

ISSUE NO.7
MATTHEW 19-21

The Bible Community

13 Bible studies on Matthew 19-21

Divorce | Little Children | The Rich Man and the Kingdom of Heaven | God's Generosity |
Warning of Jesus' Death | Become a Servant | Blind Men Receive Sight | Jesus Enters Jerusalem |
Jesus Clears the Temple | The Fig Tree | Jesus' Authority | Two Sons | The Tenants

Matthew 19-21

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THE BIBLE COMMUNITY



Introduction

THE BIBLE COMMUNITY ISSUE 7 CONTAINS 13 BIBLE STUDIES FROM MATTHEW CHAPTERS 19-21.

In Matthew 19 and 20, Jesus continued to teach his disciples about divorce, how to enter the kingdom of heaven, and who would be considered 'great.' Jesus then healed two blind men. In chapter 21, Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey and colt. He drove out from the Temple, all those buying, selling and changing money. At the end of the chapter, Jesus talked with the priests and elders and taught about them using parables.

TOPICS COVERED

The 13 Bible studies in this series look at the following topics: Divorce, Little Children, The Rich Man and the Kingdom of Heaven, God's Generosity, Warning of Jesus' Death, Become a Servant, Blind Men Receive Sight, Jesus Enters Jerusalem, Jesus Clears the Temple, The Fig Tree, Jesus' Authority, Two Sons, The Tenants.

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 19:1-12

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

What did Jesus say about divorce?

Read Genesis 2:24 and Deuteronomy 24:1-4. What was God's original plan for marriage? Why did Moses permit divorce?

What are the major causes of divorce in today's society?

How can you honour God and put him first in all your relationships?



Matthew 19:13-15

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

Why did Jesus say that “the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these”?

What value did Jesus place on children?

In what ways have we over-complicated the good news of Jesus?

How can we make Jesus more accessible to little children?



Matthew 19:16-30

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

Why is it challenging for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of heaven?

According to the Bible, how can we enter into the kingdom of God? (See, for example — Romans 3)

Have you ever felt challenged by God to let go of something?

Do you have any belongings you could sell and give to people who are in need?



Matthew 20:1-16

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

What does this parable mean? Who are the workers and the owner of the vineyard? Who are the first and the last?

What does the Bible say about God's generosity? (See, for example — Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Psalm 65:9-13; Jeremiah 31:10-14; Malachi 3:10; Matthew 7:11; Luke 15:22-32; Romans 5:5; Ephesians 1:3, 2:7; Philippians 4:19)

Have you ever felt that God has treated you unfairly?

Do you feel envious because God has been generous to someone else? Talk to God about it. Thank him for what he has done for you.



**WARNING
OF JESUS'
DEATH**

Matthew 20:17-19

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

Why did Jesus warn his disciples about what would happen in Jerusalem?

Look at Matthew chapters 19-21. Did the disciples listen to Jesus or did they misunderstand his message about his death?

How do you think people in modern society view the life and death of Jesus?

Take a moment to think about the death and resurrection of Jesus. What impact has it had on your life?



Matthew 20:20-28

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

What kind of kingdom do you think James, John and their mother were expecting?

Who do you think deserves to sit next to Jesus in his kingdom?

Compare the world's definition of greatness with greatness in the kingdom of God.

How can you give your life to serve others? Think of something practical you can do today.



Matthew 20:29-34

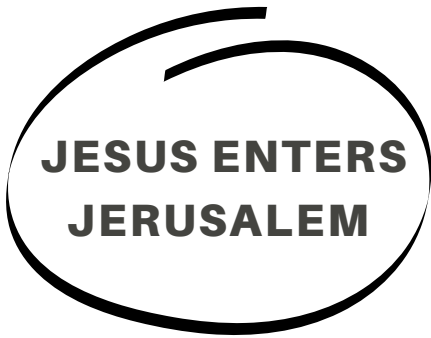
READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

What gave the blind men the courage to cry out to Jesus? Why did the crowd try to silence them?

Where else does the Bible refer to the son of David? What does the title mean? (See, for example — 2 Samuel 7:1-17; Isaiah 9:6-7; Matthew 1:1, 9:27, 12:23, 21:9, 15, 22:41-45)

What lessons can we learn from the two blind men?

Do you have something weighing on your heart today? Cry out to Jesus for help.



Matthew 21:1-11

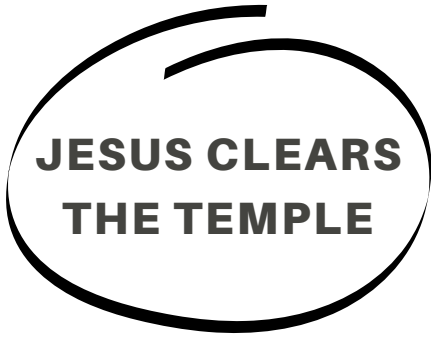
READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

Jesus chose to enter Jerusalem on a donkey. Why did he do that?

Read Zechariah 9:9-17. How do the words of this prophecy apply to Jesus?

How would the people in your community react if Jesus came into your neighbourhood riding on a donkey?

Ask the Lord if there is anything he needs you to do for him today.



Matthew 21:12-17

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

Why did Jesus drive out the money changers and merchants from the Temple?

Read Isaiah 56:1-8. Why was the Temple called a house of prayer for all nations?

What are some obstacles that may prevent people from connecting with God in today's church?

What do you need to clear out of your life to make room for the presence of God?



Matthew 21:18-22

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

Why is the account of the fig tree included here in Matthew's Gospel?

Where else is the fig tree mentioned in the Bible? What does it represent? (See, for example — Deuteronomy 8:6-9; 1 Kings 4:25; 2 Kings 18:31-32; Jeremiah 5:15-17; Micah 4:1-5; Zechariah 3:8-10; Luke 13:6-9)

Have you ever seen God answer your prayers in an astounding way?

Ask God to increase your faith, then pray in faith for him to move in your situation.

**JESUS'
AUTHORITY**

Matthew 21:23-27

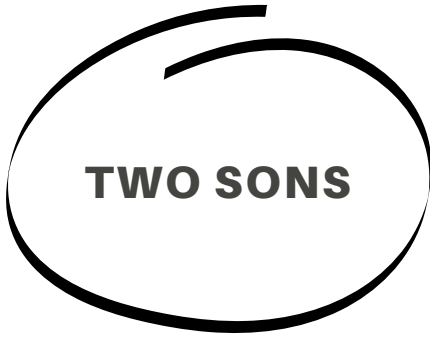
READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

Why couldn't the chief priests and elders answer Jesus' question?

What does the Bible say about Jesus' authority? (See, for example — Matthew 7:28-29, 9:4-7, 28:18-20; John 10:17-18)

What is your usual response when someone asks you a difficult question?

Write down some questions you could ask to prompt people to think about Jesus.



TWO SONS

Matthew 21:28-32

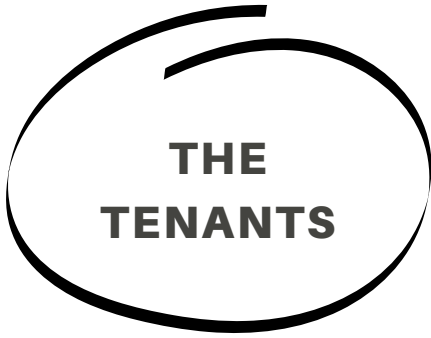
READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

Why did the chief priests and elders refuse to repent or believe in Jesus?

Do you know of any stories in the Bible where tax collectors and prostitutes followed Jesus?

When you first heard about Jesus, did you immediately become a Christian, or did you initially walk away and then return later?

Are you praying for someone who has said "no" to Jesus? Continue to pray for them to change their mind.



Matthew 21:33-46

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

What is the meaning behind the people and images in this passage?

In this chapter, Jesus quotes Psalm 118. How does Psalm 118:22-23 relate to this parable?

Have you ever faced rejection similar to the servants or the son in this parable?

Use Psalm 118 to inspire you to worship Jesus.

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MORE

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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

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