

June
2024

Jesus Came for You and Me!

The Gospel of Matthew

A Family Study from Today in the Word

This Family Study is a companion to the *Today in the Word* devotional *God With Us* (June 2024). The whole family can learn from God's Word together. In each of the four lessons, you will:



Read

Read a passage
in the Bible



Understand

Understand the biblical
text in a deeper way



Imagine

Imagine the lesson
with hands-on activities

About the Gospel of Matthew

This book of the Bible was written by Matthew, one of the twelve disciples of Jesus. Before Matthew followed Jesus, he was a tax collector. He was not very popular with the Jewish people. But then he met Jesus, and everything changed! Matthew begins with a record of all the generations leading up to Jesus. He described how Jesus was born, how He taught the people, and how He died and rose again! Matthew explained that Jesus is the Son of God Who came to save people from their sins. Matthew's Gospel teaches us about Jesus, so we can tell others about what He has done!



This *Today in the Word* family study was written by Moody Bible Institute students Haylee Grindal, Annie Cornette, and Ashleigh Hildebrandt under the direction of Elizabeth Smith, Program Head and Associate Professor of Moody's Children and Family Ministry program. Please visit moody.edu/academics/programs/children-family-ministry for more information.

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10 Miracles of Jesus

in the Gospel of Matthew

1

Jesus healed a man suffering from leprosy (8:1–4).

2

Jesus healed the servant of a Roman army commander (8:5–13).

3

Jesus calmed the raging and stormy sea (8:23–27).

4

Jesus healed two men who had been possessed by demons (8:28–33; 9:20–22).

5

Jesus healed a man who was unable to walk (9:1–8).

6

Jesus brought a little girl back to life (9:18, 23–31).

7

Jesus gave a mute man, who could not talk, the ability to speak (9:32–34).

8

Jesus multiplied five loaves of bread and two fish to feed over 5,000 people (14:13–21).

9

Jesus walked on water (14:22–33).

10

Jesus healed two blind men (20:29–34).

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A Big Surprise

Memory Verse

She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.—Matthew 1:21



Read Matthew 1:17–24; Isaiah 7:14

Before Mary and Joseph were married, an angel visited Joseph. He said his soon-to-be-wife, Mary, would have a baby conceived by the Holy Spirit. The baby was to be named Jesus because He would save people from sin (Matt. 1:20–21). This was surprising news! But 700 years earlier, the prophet Isaiah had described the same thing. Isaiah said a virgin would have a baby, “Immanuel,” meaning “God with us” (Isa. 7:14). Amazingly, it all happened! Jesus was born to save us from our sins.



Understand

1. What did the angel tell Joseph?
2. Why did the angel’s message surprise Joseph? What good news did it bring?
3. In Matthew 1:23 the angel announces Jesus’ name. What was the meaning of His name?
4. What was the job of prophets?
5. What did the prophet Isaiah say about the coming Savior?
6. Why do you think people were surprised when Jesus was born?



Imagine

Ready for some fun at snack time? This activity will take only a little bit of prep from you and will have your child enjoying a joyful surprise! Take a container of food your child doesn’t love (perhaps fiber bars or oatmeal) and empty it. Then, put their favorite snack inside (perhaps pretzels or chocolate chip cookies). When snack time comes, ask your child what they think is in the container. Then, let them open it themselves. Watch for their reaction, say “Surprise!” and smile. Imagine how delighted they will be when they see their favorite treat! Surprises can bring even more joy than we might anticipate. Remind your children of how astonished the shepherds must have felt when they met the angels and heard about Jesus! While they had been promised a Savior, they never expected Him to come as a baby in a manger. This fun surprise snack can show your child that amazing things can happen when we least expect them.



Prayer

As a family, thank God for the best surprise of all: the birth of Jesus. We are amazed and thankful that God chose to be with us, sending Jesus as a baby to save people from sin.

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Jesus Never Sinned!

Memory Verse

Jesus said to him, “Away from me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only.’”—Matthew 4:10



Read Matthew 4:1-11

Did you know that Satan once tempted Jesus to sin? Temptation is when we want to do something that is wrong. Temptation leads to sin when we decide to do the wrong thing. While Jesus was in the wilderness, Satan tempted Him three times. Satan tempted Him with food, popularity, and power. These are all things we can be tempted by too! No matter how good Satan’s offer may have been, Jesus resisted. Each time, He quoted Scripture and defeated Satan. Jesus resisted temptation and won the victory!



Understand

1. What does it mean to be tempted?
2. When does temptation become a sin?
3. Name the three things Satan used to tempt Jesus?
4. Why is it important that Jesus never sinned?
5. How did Jesus resist temptation?
6. Have you ever been tempted by something before? What happened?



Imagine

Parents, let’s teach your children about temptation and how to resist it. Prepare a yummy treat your child enjoys and place it in front of them. Now, here’s the exciting part: tell them you will leave the room for a few minutes. Tell them they should wait until you return before they eat the treat. When you return, let them know they can now enjoy the treat (if they didn’t already!). No matter what your child decided to do, have a chat about how tough it can be to resist temptation. What was the temptation? Why was it hard not to eat that treat? What are other temptations we face? Encourage them to pray to God and read His Word for help in resisting temptation. Remind them of Jesus and how He resisted temptation!



Prayer

As a family, pray for strength and wisdom to resist Satan’s temptations, thank God for His Word that guides us to stay faithful.

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Why Did Jesus Die?

Memory Verse

When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"—Matthew 27:54



Read Matthew 27:45-61

Jesus never sinned. Never! That is why He was the only One who could save people from their sins. He was the perfect sacrifice. When people turned against Jesus, they wanted Him punished. He was sentenced to death on a cross. Some people at the crucifixion made fun of Jesus. But others believed He was God's Son. An important Roman soldier who had seen many people die knew Jesus' death was different than anyone else's. He said, "Surely he was the Son of God!" (Matt. 27:54).



Understand

1. Why did the people want to punish Jesus?
2. What did some people do while Jesus was being crucified?
3. What happened to the earth when Jesus died?
4. What did the Roman soldier say about Jesus?
5. Why do you think he said that?
6. Who took Jesus from the cross and laid Him in a tomb?



Imagine

Get your family together to play a fun game. Send one person out of the room. While that person is gone, pick someone to be the Mystery Leader. When the other player returns, the Mystery Leader will quietly do two simple actions. First, tap their foot. Next, cross their arms. Everyone else should copy the Leader without making it obvious who it is. The person who left the room will return and observe the group, trying to figure out who the Mystery Leader is. After they guess, reveal the Mystery Leader. Explain how we need to look carefully at all the clues to understand something that may not be obvious at first. In the same way, people had to pay attention to the signs when Jesus died to know He was the Savior. The Centurion noticed and got it right. Just like him, we can read about Jesus' crucifixion and notice all God did to show us that Jesus really is the Savior of the world.



Prayer

As a family, thank God for the perfect sacrifice of Jesus, the Son of God, who died on the cross to save us from our sin.

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The Good News of Jesus

Memory Verse

Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.—Matthew 28:19



Read Matthew 28:1-20

After Jesus was buried, something amazing happened! After the Sabbath, Mary Magdalene and another Mary who saw Jesus buried in the tomb went back to His grave. But this time, there was an earthquake, and an angel appeared! The angel showed them Jesus wasn't in the tomb. Then, Jesus Himself appeared. He told them to go get the others and go to Galilee. There, the disciples were commanded to tell everyone about Jesus.



Understand

1. Where did Mary Magdalene and the “other Mary” go to look for Jesus?
2. How do we know they went to the correct tomb?
3. Why was there a violent earthquake?
4. What good news did the angel of the Lord tell the women?
5. Who did the women see as they were going to tell the disciples what the angel had said?
6. What did Jesus command the disciples to do in verses 19–20?



Imagine

Parents, encourage your children to share the good news of Jesus! Together, make a list of specific ways your children can tell others about Jesus. If they are having trouble coming up with ideas, here are a few suggestions:

- Invite a friend to come with you to Sunday School or Vacation Bible School.
- Give a favorite Bible book to your neighbor.
- Pray as a family for people who do not believe in Jesus.
- Write a card to encourage a missionary who is telling people about Jesus in other countries.

Pick one option to do this week. Then, together, make a sign to put on your front door. Make it big enough so you will all see it before you leave your house. Write: “Go and Make Disciples!” This sign will remind us to share the good news of Jesus with everyone we meet.



Prayer

As a family, ask God for the courage and wisdom to share your faith with others who may not know Him.

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