

PRECEPTS FOR LIFE™

Matthew

The King, His Kingdom and Me



study guide

THE KING, HIS KINGDOM AND ME

Matthew

FELLOW BELIEVER,

Do you want to learn enough about Jesus' connection to the Old Testament to become confident enough to share Him with others?

Then this study of Matthew's Gospel is just for you! Matthew begins with Jesus' humble birth as son of David, son of Abraham (1:1) and ends with His universal authority over heaven and earth, His commission to His followers to make and teach disciples of all nations, and His promise to be with them always, to the end of the age (28:18-20).

This will truly be an adventure!

You'll get all this and more as we sit at Jesus' feet to learn God's prophetic Word.

You'll learn how Jesus fulfills prophecy—Matthew's Gospel is loaded with Old Testament citations that focus on God's original purpose for the Jew to be "a light to the Gentiles that [they] may bring salvation to the end of the earth" (Acts 13:47, Isaiah 42:6, 49:6).

And you'll see Israel like you've never seen it before—places where Jesus preached, taught, prayed, and suffered.

Biblical history and the holy land will come alive together!



PRECEPTS FOR LIFE™

with Kay Arthur

PRECEPTSTM FOR LIFE

Study Guide

This Bible study material was designed for use with the TV and Radio teaching program, Precepts for LifeTM with renowned Bible study teacher Kay Arthur, a production of Precept Ministries International. This inductive 30-minute daily Bible study program airs on many satellite, cable, and broadcast stations, and on the internet at **www.preceptsforlife.com**.

As with all Inductive Bible studies, the best way to use the material is to complete the assignments in each lesson before listening or watching the PFL program for that day. These programs are also available on DVD and CD at **www.preceptsforlife.com** or by phone (1.800.763.1990 for television viewers or 1.800.734.7707 for radio listeners). For more information about the Precept Inductive Bible Study Method and Precept Ministries International, visit **www.preceptsforlife.com**.

These materials are also useful for Bible study apart from the Precepts for LifeTM programs. We hope you'll find them valuable for studying God's Word and that your walk will be strengthened by the life-changing Truth you'll encounter each day.

The King, His Kingdom and Me—Matthew STUDY GUIDE

Published by Precept Ministries of Reach Out, Inc.
P. O. Box 182218
Chattanooga, TN 37422

ISBN-13: 978-1-62119-005-9

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Printed in the United States of America

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PROGRAM 1

Jesus the Messiah

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 1:1-18

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 3:2

Genesis 12:1b-3; 15:2b, 4-6

2 Samuel 7:8-11, 16, 27b

2 Chronicles 13:5b

Psalms 89:20, 29; 119:104

Ezekiel 36:26

John 1:17, 8:32

Acts 13:16a-26

Galatians 3:16

1. Read Matthew 1:1-18. Mark each reference to *Messiah* with a blue Star of David and color it yellow. What is Matthew revealing in these verses?
2. The promised Messiah is “the son of David, the son of Abraham.” Underline this phrase in verse 1 and then look up 2 Samuel 7:8-11, 16 and Acts 13:16-26.
3. What do you learn about David from these verses? What did God promise him? How does Jesus fulfill this promise?
4. When God called Abraham, what did He promise to give him according to Genesis 12:1-3? What is the “good news” (Gospel) in this promise for Gentiles?

PROGRAM 2

The Virgin Birth

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 1:18-25

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 5:10

Deuteronomy 22:23-30

Exodus 20:14, 17

Luke 1:26-35

Isaiah 7:11-14

Romans 5:12; 6:23

Genesis 3:1-7; 5:3

John 1:29

1 Peter 1:18-19

Hebrews 2:14

Psalms 51:5; 119:102

Jude 1:3

1. Read Matthew 1:18-25 and mark the following key words: *righteous* and *righteousness* with a blue “R”; *sin* in brown. (Key words and phrases unlock the meanings of texts. Marking helps you quickly find words so you can quickly list what you learn.)
2. How was Jesus conceived? What do you learn about Mary from this passage? Look up the parallel passage Luke 1:26-35 for additional information on her character.
3. What did you learn about Joseph, particularly his heart for Mary?
4. In Matthew 1:22, draw an open Bible over the word *spoken* and a green megaphone shaded yellow over the word *prophet*. Now observe the prophecy in Isaiah 7:14. What was foretold?

PROGRAM 3

Clash of The Kings

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 2:1-12

CROSS-REFERENCES

**John 1:11-12; 3:16;
6:54a; 14:6**

Luke 2:7c; 9:23b

Numbers 24:15-17

John 5:19

Revelation 19:16

Philippians 2:11

1. Read Matthew 2:1-12, marking *time phrases* with a green clock. When does this event occur in Jesus' life?
2. Add *king* and *kingdom* to your key word list and mark them in the passage with the key words you marked previously. (For quick reference, consider keeping a bookmark or running list of your key words and symbols as you study.)
3. What do you learn about Herod in this passage? Why is he troubled? How does he respond?
4. Who are the magi? Why was this star significant to them? (Look up Numbers 24:15-17 and record your answer.)

PROGRAM 4

Our Sovereign God

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 2:12-23

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 6:10

Isaiah 9:6; 41:10b

Daniel 4:35

Hosea 11:1

Jeremiah 29:11; 31:15-17

**Psalms 103:19b; 139:2, 4;
139:9, 11-12**

Luke 2:14

Romans 8:17

**Revelation 1:4b, 8a; 21:4;
22:20**

1. Read Matthew 2:12-23, marking *time phrases* with a green clock and double underlining in green each *geographical location* to determine the settings of events.
2. Now re-read Matthew 2:12-23 while marking the key word *prophet* with a green megaphone shaded yellow and the word *dream* with a cloud or color of your choice. (Repetition is essential to careful observation of the text in inductive study!)
3. Briefly summarize the order of events in this passage.
4. Read the prophecy of Jeremiah 31:15-17 that's partially quoted in verse 18. Though tremendous pain and adversity is coming to Bethlehem, what else does God promise?

PROGRAM 5

The Kingdom Of Heaven At Hand!

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 3:1-7

CROSS-REFERENCES

Isaiah 40:3-5

Matthew 5:18

Luke 2:52, 3:1-6

Proverbs 23:7

John 14:6

1. As you read Matthew 3:1-7 today, mark all the key words on your list or book-mark and then add the following:
 - *repentance* with a red U-turn symbol
 - *baptism* with blue waves like water
 - *wrath* and fire with red flames
 - *Holy Spirit* with a purple cloud shaded yellow(Note: just mark a few words in your first reading so they don't distract you from understanding the text.)
2. Re-read the passage asking the 5 Ws and H—who, what, when, where, why and how—to slow down and uncover the context. Ask questions like: Who is primarily speaking? To whom? What is his message? Where is this happening? How do the people respond to the message?
3. What did John say to the Pharisees and Sadducees? What did they believe saves them from God's wrath? What does John say to this?
4. Why was Jesus baptized? What followed His baptism?



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PROGRAM 6

Overcoming Temptation

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 4:1-11

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 20:28

Mark 1:13

Hebrews 2:14; 4:14-15b

Galatians 5:16

John 1:1; 3a

1 Corinthians 10:13

Luke 19:10

**Ephesians 1:20-21; 2:6;
6:10-11a, 17**

1 John 2:15-16

1. Carefully read Matthew 4:1-11. Mark references to the *devil* including synonyms with a red pitchfork. Also mark the key phrase "*it is written*" with a purple book shaded green.
2. Where did this event occur and how long did it last?
3. What did you learn from marking it is written? What does Jesus use to resist Satan?
4. List everything you learned from marking the devil. What is the devil like and what tactics does he use to tempt Jesus?

PROGRAM 7

First-Time Obedience

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 4:12-23

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 10:14

Isaiah 9:1-7

Jeremiah 1:12

Hosea 4:6

Luke 3:23a; 4:14-32

John 1:35-42

Hebrews 11:1

1. Read Matthew 4:12-23. Mark key words from your bookmark and watch especially for geographical locations.
2. According to verse 13, Jesus left his hometown of Nazareth. Read Luke 4:14-31 to discover what happened there.
3. According to Luke 3:23, when did Jesus begin His public ministry? To review, what two major events preceded His ministry years?
4. When did the disciples decide to follow Jesus? Put a clock over the time phrase if you missed it. Read John 1:35-42 for additional background on His first encounter with some of the disciples.

PROGRAM 8

Blessed Are The Righteous

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 5:1-20

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 3:2, 6-11

1. Now read Matthew 5:1-20. Continue to mark *righteousness*. Also mark **Father** with a box and color it blue.
2. What are the characteristics of *righteousness*? What are its *worldly* consequences? Its *heavenly* consequences?
3. What two metaphors does Jesus use to describe righteous believers? How does this lifestyle impact the world?

PROGRAM 9

The Higher Calling

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 5

CROSS-REFERENCES

Genesis 9:6

Luke 24:13, 27

Exodus 20:14, 21:24

Mark 7:21

**Deuteronomy 19:21;
24:1, 3**

1 Peter 2:18-23

Leviticus 11:45b; 24:20

2 Timothy 3:16

1 Thessalonians 2:13

Proverbs 4:23

1. Read Matthew 5 to get the full context of this verse. Mark *kingdom of heaven, time phrases* like *first* and *then, heart*, and the phrase **you have heard... but I say** to you in distinctive ways.
2. How did Jesus' teaching on murder go beyond the letter of the Law? Underline the phrase *shall be guilty* in black.
3. How about *adultery* and *divorce*?
4. False *vows*?
5. How does Jesus' teaching about how to treat enemies contrast with the world's view?

PROGRAM 10

Righteous Rewards

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 6

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 3:2, 5:8-10,
16-20, 22, 28, 32, 34,
39, 44-45, 48; 6:1-12,
16-34**

**Luke 11:1; 18:11-13;
22:42**

Daniel 7:14

Philippians 2:11

2 Corinthians 5:10

Isaiah 40:10; 62:11

1. Read Matthew 6, continuing to mark *Father* with a box and *righteousness*. Underline "they have their reward in full" in red.
2. What did you learn from marking this last phrase? What were "they" doing when they gave, prayed, and fasted? What did the Lord tell them to do instead?
3. Study the Lord's Prayer point by point. Why do you think Jesus suggests this pattern for praying?
4. What does Jesus teach about wealth and stewardship? Why are we tempted by the things of this world?

Did you know...

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PROGRAM 11

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 7:1-29

CROSS-REFERENCES

Deuteronomy 8:3

**Matthew 3:2, 7-8; 10;
4:4; 5:3; 6:1a; 7:1**

John 1:1; 5:19; 14:6

The Straight And Narrow Way

1. Carefully read Matthew 7, continuing to mark each reference to Your **Father**. Note the contrasts (for example, speck/log).
2. What does Jesus teach about *judging*? Why should you examine your own life first? Does He say we should never judge?
3. What did you learn about the **Father** in verses 7-12? How does He command His disciples to treat others?
4. Describe the differences between those who enter the narrow gate and those who enter the wide gate. How does John 14:6 add to your understanding of these verses?

PROGRAM 12

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 7:28—8:17

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 5:17; 7:28-29; 8:1-17;
17:20**

John 1:1-3, 11, 14; 6:35a

Isaiah 52:13-14b, 15a; 53:1-2, 4

Leviticus 11:44; 13:1-5; 14

Romans 1:16; 10:17

Hebrews 11:6

1 Peter 2:24b

2 Peter 1:3a

Ezekiel 12:25a

Luke 1:37

Psalms 119:102

2 Corinthians 1:20

Proverbs 29:25

Are You Willing, Lord?

1. Read Matthew 7:28-8:17. Mark key words from your bookmark and continue watching carefully for geographical locations and time phrases.
2. Underline the phrases *if you are willing* and *just say the word*. What did the leper and centurion recognize about Jesus?
3. Who are the sons *of the kingdom*? Why will they be cast out?
4. Read Hebrews 11:6. What do you learn about faith?

PROGRAM 13

Liberated By His Power

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 8:18-22

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 4:19, 21-22;
6:28-33; 8:18-34**

Philippians 4:16, 19

Daniel 7:13-14

Ephesians 1:19-21; 2:1

James 2:19

Mark 5:2-20

John 8:36

1 Corinthians 15:45

2 Corinthians 6:14c

Hebrews 7:25b

1. Read Matthew 8:18-34. What do the two men who approach Jesus request? How does their response compare with the response of Jesus' first disciples (Matthew 4:18-22)?
2. What is Jesus' response? Consider His answer in light of Matthew 6:33.
3. What happens at sea? Although the disciples were *physically* following Jesus, what do their reactions tell you about their faith?
4. Observe Jesus' encounter with the demoniacs and then read the account in Mark 5:2-20. Describe Jesus' power and authority and how the possessed man reacts to Him. How does the city react?

PROGRAM 14

Your Sins Are Forgiven

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 9:1-26

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 4:19; 5:3-4

Mark 2:3-5

Romans 3:10-11, 23

John 6:35a, 54; 20:22-23

Luke 5:29

Galatians 3:13b

Leviticus 11:44b

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Numbers 15:37-40

Malachi 3:1

1. As you read Matthew 9:1-26, note the order of the events. Locate where Jesus is and where He's going on a map.
2. What does Jesus tell the paralytic? Who is skeptical?
3. What does this event reveal about Jesus as the Messiah? What does it tell you about His understanding of men's hearts? About yours?
4. Describe Jesus' encounter with Matthew and other "sinners." Why are the Pharisees critical of their company? Does this motivate you to share the Gospel? With whom?

PROGRAM 15

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 9:27—10:23

CROSS-REFERENCES

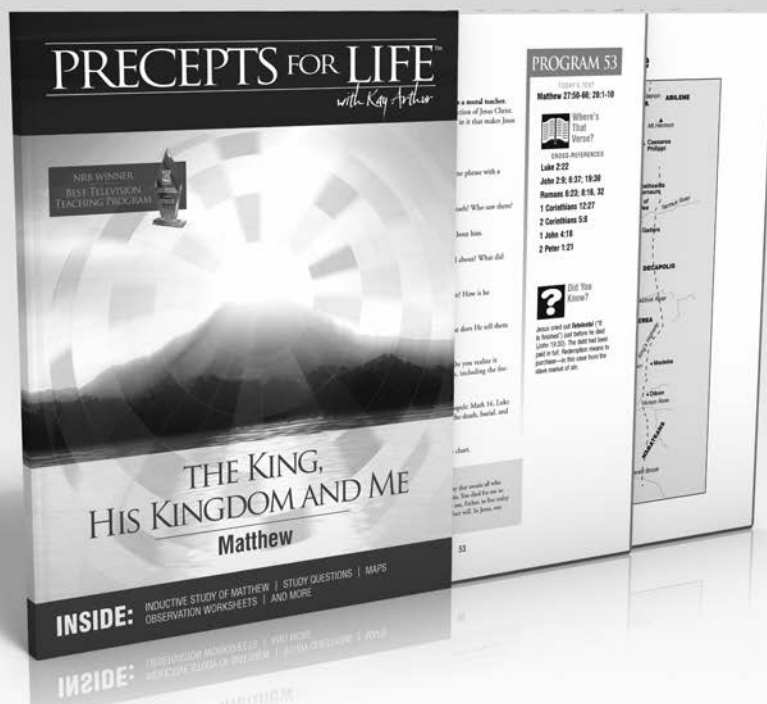
Hebrews 3:14

John 3:2, 4:35c, 10:28

Mark 5:19

Freely Received, Freely Given

1. Read Matthew 9:27—10:23, marking key words from your bookmark.
2. What miracles did Jesus perform? How did people who were healed respond? How did the Pharisees respond?
3. What excuses do people use to deny God's power and truth? Are there parts of your life you refuse to give up and turn over to God?
4. How did Jesus feel about the multitudes coming to Him? What did He say?
5. What warnings does Jesus give His disciples in Matthew 10:16-23? Who will enable them to stand firm? How?



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PROGRAM 16

The Cost of Discipleship

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 10:21-42

CROSS-REFERENCES

John 1:11-12; 14:6

Proverbs 29:25

1 Corinthians 11:1

Luke 9:23

1. Reread Matthew 10:1-2 and 16 to get the context of Jesus' message. Whom is He talking to and about what?
2. Now read Matthew 10:21-42 and mark the reference to *follow* with two feet. (As you become more familiar with inductive study, you'll develop your own marking system that you'll want to use consistently.)
3. Who will be among persecutors? What's the reward for enduring this hardship?
4. Why should God be feared more than man's persecution?
5. What must you do to be affirmed by the Father? Who is denied?

PROGRAM 17

Are You the Expected One?

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 11:1-9

CROSS-REFERENCES

Psalms 118:22-29

**Isaiah 35:3-6, 8-10;
62:1-3, 10-12**

Ezekiel 37:24-28

Daniel 7:13-14, 27

Joel 3:17-21

Amos 9:14-15

Zephaniah 3:18-20

Zechariah 14:5b, 9-11

Matthew 3:2, 4; 10:40-42

Luke 19:40

John 1:29, 14:6

Philippians 2:10b-11

Hebrews 11:6

1. What main points did Jesus make with His disciples in Chapter 10 before He addressed John the Baptist's disciples in 11:1-15? What's the connection?
2. Make a list of everything you learn about John from Chapter 11. What were his circumstances and what did he ask?
3. Although many prophecies in the Old Testament described the Messiah (the "Expected One"), the Jews did not understand the chronology of future events. Read the following passages and briefly describe the Messiah and what happens in Israel when He sets up His kingdom.
 - a. Isaiah 63:1-3, 10-12
 - b. Ezekiel 37:24-28
 - c. Joel 3:17-21
 - d. Amos 9:14-15
 - e. Zephaniah 3:18-20

PROGRAM 18

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 11:7-30

CROSS-REFERENCES

Malachi 3:1-3; 4:5-6

Isaiah 40:3

Matthew 4:17; 5:20; 16:4

Luke 12:48

Acts 3:13-16

2 Corinthians 5:9

Hebrews 11:6

Vindicated By Your Deeds

1. Read Matthew 11:7-30. Mark the following key words from your bookmark:
 - a. *Kingdom of heaven* as you did previously
 - b. *Prophet* with a green megaphone, shaded yellow
 - c. *Father* with a box, colored blue
 - d. *It is written* with a purple book, shaded green
 - e. *Repent* with a red U-turn symbol
 - f. *Time phrases* with a green clock
 - g. *Geographical locations* with a double, green underline.
2. What are the main points in this passage?
3. Who does Jesus say John the Baptist is and how does He describe him? How does this relate to Malachi 3:1-3 and 4:5-6?
4. What inconsistency does Jesus accuse the people of making in Matthew 11:16-19? How would you describe their hearts in one word?
5. Why does Jesus reproach Chorazin, Bethsaida and Capernaum? What happened in these cities and what consequences will follow?
6. What does Jesus offer the weary in Matthew 11:28-30? How does this encourage you to deal with difficult people and circumstances? Who can you "learn from"?

PROGRAM 19

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 11:28—12:14

CROSS-REFERENCES

Exodus 20:8-11; 34:6, 21

Numbers 15:32-36

Deuteronomy 23:24-25

Psalms 145:8

**Matthew 5:21-22; 10:16;
11:28-30**

Mark 2:27-28

James 2:10

The Way of Freedom

1. Read Matthew 11:28—12:14 in a single reading, keeping in mind that men created chapter and verse divisions for quick referencing.
2. Why were the Pharisees critical of Jesus and His disciples?
3. How does Jesus counter their assault? How does He address their hearts?
4. How do the Pharisees test Jesus in the synagogue? What did Jesus do and why?
5. Did Jesus break the Law? Was He working? Read the following passages and then determine if He broke God's command concerning the Sabbath: Exodus 20:8-11, Numbers 15:32-36, Mark 2:27-28.

PROGRAM 20

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 12:15-31

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 5:45, 48;
10:1; 11:21**

Genesis 12:3b

Romans 1:16; 8

1 Corinthians 11:1

Galatians 5:16, 22

Ephesians 5:18

Acts 1:8

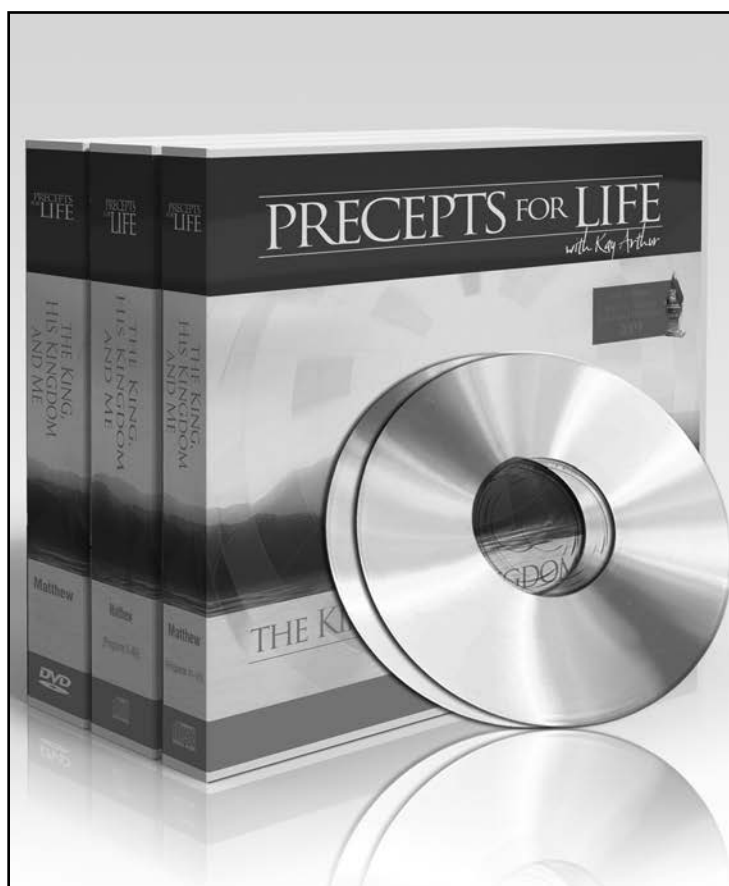
Philippians 2:10-11

Isaiah 42:1-4; 61:1

Psalms 119:104

Truth in Conflict

1. Read Matthew 12:15-31, marking key words from your bookmark including *Spirit*. Also mark Gentiles (translated nations) in green with a brown underline.
2. Why did Jesus withdraw? What tension do you see building? Read the preceding verses for context.
3. Carefully observe the prophecy Matthew quotes from Isaiah in verses 17-21. What do you learn about the Father, the Spirit, and Jesus the Messiah?
4. What did you learn from marking Gentiles?
5. What miracle does Jesus perform and how do the multitudes and Pharisees react? Whom does Jesus attribute the miracle to? How about the Pharisees?



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PROGRAM 21

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 12:31-50

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 1:25; 3:7; 5:22;
10:37-39**

James 3:8-12

John 2:18-22

Revelation 20:11-14

2 Corinthians 5:10

Ephesians 4:26; 5:26

Justified in Word and Deed

1. Read Matthew 12:24, 31-37, continuing to mark references to the *Holy Spirit* with a purple cloud shaded yellow and *heart* with a red heart.
2. What did the Pharisees accuse Jesus of doing (v. 24)? Based on Jesus' answer, why is this blasphemy toward the Holy Spirit?
3. Jesus said a tree is known by its fruit. How does this relate to words we speak? What do they reveal about us?
4. Now read Matthew 12:38-45. What do the Pharisees request and how does Jesus respond? What has Jesus been doing all along?
5. Lastly, observe 12:46-50. What is the main characteristic of Jesus' family?

PROGRAM 22

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 13:1-23

CROSS-REFERENCES

Isaiah 6:1-13

**Matthew 3:2; 6:33;
12:48-50; 10:14**

Isaiah 55:11

Mark 4:18-19

John 6:51

Ephesians 1:18

Hebrews 4:12

Psalms 100:4; 107:20

Parable of the Sower

1. Read Matthew 13:1-23, marking the key words from your bookmark and *parable* in distinct ways.
2. Summarize what happens to the seed depending on where it falls (vv. 4-8).
3. Now carefully list the main points of the parable from verses 19-20. Be sure to ask the 5Ws and H for each one. A few examples: *Who* snatches away the seed sown beside the road? *Why* does the seed sown in rocky places "fall away"? *What* causes the seed sown among thorns to be choked and unfruitful? *What* does the seed thrown among the good soil do?
4. Jesus said, "He who has ears, let him hear." What *kind* of ears and hearing do you think He has in mind?
5. Why did Jesus grant understanding to His disciple-apostles? What's given to those who want understanding according to verse 12?

PROGRAM 23

True Sons Of The Kingdom

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 13:24-43

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 7:21; 25:32

Mark 4:13-20

Luke 9:23

Romans 8:17

2 Timothy 2:12

2 Corinthians 13:5

1. Read Matthew 13:24-43. Mark key words and phrases from your bookmark including *parable* and *kingdom of heaven*. Identify terms that order events like *first, then*, etc. with a green clock.
2. List events that occur in the Parable of the Wheat and the Tares. Note the master's instructions to his slaves.
3. Now list the main points of Jesus' interpretation (vv. 36-43). Identify the sower, the enemy, the good seed, the tares, and the reapers.
4. What insights into the kingdom of heaven does this parable give you? What are the respective destinies of the tares (sons of the evil one) and the wheat (sons of the kingdom)?
5. Now describe the main points of the Parables of the Mustard Seed and the Leaven. What do they teach you about the kingdom of heaven?

PROGRAM 24

At The End Of The Age

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 13:40-58; 14:1-13

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 4:19, 21-22;

10:39; 16:24

Daniel 12:3

John 8:36-45

1. Read Matthew 13:40-58. Continue marking *kingdom of heaven*, *righteous(ness)*, and *at the end of the age* in distinct ways. Also note *time phrases* and *geographical locations* as you have previously.
2. List everything you learned about the *kingdom of heaven*.
3. How do the parables of the men who found treasure and a fine pearl relate to Matthew 10:39 and 16:24? How can you apply these teachings?
4. How do the parables of the fish and the wheat and tares compare? What did you learn from marking the *end of the age*?

PROGRAM 25

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 14:13-36

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 6:30; 8:25-26;
16:6-11**

Romans 10:17

Psalms 3:7; 66:9

Jeremiah 32:27

Hebrews 11:6; 13:5-6

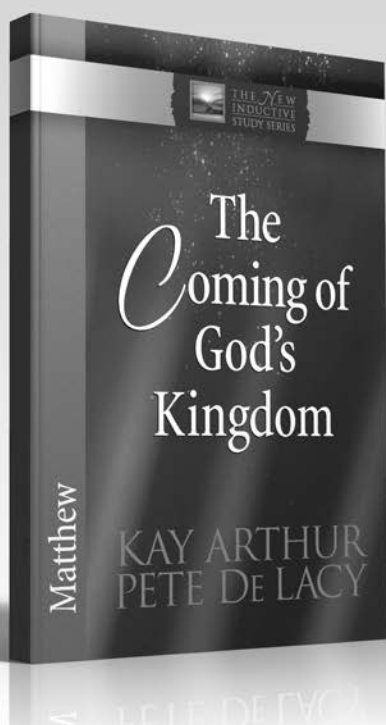
John 6:19

Mark 6:27-28

Ephesians 1:4; 3:20

Faith: A Growing Process

1. Read Matthew 14:13-36. Mark the key words and time phrases you're used to plus the key word *pray* and its synonyms (*supplication, petition, ask, cry out to God*) distinctly.
2. To understand the context, think about what just happened. Why did Jesus withdraw to a lonely place? How does He react to the crowds that followed Him?
3. Describe the great miracle that occurred. Whose faith did God grow more by this event—the disciples' or the crowd's? How do you know?
4. Ask verses 22-33 the 5Ws and H. Where has Jesus been? Where were the disciples? How did they respond to His appearance? What significant thing happens and how does it grow the disciples' faith?
5. What caused Peter to sink? What does fear do to faith? Can you sympathize with Peter's reaction?



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PROGRAM 26

A Matter of the Heart

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 15:1-20

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 5:8, 27-28;
13:24-30**

Proverbs 4:23-27

Isaiah 29:13

Leviticus 20:9

Exodus 20:12; 21:17

Psalms 119:104a

Deuteronomy 6:5

1. Read Matthew 15:1-20. Mark *commandment* of God with stone tablets and *tradition* with an orange squiggly line. Remember to mark the key words from your bookmark, especially *heart* (with a red heart).
2. What do the Pharisees accuse Jesus and His disciples of breaking? How does Jesus counter their allegation?
3. How does Jesus' statement in Matthew 15:13 relate to his previous teaching about wheat and tares in Matthew 13:24-30? What happens to those who do not belong to God?

PROGRAM 27

Beware the Leaven of False Teaching

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 15:21-36; 16:1-12

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 3:17; 5:46-48;
6:33; 17:20**

Hebrews 11:6

Mark 7:24-26

Romans 10:17

John 17:4

Deuteronomy 8:3

Philippians 4:19

2 Timothy 4:1-4

Psalms 119:104

1. Read Matthew 15:21-36. Continue to mark the key words from your bookmark, geographical locations, and time phrases. Also mark *compassion* in a distinct way.
2. Describe what happens in Matthew 15:29-39. Why did Jesus feel compassion for the people? What does He do for them?
3. Now read Matthew 16:1-12 asking the 5Ws and H to uncover the setting. Who's testing Jesus and how does He respond?
4. How does Jesus warn His disciples? What are they confused about and how do they finally understand Him?

PROGRAM 28

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 16:13-19

CROSS-REFERENCES
Matthew 10:32; 11:27; 13:11, 14-15
Micah 5:2
Malachi 3:10; 4:5
1 Peter 2:5-8; 3:15
John 1:1, 3, 14; 10:30-33; 14:9-11
Deuteronomy 6:4
Genesis 1:1, 26-27
1 John 1:1
Hebrews 4:12
Revelation 1:8; 21:4
Isaiah 6:9-10; 9:6; 42:8; 55:11; 61:1
Jeremiah 23:5-6
Ephesians 2:20
1 Corinthians 3:11
Daniel 7:13

“Who Do You Say That I Am?”

1. Read Matthew 16:13-19. Mark references to the *Messiah* and its synonyms with a blue Star of David and color them yellow. (You may want to mark this key word in the cross-references in this lesson.)
2. Who do people at this point in Matthew think Jesus is? How do their speculations compare with people's ideas today?
3. What does Peter believe about Jesus? Who revealed this truth to him?
4. List everything you learn about the Messiah from the following prophecies:
 - a. Isaiah 9:6
 - b. Jeremiah 23:5-6
 - c. Micah 5:2
5. Jesus told Peter, “...upon this rock I will build my church.” According to the following verses, what is the foundation of the Church?
 - a. 1 Peter 2:5-8
 - b. Ephesians 2:2
 - c. 1 Corinthians 3:11
 - d. Revelation 21:4

PROGRAM 29

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 16:15-28; 17:1-8

CROSS-REFERENCES
Matthew 3:2; 5:17; 25:31
John 1:29; 14:6; 20:21-23
Acts 10:43
Luke 9:28; 19:10
Isaiah 40:10; 52:14; 53:5
Mark 9:2
Hebrews 1:1-2
2 Peter 1:16-21
Amos 3:7
Revelation 1:18; 3:7

The Suffering Servant

1. Read Matthew 16:15—17:8 in a single reading, ignoring the chapter break. Mark the words from your bookmark, every time indicator with a clock, and *suffer* including synonyms and pronouns in red.
2. When Jesus gives Peter (and later the other Apostles) “the keys to the kingdom of heaven,” what did He mean? How do John 20:21-23, Acts 10:43, and John 14:6 shed light on the authority He granted His Twelve Apostles?
3. What does Jesus tell the disciples concerning what will happen to Him? Put a red cross next to this verse.
4. How does Peter respond to this news and what does Jesus say to him?
5. What does discipleship cost according to Matthew 16:24-27? How do you know Jesus' followers will be rewarded for faithfulness?

PROGRAM 30

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 17:9-27; 18:1-14

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 3:2; 4:17; 10:1;
11:3, 11-12, 14; 14:6-10;
17:3-7**

Malachi 3:1; 4:5

Luke 1:8-16

Hebrews 11:6

2 Peter 1:3-4

Woe to the Stumbling Block!

1. Observe Matthew 17:9-27 and mark key words. If you see a reference to *disbelief*, draw a Bible over it and then put a slash through it. Put a red cross next to verses that prophesy what happens to Jesus†.
2. What's the connection between Elijah and John the Baptist? Although you've looked up these verses before, re-read Matthew 3:2, 11:14 and Malachi 3:1 and 4:5. Note John's message and role.
3. Why couldn't the disciples cure the demon-possessed boy? What do you learn about faith from these verses?
4. What are the main points in Matthew 17:24-27?
5. Now read Matthew 18:1-14, mark key words, and note the main points Jesus is making.
6. What did you learn about the kingdom of heaven? Who enters it?
7. What warning does Jesus give to stumbling blocks? What consequences will they suffer? What does He advise them to do?

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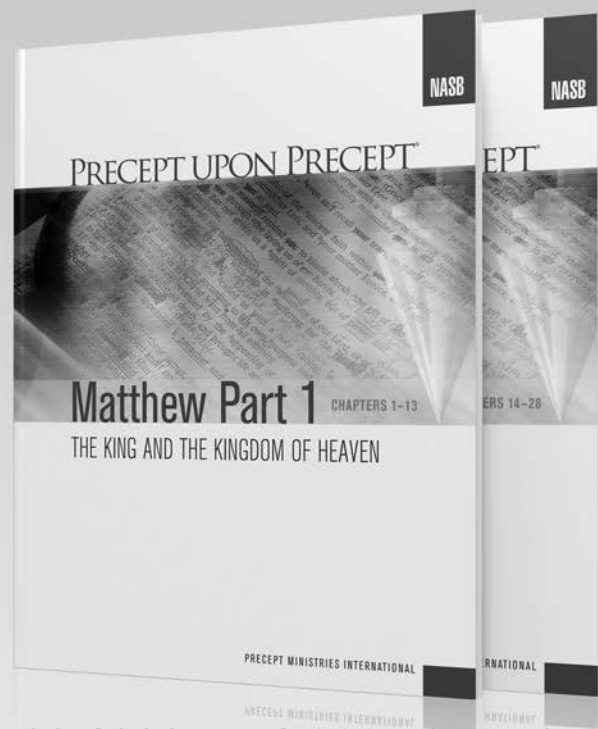
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PROGRAM 31

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 18:15-35

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 5:7-8; 6:9-15;
10:7**

Deuteronomy 19:15-19

Isaiah 53:6

Ephesians 4:32; 5:1-2

Forgiveness—an Act of Obedience

1. Read Matthew 18:15—35. What primary subject does Jesus address in this passage?
2. Number and list each step of dealing with a brother's sin. How does this process compare with the ways unbelievers handle offenses?
3. Look up Deuteronomy 19:15-19. Why should sin be addressed?
4. What is the purpose of witnesses according to the text?
5. Does Matthew 18:18-20 teach that the Father will do *absolutely everything* we agree on? What does the context focus on?
6. Summarize the main points of the parable in Matthew 18:21-35. What does God want you to understand from this teaching?

PROGRAM 32

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 19:1-15

CROSS-REFERENCES

Psalms 11:3

Genesis 2:18-24

Malachi 2:6-7, 13-16

Deuteronomy 24:1-4

God's Plan for Marriage

1. Read Matthew 19:1-15. How do the Pharisees test Jesus?
2. Jesus cites God's intentions for marriage. Address the 5Ws and H to Genesis 2:18-24. Here are some examples:
 - a. Why did God give Adam a wife? What purposes does she serve?
 - b. Whom does God command the man to leave?
 - c. What happens when the man and woman are married?
 - d. What can you conclude about the permanence of marriage?
3. In distinction from the Pharisees' "Moses *commanded*" (divorce), Jesus says "Moses *permitted*." What's the difference and what are the implications?
4. What's God's thinking on marriage and divorce in Malachi 2:13-16?
5. What legitimate ground does Jesus give for divorce? Does the stoning of adulterers in the Old Testament support this?

PROGRAM 33

The Call to Fully Surrender

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 19:16-30; 20:1-16

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 3:2b; 16:24;

19:1-2; 20:28; 27:37

Luke 18:19

1 Thessalonians 5:24

Galatians 2:20

John 4:35c; 9:4

Isaiah 10:10

2 Corinthians 4:18

Revelation 22:12

1. Read Matthew 19:16—20:16 in one sitting, ignoring the chapter break. Mark key words and consider what you learn about the *kingdom of heaven* and *follow*.
2. Note everything you learn about the rich young man seeking eternal life. What does Jesus say that grieves him?
3. Why does Jesus ask this man to sell his possessions and give them to the poor? What do you find about the man's tenacity for wealth? Are you any different?
4. What does it take to inherit eternal life according to this passage?
5. Identify the main points in the Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard. Mark time phrases!
6. How does the landowner deal with the grumbling workers? What is the point of the story and Jesus' comments in 19:30 and 20:16?

PROGRAM 34

Greatness Redefined

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 20:17-34

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 16:21-24;

17:22-23; 19:26-27

John 1:29; 5:44; 12:43;

19:26-27; 21:20

Hebrews 4:15

Acts 12:1-2

Romans 5:12; 8:4

1 Corinthians 4:5

Revelation 22:12

1. Read Matthew 20:17-34. Where are Jesus and the disciples headed? What will happen there?
2. What did the mother of Zebedee's sons request? How did she promote them—why did she think they were worthy?
3. How does Jesus redefine greatness according to Matthew 20:25-28?
 - a. What does the world want power *for*?
 - b. How does Jesus differentiate His followers?
 - c. In what ways did Jesus "serve" that we can follow?

PROGRAM 35

Savior and King

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 21:1–22

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 1:1; 7:13-14;
16:24; 19:16-22; 23:37-39**

John 1:14, 29

Zechariah 9:9

Psalms 118:22-27

Luke 19:40, 44

Deuteronomy 18:15

2 Peter 1:3

1. Observe Matthew 21:1-22, looking for key words, geographical locations and time indicators. Mark references to the *Son of David* and *temple* in distinct ways.
2. What does Jesus tell His disciples to do at the beginning of this chapter? Read Zechariah 9:9, the prophecy fulfilled in this event.
3. How do the people respond to Jesus' entrance to the city? What do they testify about Him right after saying, "Hosanna!"? Review Matthew 1:1.
4. Psalm 118:22-27 prophesies someone called "the head of the corner" coming in the name of the Lord. List everything you learn about Him from this passage.
5. What did you learn from marking temple? Ask the 5Ws and H to discover what was happening and what Jesus did there.



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PROGRAM 36

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 21:23-46

CROSS-REFERENCES

Psalms 103:19

Zechariah 9:9b, 11b

Jeremiah 38:6

**Matthew 2:2; 3:2, 8, 10;
5:20-21, 28; 7:21-23;
8:11-12; 11:12; 21:5b,
9b, 11b**

Mark 1:15

1 Corinthians 10:26

Resting or Resisting?

1. Observe Matthew 21:23-46. What was Jesus doing in the temple? What do the chief priests want to know and how does He respond to them?
2. Note the main points in the parable of the man with two sons. Why does Jesus say tax gatherers and harlots get into the kingdom of God before these “spiritual” leaders?
3. Re-read the parable of the landowner and identify the landowner, vine-growers, slaves, and son. Observe what happens to each and by whom.
4. What do the chief priests conclude the landowner should rightfully do to the vine-growers?
5. Mark the conclusion introduced by *therefore* in verse 43 with three dots like a triangle. How does Jesus sum up his teaching on the vineyard?

PROGRAM 37

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 22:1-14

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 21:45-46

Mark 7:27-28

Luke 21:20-21

John 1:11, 29; 14:6

**Romans 1:16; 11:11,
17-29**

2 Corinthians 5:21

1 Peter 1:1-2

Called and Chosen

1. Read Matthew 22:1-14, marking key words from your bookmark and asking the 5Ws and H. Identify to whom and where Jesus is teaching this parable (v. 23).
2. Why didn't the invited guests come to the wedding feast for the king's son? What insight does John 1:11 give us?
3. What did the king do to those who mistreated and killed his slaves?
4. Who do you think the originally invited guests who rejected the king and his son are? Does Romans 11:11 help?
5. What happened to the dinner guest without wedding clothes? According to John 14:6, what is the only way to enter the kingdom of heaven? Explain the “exchange” made when you accept Jesus' invitation, according to 2 Corinthians 5:21.

PROGRAM 38

Knowing the Source

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 22:15-46

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 1:3, 21, 23;
2:2; 15:14; 23:12, 14;
23:17, 19, 24-26**

**John 1:29; 3:19; 6:63;
14:15**

**Revelation 17:8; 20:15
2 Peter 1:21**

Deuteronomy 25:5-6

2 Chronicles 16:9

Genesis 1:26; 38:6-26

Exodus 20:3, 12, 15-17

1. Read Matthew 22:15-46. Identify each group approaching Jesus and note their intentions when they question Him.
2. The Herodians were a political group loyal to King Herod (this is the only reference to them in Matthew). Who else is with them and who sent them? What do they ask and are they sincere?
3. How does Jesus answer them? How do they react?
4. What does Jesus reveal about the resurrection? How do the multitudes react?
5. What are the two greatest commandments? Why? What does Jesus say?

PROGRAM 39

Compelled By Love

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 23:1-12

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 5:17

Revelation 1:6

Numbers 15:38-41

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

Galatians 3:23-25

Romans 7:12

Exodus 35:3

1. Observe Matthew 23:1-12. What's Jesus' primary instruction in this passage and to whom?
2. Based on all you've studied in Matthew, why shouldn't the people emulate the Pharisees, the religious leaders and teachers of the Law?
3. Although the Law is impossible to keep, the Pharisees added "heavy burdens" to its demands. List what you learn about the Law by observing the following verses:
 - a. Matthew 5:17
 - b. Romans 7:12
 - c. Galatians 3:23-25
4. Why did the Pharisees do what they did? List what they were doing from Matthew 23:5-7.

PROGRAM 40

Woe To You Hypocrites!

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 23:13-23, 25-36

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 3:7b; 4:17b;
5:21, 22, 34-37; 6:5**

Hebrews 9:27

John 5:24; 6:37; 14:6

1 Samuel 16:7b

Romans 10:13

1. Carefully read Matthew 23:13-36. Mark the following key words and phrases:
 - a. **Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees** in red and shade in brown
 - b. **Hypocrites** with a blue "H"
 - c. **Prayers** as you previously marked *pray*
 - d. **Blind** with two circles
2. List everything you learned from marking *Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees*. Ask the 5 Ws and H questions to determine why their behavior was hypocritical.
3. Why does Jesus call them *blind*?
4. Mark **therefore** in verse 34 with three dots like the points of a triangle. What point is Jesus concluding?

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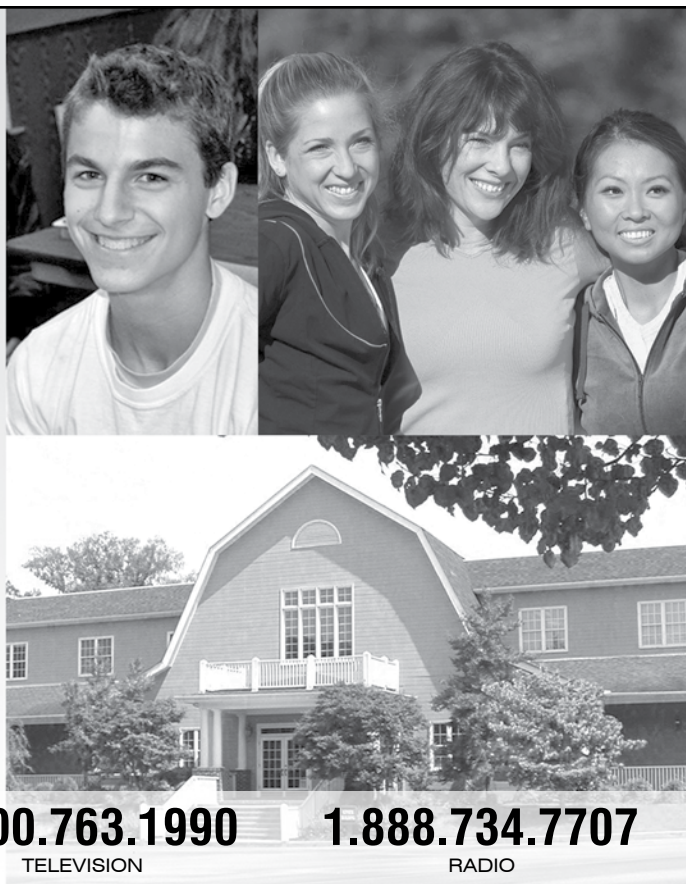
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PROGRAM 41

The End of the Age

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 23:37-39; 24:1-14

CROSS-REFERENCES

John 1:14

1 John 5:19b

Matthew 2:2; 3:2; 22:37; 23:37

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

2 Thessalonians 2:2-3

1 Corinthians 15:1-2, 51-54

2 Corinthians 5:8

Hebrews 3:6, 14

Zechariah 13:8-9

Revelation 14:6-7

1. Read Matthew 23:37—24:14. Mark the key words from your bookmark along with references to *Your coming* with a blue cloud, colored blue with a yellow center and *end of the age* or *the end* in red. Continue to mark geographical locations and time phrases.
2. Jesus pronounced eight woes on the Pharisees, scribes and Sadducees in chapter 23. What does He say to Israel at the conclusion of this chapter?
3. What two warnings does Jesus give in Matthew 24:4-6? Describe all the events that must take place before the end but are “merely the beginning of birth pangs.”
4. What did you learn from marking the end?

PROGRAM 42

The Sign of His Coming

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 24:1-3, 15-31

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 22:37; 24:1-3

Daniel 7:23; 9:27; 11:31; 11:45; 12:1, 11

Joel 2:1-2

Jeremiah 30:5-7

1 Thessalonians 4:17

2 Thessalonians 2:1-4

Luke 21:28

Romans 11:26

Revelation 3:10; 12:14-17; 13:7

1 John 3:3

1. Carefully read Matthew 24:1-3, 15-31. Continue marking references to Jesus' *coming* and *the end*. Watch for time phrases that help you understand the order events occur in before He returns. Also consider whom Jesus is speaking *to* and *about* as you study this chapter.
2. In verse 3, the disciples ask for the sign of His coming and of the end of the age. Jesus gives an overview of the end of the age in verses 4-14. According to verse 15, what sign will indicate He is about to come?
3. Review 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4. What do you learn about “the man of lawlessness”?
4. What does Jesus tell those in Judea to do when they actually see the Abomination of Desolation? List everything you learn.
5. What happens according to Matthew 24:21-22? Who “will be saved”? Note how this corresponds with Daniel 11:45 and 12:1.

PROGRAM 43

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 24:29-42

CROSS-REFERENCES
Matthew 24:2-4, 11, 13-15; 24:21, 26-27; 13:30, 37-42, 47-50
Deuteronomy 30:1-4
2 Thessalonians 2:4
Acts 1:11
Jeremiah 30:7
1 Peter 1:23
1 Corinthians 1:27-29
Luke 2:29-33
2 Timothy 2:15; 4:8
Psalms 119:102
Ezekiel 11:13-17

Be Alert!

1. Read Matthew 24:29-42. Continue marking key words including Jesus' *coming* with a cloud outlined blue with a yellow center and time phrases with a green clock ⌚. (Time phrases start with words like after, then, until, when, etc. and normally should be marked.)
2. According to verses 29-31, how and when will Jesus come?
3. When Jesus returns, He sends His angels out to gather the elect from around the world. Read Deuteronomy 30:1-4 and Ezekiel 11:13-17 for insight on why God's chosen people have been scattered and how God will restore them.
4. What do you learn from the parable of the fig tree? What is Jesus' message to those watching and waiting for Him?

PROGRAM 44

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 24:42-51; 25:1-30

CROSS-REFERENCES
Matthew 3:2; 7:21; 24:10-15, 30, 37-39
1 Thessalonians 4:16-17
Revelation 19:8
Zechariah 14:4-9
Luke 16:10
2 Corinthians 11:2

Be On The Alert!

1. Observe Matthew 24:42-51 and 25:1-30. Continue marking words from your key word bookmark, including *Son of Man* with a blue cloud. Also, mark the phrase *be on the alert* in dark green.
2. Mark *therefore* in verse 42 with three dots like a triangle. What's Jesus concluding? (Hint: see the context—24:38-42.)
3. What did you learn from marking *be on the alert*? What are we to be looking for?
4. How is the good slave described? Underline adjectives that give you clues about him. How is the *evil* slave described?
5. How is the *faithful* slave rewarded? How is the *wicked* slave punished?
6. Examine the contrasts between the five foolish and five prudent virgins. Why were some called *prudent* and the others *foolish*? What happened to each group?
7. Carefully observe the parable of the talents in 25:15-30. Note what each slave is given and what he does with it.
8. According to Matthew 25:15, how does the master determine how much he gives his slaves?

PROGRAM 45

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 25:31-46

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 3:2; 5:20; 24:1, 9;
24:15-16, 21; 22:39**

Mark 9:44, 46, 48; 13:24-27

**Daniel 12:1, 11; 7:9; 9:27;
11:36**

**Revelation 12:9; 13:5-8;
13:14, 18; 16:2**

John 1:11-12; 10:11; 16:20

Joel 3:11-14

2 Thessalonians 2:3

Ezekiel 28:14

Isaiah 14:13

Genesis 3:1; 12:3

Job 23:12

The Sheep and the Goats

1. Read Matthew 25:31-46. Mark key words including *kingdom* and *righteous(ness)*. Continue to note time phrases with a green clock ⌚.
2. What happens when the Son of Man comes? Read Joel 3:11-14 for additional insight.
3. What did you learn from marking *righteous*? Who are the righteous and why are they called so? (What did they do?)
4. How does the Lord reward the sheep at His right hand?
5. What does the phrase *from the foundation of the world* teach you about God's sovereign choice?
6. What did you learn about the goats at the Lord's left hand? What did they fail to do and what consequences will they suffer?

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PROGRAM 46

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 26:1-29

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 1:21, 23b;
3:2-3; 7-8; 4:17b;
25:21a**

Jeremiah 31:31-34

1 John 2:2

1 Corinthians 5:6-8

Luke 22:19c

John 1:29

Hebrews 10:4-7

Mark 14:5

A Devoted Follower

1. Observe Matthew 26:1-29, marking key words from your bookmark, including **woe** in red, shaded brown. Also mark references to the **Passover** with a red half circle; these will serve as time indicators for the events that follow.
2. After Jesus finishes His discourse on the last days and His coming, what does He tell His disciples concerning what will happen to Him? What behind-the-scenes events will lead up to His crucifixion?
3. Describe what the woman does to Jesus in Bethany. Why do the disciples protest? Why does Jesus defend her?
4. Who does Judas go to see and why?
5. What does Jesus reveal to His disciples during the Passover meal?
6. What does Jesus inaugurate with the breaking of bread and the cup of wine? (Read Jeremiah 31:31-34 and look at what this New Covenant guarantees believers.)

PROGRAM 47

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 26:30-56

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 6:13; 7:7-8;
20:28; 25:21**

1 John 3:16

Zechariah 11:13; 13:7

Luke 22:42, 44

Isaiah 53:11

1 Thessalonians 5:17

Your Will Be Done!

1. Carefully observe Matthew 26:30-56. Mark key words from your bookmark, including **prayer** with a purple vase shaded pink. Double underline geographical locations and put a green clock by time phrases ⌚. Locate the places on the map at the end of this study.
2. After the Passover meal, where did Jesus and His disciples go?
3. What does Jesus tell them they'll do? How do they respond?
4. Mark the key (repeated) phrase **it is written** in verse 31; then read Zechariah 13:7—the full prophecy Jesus quotes. What do you learn?
5. What insight into Jesus' humanity do you gain from this passage? (Note the emotional and physical symptoms He experienced.)
6. List everything you learned from marking **prayer**. Direct the following questions to the text: what Jesus prayed, why He asked the disciples to pray for Him, and why the disciples needed to pray for themselves.
7. Note the main points in Judas' betrayal of Jesus in verses 47-56.

PROGRAM 48

The Betrayal and Arrest

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 26:55-59, 61-75

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 8:20; 26:30-54

Daniel 7:13-14

John 1:29; 18:13, 19

Deuteronomy 12:5

1 Chronicles 11:4-7

Mark 9:44, 46, 48

Joel 3:14

Psalms 22:14

1 Timothy 6:13-16

Revelation 19:6; 21:2-4

Zechariah 14:16

Ephesians 1:4

Luke 19:38-40; 22:57

1. Re-read Matthew 26:31-54 to understand what takes place prior to Jesus' arrest. Ask the 5W and H questions to learn what happened, to whom, the location of the arrest, and why the events took place as they did.
2. Now read Matthew 26:55-59, 61-75. Mark every reference to *death* with a black tombstone.
3. What had Jesus told the disciples (specifically Peter) they would do? What happened?
4. What does the chief priest ask Jesus and how does He answer?
5. Read the prophecy Jesus quotes (Daniel 7:13-14) concerning the Son of Man. What will God give Him?
6. What does Peter do when he realizes his sin?

PROGRAM 49

Surrender To The Truth

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 26:59-75

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 27:34

Luke 22:31-34, 63-64; 19:14

John 1:29; 2:13-21; 6:37; 10:10; 14:6

Psalms 88:1-6; 119:104

Hebrews 7:25; 12:2

Acts 2:33

Jude 1:24-25

2 Corinthians 5:21

Leviticus 21:10

Philippians 2:10-11

Isaiah 50:4-6; 45:5; 53:11

Colossians 1:8

Revelation 1:4-7; 4:8; 21:3

1 Peter 1:19

1. Re-read Matthew 26:59-75. What condemning testimony did the chief priests and Sanhedrin *believe* they had obtained?
2. Note the setting of John 2:13-21. Did these religious leaders accurately interpret what Jesus had said? What "temple" was Jesus referring to?
3. What did the high priest do after he accused Jesus of blaspheming? Look up Leviticus 21:10. Did his response agree with the Law's requirement?
4. What else did Jesus endure at the hands of these men? (Read Luke 22:63-64 and Isaiah 50:4-6 for additional details.)
5. Scrutinize the details of Peter's denial. Although Peter confessed to *Jesus* that He was the Christ, the Son of God, why did he deny these truths *before men*? What do you learn from this that you can apply to your life?

PROGRAM 50

He Endured All For You!

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 27:1-14

CROSS-REFERENCES

Esther 4:14

Proverbs 18:24

Isaiah 53:7-8

Zechariah 11:13

Malachi 4:2

**Matthew 2:1-16; 7:6;
23:23; 27:4**

Mark 2:9

Luke 5:20-21; 22:42, 44

John 8:11; 18:31

Hebrews 7:25; 12:2

1 John 2:1-2

1. Read Matthew 27:1-14. The chief priests and elders illegally tried Jesus at night. Whom do they turn to—to legitimize their actions?
2. How did Judas respond to Jesus' condemnation? Note the details of his actions.
3. How should the chief priests (teachers of God's Word) have dealt with Judas? (Consider Jesus' comments in Matthew 23:23.)
4. Describe Jesus' encounter with Pilate. Read Isaiah 53:7-8 and record how He fulfilled this prophecy.

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PROGRAM 51

The Suffering Sacrifice

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 27:15-26

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 22:21; 27:4

John 1:29b; 19:30b

Hebrews 4:15

Luke 23:21

**Acts 3:12-15; 4:27-28;
5:27-33; 7:51-53**

Genesis 9:5-6

1 Peter 2:24-25

Colossians 2:13-15

Leviticus 20:9-10, 13

Exodus 21:15, 17

Jonah 1:12-14

2 Corinthians 5:21

1. Read Matthew 27:15-26. What's happening?
2. What does Pilate offer the crowds? What was Barabbas?
3. What were the chief priests doing among the multitudes?
4. Why do you suppose the crowd said "His blood be on us and on our children?"
Read the following verses and note everything you learn about shedding innocent blood and who was guilty of Christ's death:
 - a. Genesis 9:5-6
 - b. Acts 3:12-15
 - c. Acts 4:27-28
 - d. Acts 5:27-33
 - e. Acts 7:51-53
5. Although Pilate recognized Jesus' innocence, what did he do to Jesus and why?

PROGRAM 52

What Will You Do With Jesus?

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 27:26-51

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 26:39b; 27:2, 12

Isaiah 52:13-15a

Mark 15:17

Jeremiah 1:5

**John 1:29; 3:19; 14:6;
17:24; 19:30a**

Revelation 13:8; 17:8

Romans 6:23

Colossians 2:14

Psalms 22:14

**Hebrews 2:3a; 6:19; 10:4-5;
13:12-15**

Luke 9:23; 23:44-45

2 Corinthians 5:21

1. Read Matthew 27:26-51 and list the ways Jesus suffered for our sake.
2. What did Isaiah prophesy about His death (Isaiah 52:13-15)?
3. Why did Jesus have to suffer for all mankind? Look up Romans 6:23, Colossians 2:14, and 2 Corinthians 5:21 and list what his death accomplished.
4. What's significant about the tearing of the temple veil immediately following the crucifixion? Read Hebrews 6:19 for additional insight.

PROGRAM 53

He Is Risen!

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 27:50-66; 28:1-10

CROSS-REFERENCES

Luke 2:22

John 2:9; 6:37; 19:30


Romans 6:23; 8:16, 32

1 Corinthians 12:27

2 Corinthians 5:8

1 John 4:18

2 Peter 1:21

1. Read Matthew 27:50-66 and 28:1-10. Mark every time phrase with a green clock  (e.g. the one with after in verse 53).
2. What events occurred immediately following Jesus' death? Who saw them?
3. What were the chief priests and Pharisees concerned about? What did they do?
4. Who appears at the tomb after the Sabbath? To whom? How is he described and what did he tell others there?
5. How do the women respond to the risen Lord? What does He tell them to do?

PROGRAM 54

The Essential Resurrection

TODAY'S TEXT

Matthew 28:7-15

1 Corinthians 15:1-21

CROSS-REFERENCES

**Matthew 12:38b-40;
23:27c; 26:61; 27:52-54;
63-64**

Galatians 1:13-2:1

Acts 9:3-5

John 8:44e, f; 19:30b

Hebrews 11:1

Luke 24:12-32

Genesis 3:15

1 Timothy 1:13-15


Daniel 12:1-2, 13

Revelation 6:3-4; 12:9a, b

**Ephesians 1:18-23a; 2:6;
5:5-6a**

Exodus 20:16

Jonah 1:17; 2:10

1. Read Matthew 28:7-15. What was reported to the chief priests? By whom? What had they seen?
2. How did the priests receive the news? How did they handle the situation and what were the results?
3. The book of Matthew ends with the resurrection of Jesus Christ—an essential fact to the Gospel. Observe 1 Corinthians 15:1-21 and mark every reference to *gospel*  and its synonyms and pronouns with a red megaphone shaded in green.
4. Ask the 5Ws and H questions and list everything you learn about the Gospel from this passage in 1 Corinthians.
5. List and number the main points of the Gospel according to verses 3-8, and commit these to memory.
6. Consider the Apostle Paul's discussion of the resurrection. Why is the resurrection vital to our faith? Why would Christians be "of all men most to be pitied" if it were false?

PROGRAM 55

His Commission To You

TODAY'S TEXT
Matthew 28:16-20

CROSS-REFERENCES

Matthew 1—28

2 Samuel 7:16

Galatians 3:16

Genesis 15:4, 6b; 22:17

Philippians 2:10a-11

Hebrews 4:15b

Mark 14:22

Daniel 11:31; 12:11

Revelation 19:11-16

Romans 10:17

John 21:3a, 4-7, 15-16

1. Read Matthew 28:16-20 (if necessary, review verses 1-15 for additional context).
Why did the disciples go to Galilee? How did they react to Jesus?
2. What did you learn about Jesus from these verses?
3. What does Jesus instruct His disciples to do?
4. What happens at the end of the age? (See Philippians 2:10-11.)
5. Jesus' commission to His eleven Apostles extends to all who believe through them . . . right up to today. Are you equipped to take His Gospel to others, teaching them His ways and commands?
 - a. What is key to growing faith, according to Romans 10:17?
 - b. Are you burdened to share His message of hope and salvation with others? Why or why not?
 - c. Are you leading an exemplary life that can lead others to Christ?

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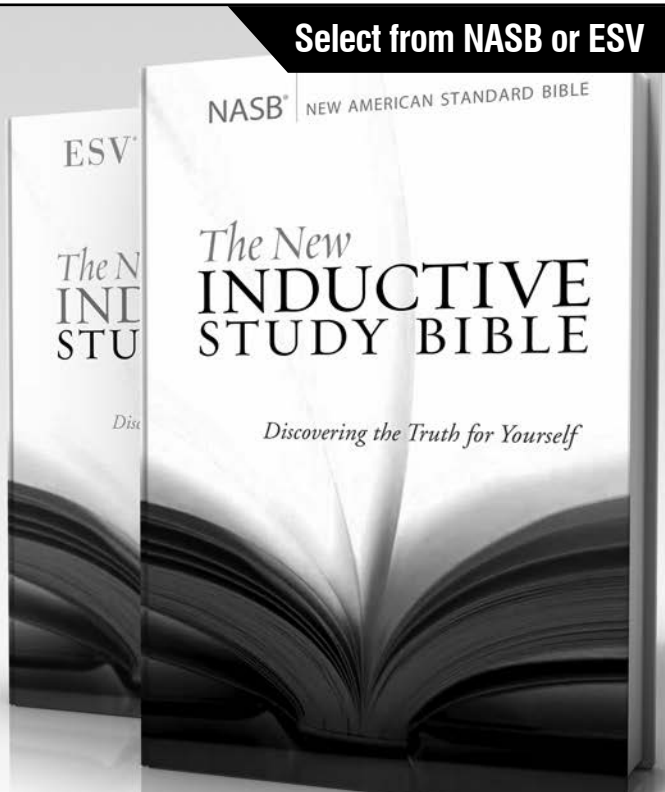
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Messiah,  Son of David

 devil

righteous,  righteousness

it is  written

compassion

sin

Father

 spoken

 suffer

you have heard...but I say

 prophet

 disbelief

shall be guilty

geographic locations

 heart

 Temple

references to  time

 follow

Gentile

King,  Kingdom

 hypocrites

 dream

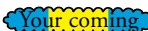
 parable

 blind

repentance

pray,  prayer

 baptism

 your coming

tradition

 wrath

end of the age

 Holy Spirit

commandments  of God

 Son of Man

therefore

be on the alert

 death

 Passover

woe, "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees"

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Jack Arthur and his wife, Kay, founded Precept Ministries in 1970. Kay and the ministry staff of writers produce **Precept Upon Precept** studies, **In & Out** studies, **Lord** series studies, the **New Inductive Study Series** studies, **40-Minute** studies, and **Discover 4 Yourself Inductive Bible Studies for Kids**. From years of diligent study and teaching experience, Kay and the staff have developed these unique, inductive courses that are now used in nearly 185 countries and 70 languages.



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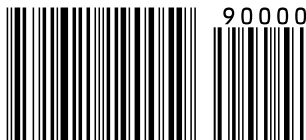
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ISBN 978-1-62119-005-9



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