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 222-230).

1. Why was Jesus of Nazareth tried in both the Jewish court and the Roman court? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 222-224a).
2. What was the basic issue in the Garden of Gethsemane, (Matthew 26:36-46; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 224b-226a).
3. What did Peter not yet understand when Jesus of Nazareth was arrested? (Matthew 26:47-56; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 226b-227a)
4. On what charge was Jesus of Nazareth condemned in the High Priest's court? (Matthew 26:57-68; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 227b-229a).
5. How was the denial by Peter different from the betrayal by Judas? (Matthew 26:69-75; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 229b-230).

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XXIII CRUCIFIXION AND RESURRECTION

(Gospel of Matthew Chapters 27-28; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 231-245).

1. What happened at the trial of Jesus of Nazareth in Pilate's court? (Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 231-232).
2. What was the tragic aspect in the betrayal by Judas? (Matthew 27:1-10; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 233-234a).
3. How did the mob show their attitude toward Jesus of Nazareth? (Matthew 27:11-26; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 234b-236a).
4. Who actually crucified Jesus of Nazareth? (Matthew 27:27-38; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 236b-238a).
5. Who reviled and ridiculed Jesus of Nazareth? (Matthew 27:39-44; Plain Talk On Matthew 238b-239a).

6. What happened at the death of Jesus of Nazareth? (Matthew 27:45-53; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 239b-240a)

7. What happened after the death of Jesus of Nazareth? (Matthew 27:54-66; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 240b-242a).

8. What happened at the Resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth? (Matthew 28:1-10; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 242b-244a).

9. What did Jesus of Nazareth do when He had been raised from the dead? (Matthew 28:11-20; Plain Talk On Matthew pp. 244b-246).

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