

Brentwood Bible Fellowship
Reading thru the New Testament
2017

Week 16

The Gospel of Matthew
Matthew 8-12

Key Verse:

*"Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.
"Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU
WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS.
"For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."*

*Matthew 11:28-30
NAS Version*

April 17 - April 23

Monday - Matthew 8 Jesus demonstrates His power as Lord

Tuesday - Matthew 9 Jesus demonstrate His power as Lord
Matt. 9:36-38 Pray for harvesters

Wednesday - Matthew 10 The disciples commissioned and sent out to minister

Thursday - Matthew 11 John the Baptist identified – Jesus rejected by Jewish
cities – Call to come and rest

Friday - Matthew 12 Jewish leaders reject Jesus as Messiah

Saturday - Review

Sunday - Review

Questions and comments concerning the daily readings

Matthew 8-12

Week Sixteen

Matthew 8 - The healing of the leper

1. Matthew 8:1-4 What did you learn about the leper's faith?

How does the leper's faith teach us about what our prayer life should be like?

2. Matthew 8:5-12 What does the centurion's response to Jesus teach us concerning faith?

What prophecy did Jesus make concerning the gentiles? What was His prophecy concerning the Jews?

3. Matthew 8:14-17 What was the response of Peter's mother-in-law after Jesus had healed her?

What should be our response to our salvation, forgiveness of sin and answered prayer?

What did the preceding miraculous healings demonstrate about Jesus?

4. Matthew 8:18-22 What do we learn concerning the cost of discipleship from verses 18-22?

In verse 21, the man wanted to go home and bury his father. That sounds like an admirable thing to do, if only his father was dead, but he wasn't. The man was saying, when my father dies, then I will come and follow you. Most likely his father was healthy, and not dying.

Is there anything in your life or something you feel you must complete before you can give your life to follow or serve to Christ fully? What is it that might be holding you back?

5. Matthew 8:23-27 Jesus had shown that He had the power to heal people of their physical ailments. Now He demonstrates that he has power over the elements of nature.

How was His humanity evidenced in this passage?

Are you surprised at the rebuke He gave to His disciples?

Is there anything that you fear?

6. Matthew 8:28-34 Jesus demonstrated His power over the demonic forces.

Note: The demons acknowledged the Godhead.

Why did Jesus allow the demons to go out into the swine and then kill the swine?

Why did the townspeople implore Jesus to leave? Shouldn't they have been rejoicing that Jesus had delivered the two demon possessed individuals from their demonic possessions?

Matthew 9

1. Matthew 9:1-8 Jesus heals a paralytic.

Verse 1-2 Why did Jesus forgive the sins of the paralytic rather than healing him of his physical problem first?

What caused the scribes to accuse Jesus of blaspheme?

Jesus ultimately healed the man of his physical problems as well as forgiving his sin. What did the forgiveness and the healing prove concerning who Jesus was?

2. Matthew 9:9-13 The call of an IRS agent.

Why would the call of Matthew surprise or offend the Pharisees?

Explain the meaning of verses 12-13. How might the passage relate to how we relate to unbelievers and those who openly live a lifestyle opposed to what we would expect of a Christian?

What does it say about how to respond to the judgmental legalistic Christian?

3. Matthew 9:14-17 Jesus addressed the Jewish tradition of fasting.

How did the old garment and the old wineskins, used as illustrations by Jesus, relate to Jewish traditionalism?

Why wouldn't a new patch work on an old piece of material, or why wouldn't an old wineskin hold new wine?

Verses 18-19 What is so amazing about the faith of the synagogue official? What is just as amazing about Jesus following him?

Verses 20-22 What is special about the faith of the woman in this passage, which had not been evident in the faith of others who were healed by Jesus?

Verses 23-26 In these verses Jesus demonstrated that He had power over what?

4. Matthew 9:27-31 What did Jesus say was essential for the blind men to receive their sight?

The passage proved that Jesus had power over what?

Thinking of the healing of the blind men, what is essential for us to have if we expect answers to our prayers?

Note: In every situation there is a partnership between God's actions and man's responsibilities. Can you explain that statement? What did I mean?

5. Matthew 9:32-34 Verses 32-34 demonstrate that Jesus had power over who or what?

Why would the Pharisees say Jesus power to cast out demons came from Satan, or the ruler of the demons?

6. Matthew 9:35-38 This is a key passage.

Why do you think Jesus had compassion for the people? Is it, or how is it different for the American public today?

What was the issue in verses 37-38? What did Jesus instruct his disciples to pray for? Should we pray for the same thing today?

Note: If you pray for harvesters to go into the spiritual harvest field of spiritually lost people, what should you be willing to do? In Matthew 10, we will observe Jesus sending the very individuals he called to pray for harvesters in the harvest field to go themselves to the lost sheep of Israel. Not only were they to pray for harvesters, they were to become harvesters.

Matthew 10

1. Matthew 10:1-4 Jesus disciples named and given authority to minister.
2. Matthew 10:5-15 Instructions for ministry.

According to verses 5-6, why were the disciples instructed to only go to the Jews?

Verse 7 What is the meaning of the message, “the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Verse 8 What is the meaning of the phrase, “Freely you have received, freely give.”

Verses 9-10 Explain the meaning of the phrase “the worker is worthy of his support,” in that immediate context.

Jesus gave his disciples a number of principles for their ministry in verses 11-15. What principles stand out to you? Are they relevant for the ministry today? Why or why not?

3. Matthew 10:16-23

In verse 23, Jesus was apparently speaking of the ministry in the future. This would include the time up until his return.

Explain the meaning of verse 21 in relationship to the ministry.

List the areas, or social arenas, in which Christians may expect to be persecuted.

4. Matthew 10:24-39 The Meaning of discipleship.

Verses 24-25 If Christ, our teacher, was persecuted, can we expect anything less?

What is the primary message in verses 26-31?

What is the message of verse 28?

Who should we fear? Why?

Verses 32-37 Explain the messages of verses 32 -33.

To confess Christ would be to identify with Him,

Verses 34-36 What did Christ say might be the cost of following Him?

Verses 37 Explain what Christ meant in these verses. This is a tough call. How do you relate to it personally?

Verses 38-39 A disciple must be ready to deny life itself if it would become necessary.

Verses 40-42 To support the ministry of Christ is to receive the same reward as the minister.

The smallest act of love, to care for the least of the individuals, will be rewarded.

Matthew 11

1. Matthew 11:1-6 John the Baptist was Jesus second cousin on his mother's side. He had baptized Jesus in the Jordan river and had the honor of proclaiming, "Behold, The lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world."

Why do you think he sent his disciples to confirm that Jesus was the Messiah?

What answer did Jesus give them as a proof to take back to John showing that he truly was the long awaited one.

2. Matthew 11:7-15 Who did Jesus claim that John the Baptist was?

If John was so great, how could Jesus claim that the one who is least in the Kingdom of Heaven was greater than John?

Jesus said that John was the Elijah to come. (See Malachi 4:5)

Elijah was to return prior to the coming of the Messiah.

3. Matthew 11:16-19 John's and Jesus' ministry styles were exactly the opposite of each other, and yet they both were rejected by the Jews.

In time, the wisdom of both of them was justified.

What can we learn from the examples of John and Jesus as to what is the best way to share our faith.

4. Matthew 11:20-24 The guilty unrepentant cities of Galilee are here considered.

Why would Capernaum receive greater condemnation than Sodom?

It appears that some cities will be held and judged for a greater accountability than others. What is the basis for the stricter judgement? How might San Francisco or Brentwood be judged? Which might receive the stricter judgement? Why?

5. Matthew 11:25-27 The Father reveals His truth to the humble, not to those who are wise intellectuals, yet unwilling to receive His message.

Jesus is the only passage through whom we can know the Father. There is no other way.

6. Matthew 11:28-30 For those who are tired and worn out; tired of the ways of the world; Worn out from the overwhelming legalism; Christ gives a threefold invitation.
 1. Come – Come as you are, tired and worn out. Christ will give you relief. He will give you rest.
 2. Learn from me. Allow me to teach you and build you up.
 3. Serve with me – Take my yoke upon you, it is easy. I will bear the load with you.

Matthew 12

1. Matthew 12:1-8 The Jews made legalism and the Sabbath their God, but verse 8 says that Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath.

What is the problem according to the Pharisees?

What defense did Jesus give for his disciples to harvest and eat the grain on the Sabbath?

Showing mercy is more important in God's sight than keeping the legalist law.

2. Matthew 12:9-14 The Pharisees were not logical in their keeping of the Sabbatical laws.

How did it appear that the Pharisees were hypocritical in their view of keeping the Sabbath according to this passage?

What was Jesus' defense for healing the man with the withered hand?

3. Matthew 12:15-21 Jesus withdrew rather than escalate the impending conflict which would ultimately lead to His death.

His withdrawal also fulfilled Old Testament prophecy. It is amazing how God's plans always work according to His perfect timing. To us it just appears as the normal course of the day, yet looking back, if we are observant, we can see God's hand at work.

4. Matthew 12:22-30 What was the conflict between the crowd and the Pharisees?

What was Jesus defense against those (The Pharisees) who accused Him of casting out demons by the power of Satan?

If it was accepted that Jesus cast out demons by the power of God and not the power of Satan, what would the Pharisees have had to admit about Jesus?

5. Matthew 12:31-32 The Unpardonable Sin.

You may remember that we dealt with the Unpardonable Sin in the Book of Mark.

To reject Jesus was not the unpardonable sin in this passage.

To attribute the work of the Holy Spirit, in this case through Jesus, to Satan was the unpardonable sin. I believe this was the only context in which this specific sin could have taken place.

6. Matthew 12:33-37 Explain why what we say is so important according to verses 33-37.

What does a person's words/speech reveal about that person?

7. Matthew 12:38-42 Why did the Pharisees and scribes desire a sign from Christ? Hadn't Christ already performed sufficient signs/miracles for them to believe that He was the Messiah?

What was the sign of Jonah? Why was it significant? What did it have to do with Jesus?

8. Matthew 12:43-45 What was significant about Jesus teaching concerning the demon?

Can you think of any situation where the truth of this passage may be applied today? Maybe not specifically with a demon but with some other aspect of life.

9. Matthew 12:46-50 Was this a negative statement concerning Jesus family?

What was Jesus teaching the crowd that was listening to Him?

Which is more important: our physical family by natural birth, or our spiritual family by spiritual birth? What would have been Jesus answer? What would be your answer? How is it evidenced by the priorities of your activities?