

The Bible Community

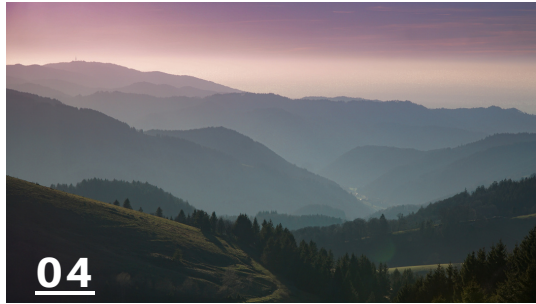
How to be Blessed | Let Your Light Shine | How to be Righteous | Dealing with Anger | Dealing with Lust | The Value of Words | Love Your Enemies | Giving Secretly | How to Pray | How to Fast | The Love of Money | Worry and Anxiety | Judging Others | Praying to Father God | Good and Bad Fruit | Put the Bible Into Practice

16 Bible studies on Matthew 5-7

Matthew 5-7

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THE BIBLE COMMUNITY



Introduction

IN MATTHEW CHAPTERS 5-7, JESUS TOOK HIS DISCIPLES UP A MOUNTAIN SIDE TO TEACH THEM. THIS PASSAGE IS OFTEN CALLED THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT.

Chapter five begins with the 'Beatitudes' and ends with the command to love our enemies.

Chapter six looks at money, giving, prayer, fasting and worry. Chapter seven contains parables about judging others, asking God for our needs, gates, fruit trees, and wise and foolish builders.

TOPICS COVERED

The sixteen Bible studies in this series look at the following topics: How to be Blessed; Let Your Light Shine; How to be Righteous; Dealing with Anger; Dealing with Lust; The Value of Words; Love Your Enemies; Giving secretly; How to Pray; How to Fast; The Love of Money; Worry and Anxiety; Judging Others; Praying to Father God; Good and Bad Fruit; Put the Bible Into Practice.

BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS

Each Bible study has four questions. The four questions follow a model based on the anagram READ.

1. Research

Look at the Bible text in more detail.

2. Explore

Look for themes throughout the Bible.

3. Apply

Look back at examples from your own life or those around you.

4. Do

Look forward to the future, and plan any changes you need to make.



Matthew 5:1-12

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

According to Jesus, what will make you blessed and bring you happiness?

What other things make us blessed according to the Bible? (See, for example — Psalm 1:1-3; 40:4; 41:1-3; 89:14-18; 94:12-15; 106:3; 112:1-2; 119:1-3)

What makes us happy according to the world? (Try searching online for the hashtag #blessed)

Which of the Beatitudes (“Blessed are you” sayings) do you struggle with the most? Ask God to show you how to be more like Jesus in this area.



Matthew 5:13-16

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

What does it mean to let your light shine before men?

Matthew 6:2-6 tells us to give and pray in secret. How can we let our light shine without becoming hypocrites?

Can you think of any examples of people who "shone a light" through their good deeds and brought others to Jesus?

What does God want you to do today to bring glory to him?



**HOW TO
BE RIGHTEOUS**

Matthew 5:17-20

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

The word righteous means free from guilt and sin. Do you think it is possible to have greater righteousness than the Pharisees? Can a person keep the law perfectly?

Read Romans 3:20-31. How can we receive a righteousness that surpasses that of the Pharisees?

Have you ever tried to live a perfect life in your own strength? How difficult did you find it? How long did you last before you slipped up?

Spend time alone with God. Talk to him honestly about the times you have failed him. Then accept the forgiveness and grace that God has given you through Jesus. Ask God to make you more like Jesus today.



Matthew 5:21-26

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

According to Jesus, how should we handle our anger?

Read Ephesians 4:26-27 and 4:31-5:2.
How can we be angry and yet not sin?
How do we change our inner attitudes?

Have you ever lost your temper? What were the consequences?

Ask God if there is anyone you need to forgive or apologise to. Ask him to give you the courage to take the first step.



Matthew 5:27-32

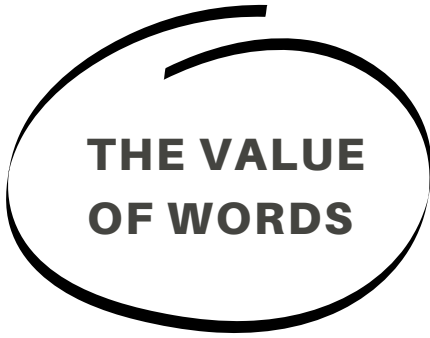
READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

How does Jesus advise us to act when we are tempted to lust after someone to whom we are not married?

Read the story of Joseph and Potiphar's wife in Genesis 39. How did Joseph resist temptation?

Have you ever been tempted to commit adultery or lust after someone you shouldn't? Where and when do you think people are most vulnerable to this type of temptation?

If you feel trapped in a cycle of lust or sexual sin, ask God for his forgiveness and help. Think about the times when you are most vulnerable to temptation. Before you are tempted again, make a plan listing how you will resist or run away.



Matthew 5:33-37

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

What value does Jesus put on our words? How do they reflect our inner character?

What happens when we swear falsely by God's name? Why does God place such importance on our oaths and vows? (See, for example — Leviticus 19:11-12; Numbers 30:2; Deuteronomy 23:21-23; James 5:12)

Have you ever made a vow to God, or another person, that you haven't kept? Can you do something to put that right?

Read Psalm 141:3-4. Ask God to guard your lips so that the words coming from your mouth bring him praise.



Matthew 5:38-48

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

What does it mean to love our enemies? How does Jesus say we should show love to them?

Read Proverbs 25:21-22. How can we practically demonstrate love towards our enemies and what could be the outcome?

Has God ever prompted you to show love to someone who hated you? What happened?

Do you have any enemies at the moment? Ask God to help you love them.



Matthew 6:1-4

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

What is a hypocrite? To whom do you think Jesus was referring?

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-15. How should we give? What kind of attitude should we have towards giving money?

Has anyone ever given you something but then demanded praise for it in return? How did it make you feel?

Ask God if there is anything he wants you to give away. Do it, but don't tell other people about it.



Matthew 6:5-15

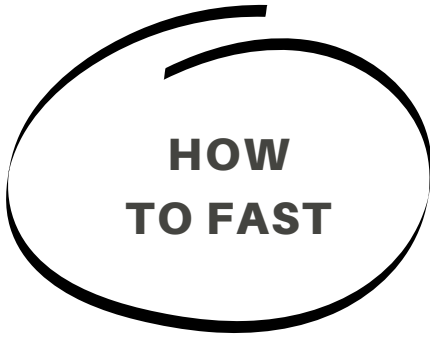
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How does Jesus teach us to pray and what should we pray about?

Are there any other examples in the Gospel accounts that show Jesus praying? (See, for example — Matthew 14:23; 19:13; 26:36-46) How important was prayer to Jesus?

Think about your own times of prayer. How do you pray? How often?

Think about the Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13. How can we pray like Jesus?



Matthew 6:16-18

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

What is the purpose of fasting?

Read Isaiah 58. What is true fasting?
How should fasting affect our actions?

Have you ever fasted from anything?
What challenges did you face?

Ask God if there is anything he wants
you to give up or give away today.



Matthew 6:19-24

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

How does money affect the way we think and act? How can money become our master?

What does the Bible say about generosity? (See, for example — Psalm 112:5; Proverbs 11:25; 22:9; 2 Corinthians 9:5-15; 1 Timothy 6:17-19)

Have you ever received a gift just when you needed it? How did you feel?

Ask God to show you how you can store up treasure in Heaven.



Matthew 6:25-34

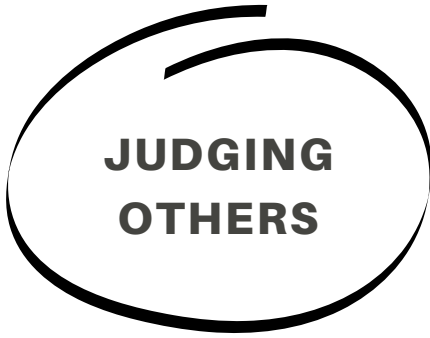
READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

The Greek word for worry can mean — to be anxious, to concern yourself with, or to have your thoughts occupied with. According to Jesus, what should be the focus of our thoughts?

Read Philippians 4:6-9. Instead of being anxious, what does Paul recommend we do?

What do you worry about the most?

Write down all your current worries. Pray over them and ask God to help you trust him. Make a list of everything you are grateful for and give thanks to God for each one.



Matthew 7:1-6

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

What lesson did Jesus want his disciples to learn from the parable in verses 3-5?

How can we stop ourselves from becoming judgemental? (See, for example — James 4:7-12)

Do you remember a time when someone was judgmental towards you? How did you feel?

Read Psalm 139:23-24. Ask God to search your thoughts and heart. Ask him to remove anything that offends him.



Matthew 7:7-12

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

How does your perspective on prayer change when you understand God is your Father?

Read Luke 18:1-8. What does the persistent widow teach us about prayer?

Have you ever had to wait a long time for a prayer to be answered? How difficult or easy do you find it to trust that God will provide for your needs?

Have you been praying for something for a long time? Keep on asking, knocking, and seeking. Think about posting a prayer request on a door that is frequently used. Whenever you go through that door, remember to pray for that request.



Matthew 7:13-23

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

What do the good and bad fruit represent? (v 16-20)

Read John 15:1-8. How can we produce good fruit?

Jesus warns us to be careful of wolves in sheep's clothing. How can we tell who is a 'false prophet'?

Write a checklist of good and bad fruit to look out for so that you will be able to tell if a teacher or prophet are from God.



Matthew 7:24-29

READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

What can we learn from the parable of the wise and foolish builders? How can we apply this to our study of the Bible?

Read James 1:22-25. Why is it essential to put the Bible into practice and not just read it?

Look back at Matthew 5-7. Which one of Jesus' teachings challenged you the most?

Take that teaching and make a plan to put it into practice this week.

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lou Allen is a Christian blogger and YouTuber. She writes Bible studies to help people grow in their relationship with God and get equipped to live the Christian life.

She is part of a Pentecostal church in South-West England. She studied at Mattersey Hall Bible College and later at the University of Exeter, gaining a BA Honours in Biblical Theology and an MA in Theology.



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