

ISSUE NO.9  
MATTHEW 26-28

# The Bible Community

18 Bible studies on Matthew 26-28

The Plot Against Jesus | Very Expensive Perfume | The Last Supper | Disowning Jesus | Prayer in Gethsemane | Jesus' Arrest | Jesus Before the Sanhedrin | Peter Disowns Jesus | Judas Dies | Before Pilate | Jesus is King | The Crucifixion | Jesus' Death | Jesus' Burial | The Tomb is Sealed | Jesus' Resurrection | Bribing the Guards | Make Disciples

# Matthew 26-28

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THE BIBLE COMMUNITY



# Introduction

**THE BIBLE COMMUNITY ISSUE 9 CONTAINS 18 BIBLE STUDIES FROM MATTHEW CHAPTERS 26-28.**

Matthew 26 describes Jesus' final Passover with his disciples. Jesus is betrayed, arrested and Peter denies knowing him.

In Matthew 27, Pilate condemns Jesus to die. The soldiers mock, flog and crucify him.

In Matthew 28, Jesus rises from the dead, and commissions his disciples to make disciples of all nations.

## TOPICS COVERED

The 18 Bible studies in this series look at the following topics: The Plot Against Jesus, Very Expensive Perfume, The Last Supper, Disowning Jesus, Prayer in Gethsemane, Jesus' Arrest, Jesus Before the Sanhedrin, Peter Disowns Jesus, Judas Dies, Before Pilate, Jesus is King, The Crucifixion, Jesus' Death, Jesus' Burial, The Tomb is Sealed, Jesus' Resurrection, Bribing the Guards, Make Disciples

## 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 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.

**THE  
PLOT AGAINST  
JESUS**

*Matthew 26:1-5, 14-16*

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

Why did the chief priests and elders want to kill Jesus? What motivated Judas to hand Jesus over to them?

Why was it important that Jesus' death occurred during the Passover festival?

Have you ever felt jealous or insecure because of someone else?

Are you facing opposition because of your faith? Pray for the strength to endure it with courage.



# Matthew 26:6-13

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

Think about the motives of each character in this story. Why did the woman pour out the oil? Why did the disciples feel indignant? Why did Jesus speak so highly of her?

Where else does the Bible talk about perfume?

How much has it cost you to follow Jesus?

What can you give to Jesus as an act of worship?



# Matthew 26:17-30

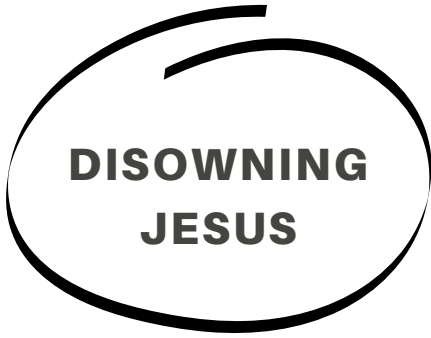
**READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS**

What is the significance of the Last Supper, and in particular, Jesus' words in verses 26-29?

Read Jeremiah 31:31-34. What is the new covenant? In what ways does it differ from the previous covenants God made with Israel?

How important is the Lord's Supper/Communion to you?

Read through this passage once more. Take some bread and wine and thank Jesus that he gave up his life for you.



# Matthew 26:31-35

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

How do you think Jesus felt, knowing his friends would abandon, disown, and betray him?

In what way do the actions of the disciples fulfil Zechariah 13:7-9?

Have your friends ever abandoned or rejected you?

Ask God to give you the courage to follow him wherever he leads.



# Matthew 26:36-46

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

What does this passage teach us about prayer?

In the Bible, what does the cup represent? (See, for example — Psalm 16:5; 23:5; 116:13; Isaiah 51:22; Jeremiah 25:15-18; Matthew 20:22; Luke 22:20; John 18:11; 1 Corinthians 11:25; Revelation 14:10)

How can we keep ourselves from getting distracted, bored, or sleepy while praying?

Are you facing challenges and feeling overwhelmed? Cry out to God. Ask him to either remove your problems or give you the strength to endure them.





**JESUS'  
ARREST**

# Matthew 26:47-56

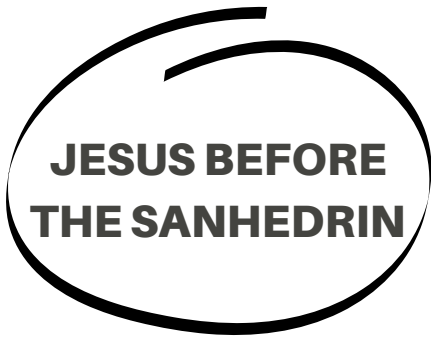
**READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS**

Why did a large group of people come with swords and clubs to arrest Jesus at night? Why didn't they arrest him during the day?

Where does the Old Testament talk about betrayal? (See, for example — Job 19:19; Psalm 41:7-9; 55:12-14, 20-21)

Have you ever misunderstood God's plan for your life and tried to resist it?

Ask God to help you stay faithful to Jesus and remain by his side, no matter what happens.



# Matthew 26:57-68

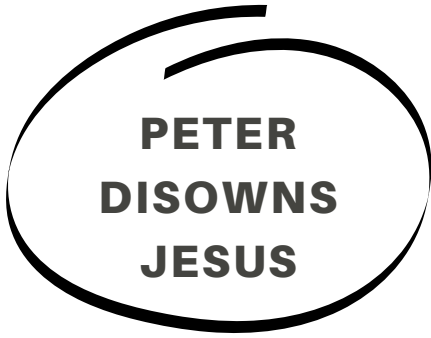
**READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS**

Why did the high priest accuse Jesus of blasphemy?

How does Daniel 7:13-14 help us understand the significance of Jesus' statement about the Son of Man?

How would you react if someone brought a false accusation against you?

Ask God for the wisdom to know when to speak and when to be quiet. Ask him to give you courage to explain the true identity of Jesus to those who don't know him.



# Matthew 26:69-75

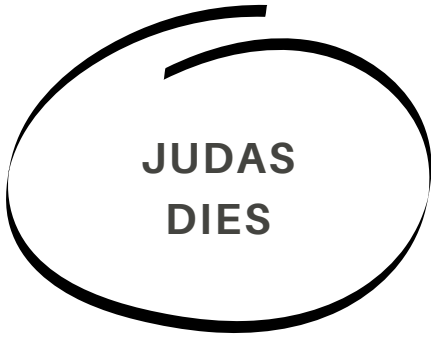
**READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS**

Why did Peter follow Jesus into the courtyard but later disown him? What emotions do you think Peter experienced during this encounter?

What does the Bible teach us about the danger of overestimating our own strengths and abilities?

Have you ever failed Jesus or let down one of your friends? How did you feel afterwards?

Do you feel burdened by past failures? Give them to Jesus and accept his forgiveness. Pray for the strength to stand firm in your faith in the future.



**JUDAS  
DIES**

# *Matthew 27:1-10*

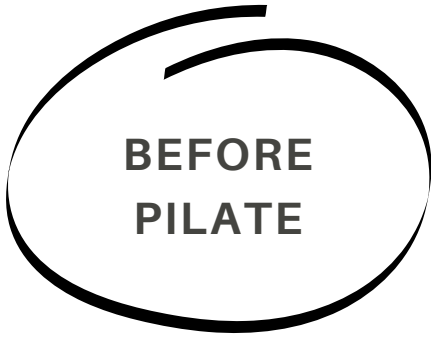
**READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS**

Why did Judas hang himself?

Judas and Peter both made mistakes and let Jesus down. Can you explain why they responded differently?

What is the difference between remorse and repentance?

Have you failed God? Don't give up hope. Repent and ask God to help you put things right and start again.



# Matthew 27:11-26

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

Why do you think Pilate considered freeing Jesus but then flogged and crucified him?

Can you think of any other people in the Bible who were put on trial? How does their experience compare to the trial of Jesus?

How does the story of Barrabas demonstrate what Jesus has done for us?

Spend time thanking Jesus for taking the punishment we deserve.

JESUS  
IS KING

# Matthew 27:27-31

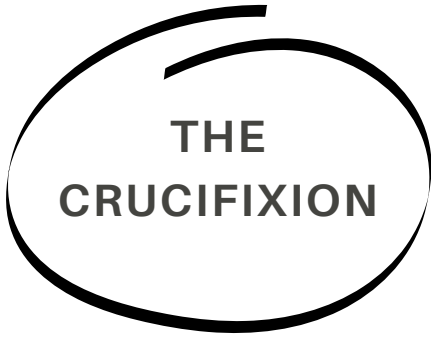
READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS

Why did the soldiers act in this cruel way?

Do you notice any similarities between the treatment of Jesus and the crowning of other kings (in the Bible or in modern times)?

Have you ever been the victim of mocking and humiliation? How did you feel?

Set aside some time to worship Jesus, your King, who endured such great suffering for you.



# Matthew 27:32-44

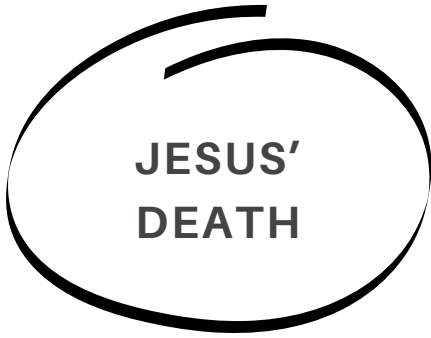
**READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS**

Can you imagine what Jesus experienced during the crucifixion? How do you think he felt at each stage?

What scriptures in the Old Testament predict the events surrounding Jesus' death? (See, for example — Psalm 22:7-8, 16-18; 69:19-21; Isaiah 53)

What does it mean for us to take up our cross and follow Jesus? (Matthew 16:24)

Are you suffering from any physical or emotional pain? Share it with the Lord and ask him to comfort and heal you. Spend time thanking God that Jesus chose to suffer and die for you.



**JESUS'  
DEATH**

# *Matthew 27:45-56*

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

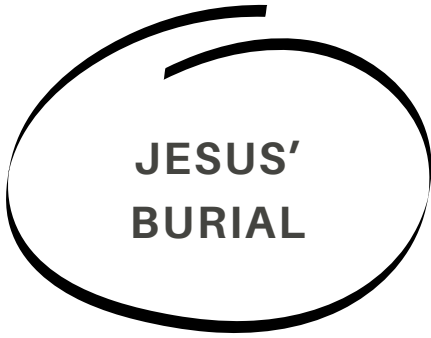
What is the significance of the darkness, the torn curtain, the open tombs and the centurion's testimony?

Jesus quoted from Psalm 22:1 while he was dying. Picture how he must have felt as he neared the end of his life. Do you think the rest of Psalm 22 brought any comfort to Jesus?

What impact has Jesus' death had on your daily life?

Are there any scriptures that have helped you in times of trouble? Find a place to write them down so you can read them again when you need them.





**JESUS'  
BURIAL**

# *Matthew 27:57-61*

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

Who was Joseph? Why did he ask Pilate for Jesus' body?

How does Jesus' burial fulfil Isaiah 53:9?

Joseph buried Jesus in his own tomb. What is the most costly gift you have given to Jesus?

Ask God for the courage to speak up for Jesus.



# Matthew 27:62-66

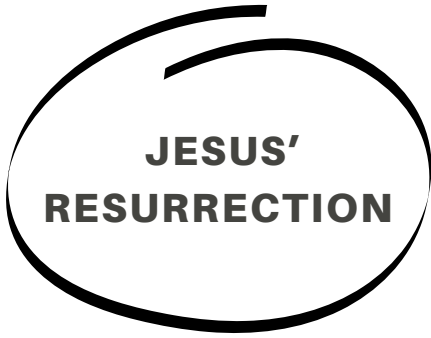
**READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS**

Why did the chief priests and Pharisees place a guard at Jesus' tomb? How did this action provide evidence that Jesus rose again?

How many times did Jesus talk about his resurrection in the Gospel of Matthew?

Have you ever been trapped in a seemingly impossible situation?

Jesus is alive! Spend time praising God that no guard, seal, stone, tomb, or even death itself could keep Jesus in the grave!



# Matthew 28:1-10

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

Why did the angel roll away the stone?

Look through Matthew chapters 27 and 28. What evidence does Matthew give us to prove that Jesus rose from the dead?

Has Jesus' resurrection changed the way you think about life and death?

Who can you tell about Jesus' resurrection today?



**BRIBING  
THE GUARDS**

# *Matthew 28:11-15*

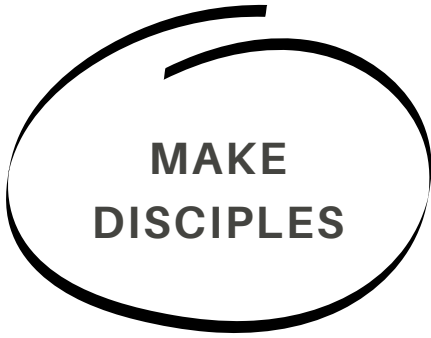
**READ THIS BIBLE PASSAGE AND USE THE QUESTIONS BELOW TO GUIDE YOUR STUDY, REFLECTIONS, AND PRAYERS**

If you were one of the guards at Jesus' tomb, how would you have reacted?

How important was the resurrection to the Early Church? Why did the Jewish leaders try to stop people from talking about it? (See, for example — Acts 1:21-22; 2:22-36; 4:1-4, 32-35)

Have you ever experienced opposition when talking to people about Jesus?

What can you do to help people understand the truth about Jesus' resurrection?



# Matthew 28:16-20

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

What is a disciple? How do we make them?

Look back through the book of Matthew. What does it teach us about discipleship?

Who baptised you and taught you about Jesus? What can you learn from their example?

What can you do to help others become Jesus' disciples?

FIND  
OUT  
MORE

# THE BIBLE COMMUNITY

## 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.

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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