



**Discovery Bible Study**

**Leading Others  
to Believe**

## Introduction

Have you ever wondered if God is interested in your life? Are you interested in knowing more about Jesus? Maybe you are interested in knowing what the Bible says, but never felt comfortable going into a church? Discover the Bible is a great way to explore life's deeper questions with your friends in the comfort of your home or a local coffee shop. Around the world this approach is changing lives daily. Why not give it a go and see if the Bible has anything to say to you today?

## How it works

Discovery Bible Study is an easy way to explore what the Bible has to say for yourself. So how do you get started?

We find that it works best if you gather a few friends and go through the studies together. Groups of between four and eight people are good. Everyone will have a slightly different perspective and as each person shares their insights your understanding as a group will grow. So find a comfortable location to meet, grab a coffee and dive in.

Start off by reading or listening to the Bible story. You can use this booklet or the **Discover App** for this. You might like to read the story a couple of times to get more familiar with it. When you are ready have someone in the group retell the story in their own words. Don't worry too much about getting it completely right. After they have finished anyone else can chip in and fill in any missing bits. If you are in a larger group you might like to do this bit in pairs.

Once everyone is familiar with the story, go through the questions. We always use the same four questions. They are easy to remember but surprisingly effective at helping to unpack the story. Take time to ensure that everyone has a chance to speak. If you are not sure how what someone is saying relates to the story, ask them "Where do you see that in the passage?"

For the last two questions we encourage you to make "I will" statements that you really intend to do. For example "I will stop and think before I criticise someone" or "I will tell my sister".

From session two onwards it is useful to start each study by reviewing the previous session. Chat through your "I will" statements and see how everybody got on with them. Take some time to encourage each other.

When you have finished the study ask everyone what is making them happy this week and what they are struggling with. Are there ways as a group that you can support each other?

As you tell other people about what you are learning, you may find that people ask to join your group. That's great! Rather than growing your group, however, it is better to ask them if they would like to find a few friends and start a new group themselves. As you have already seen it is very easy to do, and you don't need to be an expert to lead.

## Step by step guide

Before you begin take some time to think about last week's session and how things have gone since then. Then answer these questions together

- What is making you happy this week?
- What are you struggling with this week?
- How did you get on with your "I Will Statements" from the previous session?
- Who did you tell and how did that go?

### Step 1: Read the story

Read or listen to the passage

### Step 2: Retell the Story

Take a few moments to retell the story in your own words. You may want to speak it out loud, or write it down. If you find you are struggling to remember it, read or listen to it again.

### Step 3: Discover the Story

When you feel that you are familiar with the story, take some time to think over or discuss the following questions:

- What does this story tell me about God?
- What does this story tell me about people?
- If this is really God's word, what changes would I have to make in my life?
- Who am I going to tell?

## One

### Jesus calls people to follow Him

#### Matthew 4:18-25

<sup>18</sup> As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee Jesus saw two brothers. Simon, also called Peter, and his brother Andrew, were casting a net in the sea. They made their living by catching fish.

<sup>19</sup> “Come and follow me, and I will teach you how to catch people,” he told them.

<sup>20</sup> They left their nets immediately and followed him. <sup>21</sup> Continuing on he saw two other brothers, James and John. They were in a boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them to follow him. <sup>22</sup> They left the boat and their father immediately, and followed him.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, teaching in the synagogues, telling the good news of the kingdom, and healing all the diseases and illnesses the people had. <sup>24</sup> News about him spread throughout the province of Syria. They brought everyone who was sick to him: people troubled by seizures, the demon-possessed, those who were mentally ill, people who were paralyzed, and he healed all of them. <sup>25</sup> Large crowds followed him from Galilee, Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and the region beyond Jordan.

## Two

### Jesus teaches attitudes that God blesses

#### Matthew 5:1-16

<sup>1</sup> When Jesus saw the crowds following him he went up a mountain. There he sat down together with his disciples. <sup>2</sup> He began teaching them, saying:

<sup>3</sup> “Blessed are those who recognize they are spiritually poor, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs. <sup>4</sup> Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. <sup>5</sup> Blessed are those who are kind for they will own the whole world. <sup>6</sup> Blessed are those whose greatest desire is to do what is right, for they will be satisfied. <sup>7</sup> Blessed are those who are merciful, for they will be shown mercy. <sup>8</sup> Blessed are those who have pure minds, for they will see God. <sup>9</sup> Blessed are those who work to bring peace, for they will be called children of God. <sup>10</sup> Blessed are those persecuted for what is right, for the kingdom of heaven is theirs. <sup>11</sup> Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and accuse you of all kinds of evil things because of me. <sup>12</sup> Be glad, be really glad, for you will receive a great reward in heaven—for they persecuted the prophets who came before you in just the same way.

<sup>13</sup> You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt becomes tasteless, how can you make it salty again? It's good for nothing, so it's thrown out and trodden down. <sup>14</sup> You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill can't be hidden. <sup>15</sup> No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a bucket. No, it's placed on a lamp-stand and it provides light to everyone in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way you should let your light shine before everyone so they can see the good things you do and praise your heavenly Father.

#### Matthew 6:33-34

<sup>33</sup> Seek his kingdom first, and his way of living right, and everything will be given to you. <sup>34</sup> So don't worry about tomorrow, because tomorrow can worry about itself. There's already enough evil in every day.”

## Three

# Jesus teaches disciples to live, pray, & fast in a way that pleases God

### Matthew 6:1-8

<sup>1</sup> “Make sure not to do your good deeds in front of people, just so they can be seen. Otherwise you won't have any reward from your Father in heaven. <sup>2</sup> When you give to the poor, don't be like the hypocrites who blow their own trumpets to announce what they're doing in the synagogues and in the streets so that people will praise them. I tell you the truth: they already have their reward. <sup>3</sup> When you give to the poor, don't let your left hand know what your right hand's doing. <sup>4</sup> That way what you give will be in secret, and your Father who sees what happens in secret will reward you.

<sup>5</sup> When you pray, don't be like the hypocrites, for they love to stand up and pray in the synagogues and on the street corners so that people can see them. I promise you, they already have their reward. <sup>6</sup> But you, when you pray, go indoors and close the door, and pray to your Father in private, and your Father who sees what happens in private will reward you. <sup>7</sup> When you pray, don't babble on meaninglessly like the foreigners do, who think they will be heard because of all the words they repeat. <sup>8</sup> Don't be like them, for your Father knows what you need even before you ask him.

### Matthew 6:16-18

<sup>16</sup> When you fast, don't be like the hypocrites who put on sad faces and make themselves look terrible so that everyone can see they're fasting. I tell you the truth, they already have their reward. <sup>17</sup> Instead, when you fast, wash your face and look smart, <sup>18</sup> so that people won't see you're fasting, and your unseen Father who sees what happens in private will reward you.

## Four

### Jesus teaches disciples to serve God only

#### Matthew 6:19-34

<sup>19</sup> Don't pile up wealth here on earth where moths and rust ruin it, and where thieves break in and steal it. <sup>20</sup> Instead, you should store up your wealth in heaven, where moths and rust don't ruin it, and where thieves don't break in and steal it. <sup>21</sup> For what you value the most shows who you really are.

<sup>22</sup> The eye is like a lamp that lights the body. So if your eye is healthy, then your whole body will have light. <sup>23</sup> But if your eye is evil, then your whole body will be in the dark. If the 'light' you have is actually darkness, how dark is that! <sup>24</sup> No one can serve two masters. Either you'll hate one and love the other, or you'll be devoted to one and despise the other. You can't serve both God and Money.

<sup>25</sup> That's why I'm telling you not to worry about your life. Don't worry about what to eat, or what to drink, or what clothes to put on. Isn't life more than food, and the body more than clothes? <sup>26</sup> Look at the birds—they don't sow or reap or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. Aren't you worth more than they are? <sup>27</sup> Who of you by worrying can add a minute to your life? <sup>28</sup> And why are you worried about clothes? Look at the beautiful flowers in the field. See how they grow: they don't work hard, they don't spin thread. <sup>29</sup> But I tell you, not even Solomon in all his glory was dressed like one of these flowers. <sup>30</sup> So if God decorates the fields like this, grass which is here today and tomorrow is thrown into the fire, won't he do much more for you, you people who trust so little? <sup>31</sup> So don't worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' <sup>32</sup> These are all the things that the heathen chase after, but your heavenly Father knows everything you need. <sup>33</sup> Seek his kingdom first, and his way of living right, and everything will be given to you. <sup>34</sup> So don't worry about tomorrow, because tomorrow can worry about itself. There's already enough evil in every day."

## Five

### Jesus teaches his disciples how to judge righteously

#### Matthew 7:1-6

<sup>1</sup> “Don't judge others, so that you won't be judged. <sup>2</sup> For whatever standard you use to judge others will be used to judge you, and whatever measurement you use to measure others will be used to measure you. <sup>3</sup> Why do you see the speck that's in your brother's eye? Don't you notice the plank that's in your own eye? <sup>4</sup> How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take out that speck from your eye’ when you have a plank in your own eye? <sup>5</sup> You're being hypocritical! First get rid of the plank that's in your own eye. Then you'll be able to see clearly to take out the speck from your brother's eye.

<sup>6</sup> Don't give dogs what's holy. Don't throw your pearls to pigs. That way the pigs won't trample them underfoot, and the dogs won't turn and attack you.

#### Matthew 18:15-20

<sup>15</sup> If a brother sins against you, go and point out the wrong to him, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you've won your brother over. <sup>16</sup> But if he doesn't listen, then take one or two more people with you, so that by two or three witnesses the truth can be confirmed. <sup>17</sup> If, however, he refuses to listen to them, then tell the church. If he refuses to listen to the church as well, then treat him as a foreigner and a tax-collector. <sup>18</sup> I tell you the truth, whatever you ban on earth will be banned in heaven, and whatever you allow on earth will be allowed in heaven.

<sup>19</sup> I also tell you that if two of you agree here on earth about something you're praying for, then my heavenly Father will do it for you. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three gather together in my name, I'm there with them.”



## Six

### Jesus teaches his disciples to seek God

#### Matthew 7:7-12

<sup>7</sup> Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>8</sup> Everyone who asks, receives; everyone who seeks, finds; and everyone who knocks has the door opened for them. <sup>9</sup> Would any of you give your son a stone if he asked for bread? <sup>10</sup> Or if he asked for fish, would you give him a snake? <sup>11</sup> So if even you who are evil know to give good things to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good things to those who ask him.

<sup>12</sup> Treat others the way you want them to treat you. This sums up the law and the prophets.

## Seven

### Jesus teaches disciples to obey God

#### Matthew 7:21-29

<sup>21</sup> Not everyone who calls me ‘Lord, Lord’ will enter the kingdom of heaven—only those who do the will of my Father in heaven. <sup>22</sup> Many will say to me at the Day of Judgment, ‘Lord, Lord, didn’t we prophesy in your name and drive out demons in your name, and perform many miracles in your name?’ <sup>23</sup> Then I will tell them, ‘I never knew you. Leave me, you people who practice wickedness!’ <sup>24</sup> Everyone that hears the words I say, and follows them, is like a wise man who built his house on solid rock. <sup>25</sup> The rain poured down, and the floods rose, and the winds blew hard against the house, but it didn’t fall down, because its foundations were on solid rock. <sup>26</sup> Everyone that hears the words I say, and doesn’t follow them, is like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. <sup>27</sup> The rain poured down, and the floods rose, and the winds blew hard against the house, and it fell down—it totally collapsed.”

<sup>28</sup> When Jesus finished explaining these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, <sup>29</sup> for he taught like someone with authority, and not like their religious teachers.

## Eight

### Jesus teaches disciples to care for outcasts & sinners

#### Matthew 9:9-13

<sup>9</sup> As Jesus moved on from there he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth. Jesus called to him, “Follow me!” He got up, and followed Jesus. <sup>10</sup> While Jesus was eating at Matthew's home, many tax-collectors and sinners came and sat down at the table with Jesus and his disciples. <sup>11</sup> When the Pharisees saw this they asked Jesus' disciples, “Why does your Teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?”

<sup>12</sup> When Jesus heard the question, he replied, “Those who are well don't need a doctor, but sick people do. <sup>13</sup> Go and discover what this means: ‘I want mercy, not sacrifice. For I didn't come to call those who do what's right—I came to call sinners.’”

## Nine

# Jesus teaches, preaches the news of the Kingdom, heals the sick

### Matthew 9:35-38

<sup>35</sup> Jesus went all over, visiting the towns and villages. He taught in their synagogues, telling them about the good news of the kingdom, and he healed all kinds of sicknesses and diseases. <sup>36</sup> When he saw the crowds, Jesus was deeply moved with compassion for them, because they were troubled and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup> He told his disciples, “The harvest is large, but there are only a few workers. <sup>38</sup> Pray to the Lord of the harvest, and ask him to send more workers for his harvest.”

## Ten

# Jesus sends out the disciples to preach about the Kingdom of Heaven

### Matthew 10:1-16

<sup>1</sup> Jesus called his twelve disciples together and gave them power to throw out evil spirits, and to heal all kinds of diseases and sicknesses.

<sup>2</sup> These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, (also called Peter), Andrew his brother, James the son of Zebedee, John his brother, <sup>3</sup> Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew the tax-collector, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddeus, <sup>4</sup> Simon the revolutionary, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed Jesus.

<sup>5</sup> Jesus sent out these Twelve, telling them, “Don't go to the foreigners, or to any Samaritan city. <sup>6</sup> You are to go to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup> Wherever you go, tell the people, ‘The kingdom of heaven is near.’ <sup>8</sup> Heal those who are sick. Resurrect the dead. Cure the lepers. Drive out demons. You received freely, so give freely! <sup>9</sup> Don't carry any gold, silver, or copper coins in your pockets, <sup>10</sup> or a bag for your journey, or two cloaks, or sandals, or a walking stick, for a worker deserves to be supported. <sup>11</sup> Wherever you go, whatever town or village, ask for someone who lives according to good principles, and remain there until you leave. <sup>12</sup> When you enter the house, give it your blessing. <sup>13</sup> If the home deserves it, let your peace rest on it, but if it doesn't deserve it, let your peace return to you.

<sup>14</sup> If someone doesn't welcome you, and refuses to listen to what you have to say, then leave that house or that town, shaking its dust off your feet as you go. <sup>15</sup> I tell you the truth, it will be better for Sodom and Gomorrah at the Day of Judgment than for that town!

<sup>16</sup> Look, I'm sending you out like sheep among wolves. So be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves.

## Eleven

### Jesus warned disciples of coming persecution

#### Matthew 10:16-31

<sup>16</sup> Look, I'm sending you out like sheep among wolves. So be as wise as serpents and harmless as doves. <sup>17</sup> Watch out for those who will hand you over to be tried by town councils and will whip you in their synagogues. <sup>18</sup> You will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, to witness to them and to the foreigners. <sup>19</sup> But when they put you on trial, don't worry about how you should speak or what you should say, because you'll be told what to say at the right time. <sup>20</sup> For it isn't you who will speak but the Spirit of the Father will speak through you. <sup>21</sup> Brother will betray brother and have him killed, and a father will do the same to his child. Children will rebel against their parents, and have them put to death. <sup>22</sup> Everyone will hate you because you follow me, but those who endure until the end will be saved.

<sup>23</sup> When you're persecuted in one town, run away to the next. I'm telling the truth: you won't finish going to the towns of Israel before the Son of man comes. <sup>24</sup> Disciples are not more important than their teacher; servants are not more important than their master. <sup>25</sup> Disciples should be satisfied to become like their teacher, and servants like their master. If the head of the house has been called the head demon Beelzebub, then the members of his household will be demonized even more! <sup>26</sup> So don't be frightened of them, for there's nothing covered that won't be exposed, and nothing hidden that won't be made known. <sup>27</sup> What I tell you here in the dark, declare when it's light, and what you hear whispered in your ear, shout from the rooftops. <sup>28</sup> Don't be afraid of those who can kill you physically, but can't kill you spiritually. Instead, be afraid of the one who can destroy you physically and spiritually in the fires of destruction. <sup>29</sup> Aren't two sparrows sold for just one penny? But not a single one of them falls to the ground without your Father knowing about it. <sup>30</sup> Even the hairs on your head have all been counted. <sup>31</sup> So don't worry—you're worth more than many sparrows!

#### Matthew 5:43-48

<sup>43</sup> You've heard that the law said, 'Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' <sup>44</sup> But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup> so you may become children of your heavenly Father. For his sun shines on both the good and the bad; and he makes the rain fall on both those who do right and those who do wrong. <sup>46</sup> For if you only love those who love you, what reward do you have? Don't even the tax-collectors do that? <sup>47</sup> If you only speak kindly to your family, what more are you doing than anyone else? Even the heathen do that! <sup>48</sup> Grow up and become completely trustworthy, just as your heavenly Father is trustworthy."

## Twelve

### Jesus teaches disciples that rest comes from working with Him

#### Matthew 11:25-30

<sup>25</sup> Then Jesus prayed, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for you’ve hidden these things from the clever and sophisticated. Instead you’ve revealed them to ordinary people. <sup>26</sup> Yes, Father, you were pleased to do this! <sup>27</sup> Everything has been entrusted to me by my Father, and no one really understands the Son, except the Father, and no one really understands the Father, except the Son, and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. <sup>28</sup> Come to me, all of you who struggle and who are burdened down. I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Accept my yoke, and learn from me. For I am kind and have a humble heart, and in me you will find the rest you need. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is gentle, and my burden is light.”

## Thirteen

# Jesus teaches the disciples about the different responses to the kingdom

### Matthew 13:1-9

<sup>1</sup> Later that day Jesus left the house, and sat down to teach beside the lake. <sup>2</sup> So many people gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat down there to teach, while all the crowds stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup> He explained many things to them, using stories as illustrations.

“The sower went out to sow,” he began. <sup>4</sup> “As he was sowing, some of the seeds fell on the path. The birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup> Other seeds fell on stony ground where there wasn’t much earth where they sprouted quickly. <sup>6</sup> The sun rose and scorched them and they withered because they had no roots. <sup>7</sup> Other seeds fell among thorns that grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup> Still other seeds fell on good soil. They produced a harvest—some one hundred, some sixty, and some thirty times what had been planted. <sup>9</sup> Anybody who has ears should be listening!”

### Matthew 18-23

<sup>23</sup> “This is why the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with those servants who owed him money.



## Fourteen

### Jesus meets the needs of people because of His compassion

#### Matthew 15:29-39

<sup>29</sup> Jesus returned, passing by the Sea of Galilee. He went into the mountains nearby where he sat down. <sup>30</sup> Huge crowds came to him, bringing those who were lame, blind, crippled, dumb, and many others who were sick. They laid them on the ground at his feet, and he healed them. <sup>31</sup> The crowd was astounded at what they saw happen: the deaf could speak, the crippled were healed, the lame could walk, and the blind could see. They praised the God of Israel.

<sup>32</sup> Jesus called his disciples over and told them, “I feel really sorry for all these people, because they’ve been with me now for three days, and they have nothing to eat. I don’t want to send them away hungry, in case they faint on their way home.”

<sup>33</sup> “Where could we find enough bread here in this desert to feed such a huge crowd?” the disciples responded.

<sup>34</sup> “How many loaves of bread do you have?” Jesus asked.

“Seven, and a few small fish,” they replied.

<sup>35</sup> Jesus told the crowd to sit down on the ground. <sup>36</sup> He took the seven loaves and the fish, and after blessing the food he broke it into pieces and gave it to the disciples, and the disciples gave it to the crowds. <sup>37</sup> Everybody ate until they were full, and then they collected the leftovers, filling seven baskets. <sup>38</sup> Four thousand men ate the food, not counting women and children. <sup>39</sup> Then he sent the crowds away, got into a boat, and went to the Magadan region.

## Fifteen

# Jesus teaches his disciples that the cost of following Him is very high

### Matthew 16:13-28

<sup>13</sup> When Jesus arrived in the region of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of man is?”

<sup>14</sup> “Some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say Jeremiah or one of the other prophets,” they replied.

<sup>15</sup> “But what about you?” he asked them. “Who do you say I am?”

<sup>16</sup> “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God,” Simon Peter replied.

<sup>17</sup> “You are truly blessed, Simon son of John,” Jesus told him. “For this wasn’t revealed to you by human flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> I also tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church and the powers of death won’t overcome it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you ban on earth will be banned in heaven, and whatever you allow on earth will be allowed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup> Then he warned his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

<sup>21</sup> From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he would have to go to Jerusalem, and that he would suffer terribly at the hands of the elders, chief priests, and religious teachers; and that he would be killed, but he would rise again on the third day.

<sup>22</sup> Peter took Jesus aside and started to tell him he shouldn’t talk like that. “God forbid, Lord, that this would ever happen to you!” he said.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus turned to Peter, and told him, “Get away from me, Satan! You are a trap to trip me up, because you’re thinking in a human way, and not as God thinks!”

<sup>24</sup> Then Jesus told his disciples, “If you want to be a follower of mine, you must deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow me. <sup>25</sup> For if you want to save your life you will lose it, and if you lose your life for my sake you will save it. <sup>26</sup> What benefit is it for you to gain the whole world, yet lose your life? What would you give in exchange for your life? <sup>27</sup> For the Son of man is going to come in his Father’s glory, together with his angels. Then he will give everyone what they deserve according to what they’ve done. <sup>28</sup> I tell you the truth, there are some standing here who won’t die before they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom.”

## Sixteen

### The Father commands disciples to listen to His Son

#### Matthew 17:1-13

<sup>1</sup> Six days later Jesus took Peter, James and his brother John, with him and they went up a high mountain to be by themselves. <sup>2</sup> He was transformed in front of them. His face was shining like the sun. His clothes turned white as light. <sup>3</sup> Then suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared before them, talking together with Jesus.

<sup>4</sup> Peter spoke up, saying to Jesus, “Lord, it’s really good to be here. If you want I’ll make three shelters—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.”

<sup>5</sup> While he was still speaking, a bright cloud covered them. A voice came from the cloud, saying, “This is my son whom I love, who pleases me. Listen to him.” <sup>6</sup> When they heard this, the disciples fell down on their faces, absolutely terrified. <sup>7</sup> Jesus went over to them and touched them. “Get up,” he told them. “Don’t be afraid.” <sup>8</sup> When they looked up they didn’t see anybody there except Jesus.

<sup>9</sup> As they descended the mountain Jesus gave them strict instructions. “Don’t tell anybody what you saw until the Son of man has risen from the dead,” he told them.

<sup>10</sup> “So why do the religious teachers say that Elijah has to come first?” his disciples asked.

<sup>11</sup> “It’s true that Elijah comes to put everything in place,” Jesus replied, <sup>12</sup> “but I tell you that Elijah has already come and yet people didn’t recognize who he was. They did whatever they felt like to him. In the same way the Son of man will also suffer at their hands.” <sup>13</sup> Then the disciples realized that Jesus was referring to John the Baptist.

## Seventeen

### Jesus teaches about Faith

#### Matthew 17:14-21

<sup>14</sup> When they approached the crowd, a man came to Jesus, and kneeled before him.

<sup>15</sup> “Lord, please have mercy on my son,” he said. “He loses his mind and suffers such terrible fits that he often falls in the fire or into water. <sup>16</sup> I brought him to your disciples but they couldn’t heal him.”

<sup>17</sup> “You people refuse to trust me, and are so corrupt!” Jesus responded. “How long do I have to remain here with you? How long do I have to put up with you? Bring him here to me!” <sup>18</sup> Jesus confronted the demon and it left the boy, and he was healed straight away.

<sup>19</sup> Later the disciples came to Jesus in private and asked him, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?”

<sup>20</sup> “Because you don’t trust enough,” Jesus told them. “I tell you, even if your trust was as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it would move. Nothing would be impossible for you.” <sup>21</sup>

## Eighteen

### Jesus teaches disciples how to deal with sin

#### Matthew 18:15-35

<sup>15</sup> If a brother sins against you, go and point out the wrong to him, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you've won your brother over. <sup>16</sup> But if he doesn't listen, then take one or two more people with you, so that by two or three witnesses the truth can be confirmed. <sup>17</sup> If, however, he refuses to listen to them, then tell the church. If he refuses to listen to the church as well, then treat him as a foreigner and a tax-collector. <sup>18</sup> I tell you the truth, whatever you ban on earth will be banned in heaven, and whatever you allow on earth will be allowed in heaven.

<sup>19</sup> I also tell you that if two of you agree here on earth about something you're praying for, then my heavenly Father will do it for you. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three gather together in my name, I'm there with them."

<sup>21</sup> Peter came to Jesus and asked him, "How many times should I forgive my brother for sinning against me? Seven times?"

<sup>22</sup> "No, not seven times. I would say seventy times seven!" Jesus told him. <sup>23</sup> "This is why the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with those servants who owed him money. <sup>24</sup> As he began to settle accounts, one servant was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup> Since he didn't have the money to pay, his master ordered him to be sold, along with his wife and children and all his possessions, so that the debt could be paid back. <sup>26</sup> The servant fell down on his knees and said to his master, 'Please be patient with me! I will pay everything back!' <sup>27</sup> The master took pity on the servant, released him, and canceled the debt. <sup>28</sup> But when that same servant went out he found one of his fellow-servants who owed him just a hundred *denarii*. He grabbed him by the neck and choked him, saying, 'Pay me back what you owe me!' <sup>29</sup> His fellow-servant threw himself down at the man's feet and begged him, 'Please be patient with me! I will pay you back!' <sup>30</sup> But the man refused, and went and threw his fellow-servant into prison until he paid back what he owed.

<sup>31</sup> When the other servants saw what took place they were shocked and upset. They went and told their master everything that had happened. <sup>32</sup> Then the master called the man back in and told him, 'You evil servant! I forgave you all your debt because you begged me to. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn't you have been merciful to your fellow-servant as well, just as I was merciful to you?' <sup>34</sup> His master became angry and handed him over to the jailors until he had repaid all the debt. <sup>35</sup> This is what my heavenly Father will do to every one of you unless you sincerely forgive your brothers."

## Nineteen

### Jesus teaches disciples to honor God's design for marriage.

#### Matthew 19:3-9

<sup>3</sup> Some Pharisees came to test him. "Is a man allowed to divorce his wife for any reason?" they asked.

<sup>4</sup> Jesus replied, "Haven't you read that God who created people in the beginning made them male and female? <sup>5</sup> He said, 'This is the reason a man will leave his father and mother, and join with his wife, and the two shall become one.' <sup>6</sup> Now they're no longer two, but one. What God has joined together no one should separate."

<sup>7</sup> "Then why did Moses give a law that a man could divorce his wife by giving her a written certificate of divorce, and sending her away?" they asked.

<sup>8</sup> "Because of your hard-hearted attitude Moses permitted you to divorce your wives, but it wasn't like that in the beginning," Jesus replied. <sup>9</sup> "I tell you, anyone who divorces his wife except on the grounds of sexual immorality and then marries another woman, commits adultery."

## Twenty

### Jesus teaches his disciples to be servants

#### Matthew 20:20-28

<sup>20</sup> Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came with her two sons to Jesus. She kneeled down before him to make a request.

<sup>21</sup> “What is it you are asking me for?” Jesus said to her.

“Please appoint my sons to sit beside you in your kingdom, one on your right and the other on your left,” she asked.

<sup>22</sup> “You don’t know what you’re asking,” Jesus told them. “Are you able to drink the cup I’m about to drink?”

“Yes, we are able to do that,” they told him.

<sup>23</sup> “You will certainly drink from my cup,” he said to them, “but the privilege to sit on my right or on my left isn’t mine to give. My Father is the one who has decided who that will be.”

<sup>24</sup> When the other ten disciples heard what they had asked, they were annoyed with the two brothers. <sup>25</sup> Jesus called them together and told them, “You know that foreign rulers lord it over their subjects, and powerful leaders oppress them. <sup>26</sup> It shall not be like that for you. Whoever among you wants to be the most important will be your servant.

<sup>27</sup> Whoever among you wants to be first will be like a slave. <sup>28</sup> In the same way the Son of man didn’t come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

## Twenty-one

# Jesus teaches disciples to faithfully invest what God gives them

### Matthew 25:14-30

<sup>14</sup> It's like a man who went away on a trip. He called in his servants and entrusted them with what he owned. <sup>15</sup> To one of them he gave five talents, to another he gave two, and to another one, according to their different abilities. Then he left. <sup>16</sup> Immediately the one with five talents went and invested them in a business, and made another five talents. <sup>17</sup> In the same way the one with two talents made another two. <sup>18</sup> But the man who'd received the one talent went off and dug a hole and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup> A long time later the master of those servants returned, and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> The one with five talents came and presented the other five talents. 'Master,' he said, 'You gave me five talents. Look, I've made a profit of five talents.' <sup>21</sup> His master said to him, 'You've done well—you are a good, faithful servant. You have proved yourself trustworthy over small things, so now I'm placing you in charge over many things. Be happy because I'm really pleased with you!' <sup>22</sup> The one with two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'You gave me two talents. Look, I've made a profit of two talents.' <sup>23</sup> His master said to him, 'You've done well—you are a good, faithful servant. You have proved trustworthy over small things, so now I'm placing you in charge over many things. Be happy because I'm really pleased with you!'

<sup>24</sup> Then the man with one talent came. 'Master,' he said, 'I know that you're a hard man. You reap where you didn't sow, and you harvest crops that you didn't plant. <sup>25</sup> So since I was afraid of you I went and buried your talent in the ground. Look, you can have back what belongs to you.' <sup>26</sup> But his master answered him, 'You wicked and lazy servant! If you think I reap where I don't sow, and harvest crops I didn't plant, <sup>27</sup> then you should have deposited my silver in the bank so that when I returned I could have had my money with interest. <sup>28</sup> Take the talent away from him, and give it to the one with ten talents. <sup>29</sup> For everyone who has will be given even more; and everyone who doesn't have anything, even what they have will be taken away from them. <sup>30</sup> Now throw this useless servant out into the darkness where there'll be crying and gnashing of teeth.'



## Twenty-two

### Jesus teaches disciples to serve those in need

#### Matthew 25:31-46

<sup>31</sup> But when the Son of man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his majestic throne. <sup>32</sup> Everyone will be brought before him. He will separate them from one another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> He'll place the sheep on his right hand, and the goats on his left. <sup>34</sup> Then the king will say to the ones on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, and inherit the kingdom that's been prepared for you from the beginning of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry, and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty, and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you invited me in. <sup>36</sup> I was naked and you clothed me. I was sick and you looked after me. I was in prison and you visited me.' <sup>37</sup> Then those who are right will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and fed you, or thirsty and gave you a drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see you as a stranger and invite you in, or naked and clothe you? <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick, or in prison, and visit you?' <sup>40</sup> The king will tell them, 'I tell you the truth: whatever you did for one of these of least importance you did for me.'

<sup>41</sup> He'll also say to those on his left, 'Go away from me, you who are doomed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels! <sup>42</sup> For I was hungry and you didn't give me anything to eat. I was thirsty and you didn't give me a drink. <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you didn't invite me in. I was naked and you didn't clothe me. I was sick and in prison and you didn't visit me.' <sup>44</sup> Then they will also answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and didn't look after you?' <sup>45</sup> Then he will tell them, 'I tell you the truth: whatever you didn't do for one of these of least importance you didn't do for me.' <sup>46</sup> They will go away into eternal condemnation, but those who are good will enter eternal life."

## Twenty-three

# Jesus teaches disciples to go and teach others to obey all His commands

### Matthew 28:16-20

<sup>16</sup> But the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him they worshiped him, though some doubted. <sup>18</sup> Jesus came to them and told them, “All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> So go and make disciples of people of all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. <sup>20</sup> Teach them to follow all the commands I have given you. Remember, I am always with you, to the very end of the world.”

## Conclusion

We hope that you enjoyed going through the Bible together. We'd love to hear any stories of how it has changed your life. The great news is that discovering the Bible doesn't stop here. If you would like to dive deeper, there are other study series in the **Discover App**. You can also use the study questions to explore any passage that you choose.

If you have enjoyed this series, why not encourage your friends and families to get a group going and go through the studies together?



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