# Journey with Matthew: Life and Lessons from Levi the Tax Collector



Explore Matthew's transformation from tax collector to disciple, uncovering lessons on grace, calling, faith, and discipleship over 21 enriching days.





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#### Introduction

Welcome to a transformative 21-day journey through the life of Matthew, also known as Levi, the tax collector called by Jesus to become one of His disciples. Many know Matthew simply as the author of one of the four Gospels. However, his personal story reveals profound lessons on grace, calling, and obedience.

Matthew's life was radically changed at the moment Jesus said, "Follow me." As a tax collector, he held a despised position in society—seen as a collaborator with Roman oppressors and often associated with greed. Yet, Jesus saw beyond his profession and heart condition. This Bible study will take you deep into Matthew's story, tracing his journey from Levi the tax collector to Matthew the disciple, the evangelist, and the man who penned the life and teachings of Christ.

Throughout these 21 days, you will explore key passages from the Gospel of Matthew, reflection questions, and devotions that illuminate both the historical and personal significance of Matthew's life and work. This journey is not only about the man himself but also about what his life reveals for all who seek to follow Jesus today.

Embrace this study with an open heart and mind, ready to be challenged and encouraged by the remarkable transformation of a man chosen by Jesus. Each day includes Scriptures, devotional reflections, journaling prompts, and







prayers designed to deepen your understanding of God's grace and your own calling.

May this time spent in God's Word through Matthew's lens enrich your faith and inspire you to live fully for Christ.

















#### **Your Verse**

Matthew 9:9 - 'As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," he told him, and Matthew got up and followed him.'

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Mark 2:14 'As he walked along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax collector's booth. "Follow me," Jesus told him, and Levi got up and followed him.'
- Luke 5:27 'After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. "Follow me," Jesus said to him.'







#### Devotional: The Power of Jesus' Invitation

Matthew's story begins with a simple yet profound moment: Jesus calling him to follow. Matthew, also known as Levi, was a tax collector, a profession that many Jews despised because it was linked to Roman oppression and corruption. Yet amidst his ordinary, even despised work, Jesus saw beyond the surface. The call 'Follow me' was not just an invitation to physical movement but a call to a new life and purpose.

This moment shows us that no one is beyond the reach of Jesus' grace. Regardless of our past or societal labels, Jesus invites us personally. The immediacy of Matthew's response—he got up and followed—challenges us to consider how quickly and completely we respond to Jesus' call in our own lives.

What might it mean for you to leave behind what is comfortable or familiar to follow Jesus fully? Matthew's example encourages courage and faith in stepping toward God's purpose, trusting that He sees our true potential.







## Reflect and Apply

1.	Why do you think Matthew responded immediately to Jesus' call?
2.	What comforts or 'tax booths' might Jesus be calling you to leave behind?
3.	How does Jesus' willingness to call someone like Matthew affect your understanding of grace?







### **Journaling Prompts**

	Describe a moment when you felt God calling you to change direction in life.
	List ways your past background has shaped your faith journey positively or negatively.
3.	Write a prayer asking God for courage to follow Him as Matthew did.







#### Prayer for Today

Lord Jesus, thank You for calling me by name, just as You called Matthew. Help me hear Your voice clearly and follow without hesitation. Give me strength to leave behind anything that hinders my walk with You. Increase my faith and teach me to trust in Your perfect plan. May my life reflect Your grace as Matthew's did. Amen.  $\bigwedge$ 

















#### Your Verse

Luke 19:1-2 - 'Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy.'

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Matthew 5:46 'If you love those who love you, what reward will you get?' Are not even the tax collectors doing that?'
- Mark 2:15 'While Jesus was having dinner at Levi's house, many tax collectors and sinners were eating with him and his disciples.'







#### Devotional: Understanding Matthew's World

Before his calling, Matthew lived in a world often marked by distrust and rejection. Tax collectors like Matthew were considered traitors by many Jews because they collected taxes for the Roman Empire and were often seen as greedy or corrupt. This occupation made social and religious acceptance difficult.

However, understanding this context helps us appreciate the boldness of Jesus' call. It emphasizes His kingdom's inclusiveness—where societal status or reputation doesn't limit God's grace. Jesus' willingness to eat with tax collectors scandalized religious leaders but showed His heart for the marginalized.

This challenges us to examine our own attitudes toward those society deems unworthy or outcast. Are we willing to extend grace and embrace Jesus' mission to reach all with love?







## Reflect and Apply

	How might Matthew's occupation have influenced his view of himself before meeting Jesus?
2.	What does Jesus eating with sinners teach us about His mission?
	Who in your community might be overlooked or marginalized like Matthew was?







## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Reflect on an experience where you felt outcast or unaccepted — how did
	God show up?
2.	Write about ways you can demonstrate Jesus' inclusive love to others.
3.	List biases or judgments you need to surrender to fully follow Jesus' example.







#### Prayer for Today

Father, open my eyes to see people as You do—not through the lens of society's judgments but with Your boundless love and grace. Help me welcome and love those who may be on the margins. Give me a heart like Jesus' to reach out and offer hope to all regardless of their past. Amen.  $\heartsuit$ 











## Day 3: Day Following Immediately









Day 3: Day 3: Following Immediately

#### Your Verse

Matthew 9:10 - 'While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples.'

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Luke 5:29 'Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them.'
- Acts 9:20 'At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God.'







Day 3: Following Immediately

#### Devotional: Hospitality and Witness

Matthew didn't just physically follow Jesus; he opened his home and life to extend Jesus' ministry. By inviting tax collectors and sinners to dine with Jesus, Matthew demonstrated the impact of Jesus' presence—people drawn to His grace and love.

This immediate action reflects a heart transformed. Matthew's response to Jesus' call went beyond obedience; it became a living testimony revealing the power of Christ's acceptance.

How do we reflect Jesus' love in our communities? Are we creating spaces where people encounter God's grace? Matthew's story urges us to be intentional, letting transformed lives inspire others to seek Jesus.







Day 3: Tollowing Immediately

## Reflect and Apply

1.	What does Matthew's immediate hospitality tell you about his new heart?
	How can your life become a welcoming space for others to experience God's love?
	In what ways can following Jesus inspire you to reach out to your community?







Day 3: Tollowing Immediately

### **Journaling Prompts**

	Describe a time when you invited someone into your life in a way that honored Jesus.
2.	Write down practical ways to practice hospitality that glorifies God.
3.	Reflect on how your witness can be more intentional this week.







Day 3: Following Immediately

#### Prayer for Today

Jesus, thank You for transforming my heart to welcome others as You did through Matthew. Help me create spaces of grace and acceptance. Give me courage to be a living testimony of Your love, inviting others to know You deeply. Amen. 

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#### Your Verse

Matthew 28:19-20 - 'Therefore go and make disciples of all nations... teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.'

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Matthew 1:1 'This is the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah the son of David, the son of Abraham.'
- Luke 1:1-4 an orderly account handed down to declare Jesus' life and teachings clearly.







#### Devotional: The Calling to Evangelize

Matthew's transformation was so profound that he wrote the Gospel that bears his name. From a man associated with corruption to a messenger of Christ's life and teachings—Matthew embraced his role as an evangelist and disciple-maker.

His Gospel opens with Jesus' genealogy, grounding Christ's lordship and lineage, and systematically reveals Jesus' ministry, miracles, and fulfillment of prophecy. This writing indicates Matthew's deep conviction about sharing the good news.

If Matthew could move from tax collector to God's chronicler, what could God do with your story? His calling invites us to participate in God's mission to make disciples—sharing faith and teaching others what Jesus commands.







### Reflect and Apply

	What might have motivated Matthew to document Jesus' life so meticulously?
2.	How can your personal story become part of God's greater narrative?
3.	What is God calling you to share about your faith with others?







### **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Reflect on ways you can tell others about Jesus in your everyday life.
2.	Write about the gifts or talents God has given you to serve His mission.
3.	Journal a prayer asking God to empower you as a disciple-maker.







#### **Prayer for Today**

Lord, thank You for calling me into Your kingdom's work. Like Matthew, help me be bold and faithful in sharing Your story. Equip me to teach, love, and disciple others. May my life glorify You as I respond to Your calling daily. Amen. The story is a second to Your calling daily.

















#### Your Verse

Ephesians 2:8-9 - 'For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.'

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Titus 3:5 'He saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy.'
- Romans 5:20 'Where sin increased, grace increased all the more.'







# Devotional: Grace at the Heart of Matthew's Conversion

Matthew's life is a powerful testimony of grace—the unmerited favor of God. Despite his flawed past, Jesus extended grace that transformed Matthew's heart and destiny.

Grace breaks barriers, changes labels, and makes new beginnings possible. For Matthew, grace wasn't just forgiveness; it was empowerment to become an ambassador of God's kingdom.

**Today, consider how grace has shaped your life and calling.** Are you embracing grace that frees and empowers? Matthew's example is a living reminder that no one is beyond God's redeeming love.







### Reflect and Apply

1.	How does Matthew's transformation shape your understanding of grace?
2.	In what areas of your life do you need to receive or extend grace?
3.	How can embracing grace impact your faith and relationships?







### **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a time you experienced God's grace unexpectedly.
2.	List ways you can offer grace to yourself and others this week.
3.	Pray for a deeper understanding and acceptance of God's grace.







#### Prayer for Today

Dear God, thank You for Your grace that reaches into the broken places and makes us whole. Help me embrace the fullness of Your mercy and extend that grace to others. May Your grace transform my life continually and guide my steps. Amen.









## Day 6: 🛕 Leaving the Past Behind









#### Your Verse

Philippians 3:13-14 - 'Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.'

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Isaiah 43:18 'Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.'
- 2 Corinthians 5:17 'If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!'







### Devotional: Pressing Forward in Christ

Matthew's life reminds us of the importance of leaving our past behind to embrace God's future. Though his past as a tax collector might have haunted him, Matthew did not live defined by it. Instead, his following of Jesus marked a new identity and mission.

This passage from Philippians challenges believers to focus on what lies ahead—the call and invitation from Christ. It requires intentional forgetting of former sins and failures and pressing on with hope.

What past burdens do you need to release to follow Jesus more fully? Matthew's example invites us into the freedom and purpose found in letting go.







# Reflect and Apply

1.	What personal 'past' do you need to leave behind to follow God's calling?
2.	How does Paul's example in Philippians inspire your daily walk of faith?
3.	What steps can you take to press forward despite past mistakes?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	List things from your past you are ready to release to God.
	Write a prayer committing your past into God's hands and focus on the future.
3.	Journal your hopes and goals as you press on with Christ.







## Prayer for Today

Jesus, thank You for making all things new. Help me release any past shame or guilt that holds me back. Teach me to press forward with confidence, pressing into Your purpose for my life each day. Amen. 

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#### Your Verse

Matthew 5:17 - 'Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.'

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- John 20:30–31 'Jesus performed many signs... so that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah.'
- 2 Timothy 3:16 'All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting, and training in righteousness.'







## Devotional: Matthew's Mission in Writing

Matthew's Gospel focuses heavily on showing how Jesus fulfills Old Testament prophecy. This underlines the continuity of God's plan and His faithfulness through the ages.

Writing the Gospel was not merely a historical record but a teaching tool to help readers recognize Jesus as the promised Messiah. Matthew's purpose was to deepen faith and inspire discipleship.

As you read the Gospel, reflect on its purpose: to reveal Christ and invite us into life transformation. Like Matthew, we are called to be witnesses who help others recognize God's work.







# Reflect and Apply

1.	How does understanding Jesus as the fulfillment of prophecy affect your faith?
2.	In what ways can you share the Gospel's truth with others?
3.	What role can Scripture play in guiding your life and decisions?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a time Scripture revealed new understanding to you.
-	
	Reflect on the importance of Jesus' fulfillment of Old Testament promises.
-	
3.	Pray for an increased hunger to study and live God's Word daily.
-	







## Prayer for Today

Father, thank You for the gift of Your Word and the Gospel message. Help me to see Jesus as the fulfillment of all Your promises. Give me boldness to share this truth and apply it to my life with faithfulness. Amen.  $\square \$ 

















#### Your Verse

Matthew 16:24 - 'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.'

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Luke 9:23 'If anyone wants to be my disciple, they must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.'
- John 8:31 'If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples.'







#### Devotional: Commitment and Sacrifice

Matthew's journey from tax collector to disciple involved a deep obedience to Jesus' call—denying self and embracing sacrifice. This invitation to discipleship is challenging but marks the way of true transformation and fruitfulness.

Following Jesus means setting aside personal ambitions and comfort, focusing instead on God's kingdom purposes. Matthew's life encourages us to count the cost and trust in God's provision.

What does taking up your cross look like in your daily life? This call invites us toward faithfulness that perseveres through trials and empowers witness.







## Reflect and Apply

1.	In what ways are you called to deny yourself for Christ today?
2.	How do you respond to the challenge of taking up your cross daily?
3.	How can Matthew's example of obedience inspire your discipleship?







# **Journaling Prompts**

Reflect on areas where you struggle with self-denial and surrender.
List practical actions to follow Jesus more closely this week.
Pray for strength and courage to embrace discipleship fully.







## Prayer for Today















#### Your Verse

Matthew 22:37–39 – 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart... and love your neighbor as yourself.'

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Matthew 7:12 'So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.'
- John 13:34 'A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.'







#### Devotional: Love as the Foundation

Throughout Matthew's Gospel, love stands at the center—love for God and love for others. This dual commandment captures the essence of Jesus' teaching and the heart of true discipleship.

Matthew's early life marked by rejection and distrust was transformed by experiencing God's unconditional love. His writings invite us to live out this love actively.

How can your life better reflect this love in actions, words, and attitudes? Matthew challenges us to embody God's love in every relationship.







# Reflect and Apply

1.	What does loving God with all your heart mean in your personal life?
	How do you practically love your neighbors, especially those different from you?
3.	In what ways can you grow in love today following Matthew's example?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write down ways you have experienced God's love recently.
2.	Reflect on how you treated others this past week - any areas for growth?
3.	Pray for a heart that loves deeply and sacrificially.







## Prayer for Today

Father, fill my heart with Your love so that I may love You fully and love others genuinely. Help me live out this commandment daily, showing Your grace and kindness to everyone I meet. Amen. 💙 🙏 💥 😷







# Day 10: Justice and Mercy in Matthew









Day 10: **W** Justice and Mercy in Matthew

#### Your Verse

Matthew 23:23 - 'Love mercy and walk humbly with your God.'

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Micah 6:8 'Act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with your God.'
- James 2:13 'Mercy triumphs over judgment.'







Day 10: **W** Justice and Mercy in Matthew

## Devotional: Balancing Justice with Compassion

Matthew records Jesus' strong words about justice and mercy. Jesus rebuked hypocrisy and emphasized that true faith is demonstrated through loving actions, mercy, and humility.

Matthew's life reflects this balance—he moved from a life often seen as unjust to one embracing mercy and humility through Jesus.

Our faith calls us to pursue justice and extend mercy toward others, reflecting God's character. This balance calls for heart transformation, much like Matthew experienced.







Day 10: 💯 Justice and Mercy in Matthew

# Reflect and Apply

	What areas of your life need a greater demonstration of mercy and justice?
2.	How do humility and mercy impact your relationships?
3.	How can you apply these principles to your community involvement?







Day 10: 💯 Justice and Mercy in Matthew

## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	List situations where you can act justly and show mercy this week.
2.	Write about a time when mercy changed a difficult situation for you.
3.	Pray for a heart aligned with God's justice and mercy.







Day 10: Day Iustice and Mercy in Matthew

## Prayer for Today

God, teach me to love mercy and seek justice in all I do. Help me to walk humbly with You, reflecting Your character to a hurting world. May my life honor You through compassion and integrity. Amen. 💯 💙 🙏 🥎







# Day 11: Fra The Parables and Matthew's Message









Day 11: 🌾 The Parables and Matthew's Message

#### Your Verse

Matthew 13:34 - 'Jesus spoke all these things to the crowd in parables; he did not say anything to them without using a parable.'

#### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Mark 4:33–34 'With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them... without a parable he did not speak to them.'
- Psalm 78:2-4 'He told them in parables, in songs of praise he revealed mysteries.'







Day 11: **\*** The Parables and Matthew's Message

#### Devotional: Stories That Reveal Truth

Matthew underscores Jesus' teaching method through parables—simple stories with deep spiritual truths. These stories engage listeners, provoke thought, and reveal the mysteries of God's kingdom to willing hearts.

For Matthew, understanding and sharing these parables was vital to communicating Jesus' message across cultures and generations.

Reflect on the parables and how their messages apply to your life. Are you open to the mysteries God reveals through stories and scripture?







Day 11: 🌾 The Parables and Matthew's Message

# Reflect and Apply

1.	Which parable in Matthew resonates most with you and why?
2.	How do stories help you connect with spiritual truths?
3.	What might God be teaching you through stories in His Word today?







Day 11: **\*** The Parables and Matthew's Message

## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a parable that challenged or encouraged you.
2.	Reflect on how you can use storytelling to share your faith.
3.	Pray for insight to understand and live out God's truths.







Day 11: Fra Parables and Matthew's Message

## Prayer for Today

Lord, thank You for the parables and stories that reveal Your kingdom. Give me wisdom to understand and courage to live out Your truths. Help me share these stories in ways that touch hearts and change lives. Amen.  $\square \otimes A$ 

















Day 12: Natthew's Call to Holiness

#### Your Verse

Matthew 5:48 - 'Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.'

## **Supporting Scriptures**

- 1 Peter 1:15 'Be holy, because I am holy.'
- Romans 12:1-2 'Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice... be transformed by the renewing of your mind.'







Day 12: Natthew's Call to Holiness

## Devotional: Pursuing God's Standard

Matthew records Jesus urging believers toward holiness—a call to live in pure devotion to God. Holiness here means being set apart, reflecting God's character in our daily lives.

Though perfection may feel unattainable, Matthew's narrative shows us that the pursuit of holiness is a process empowered by grace and ongoing transformation.

Are you seeking to grow in holiness through daily surrender and renewal? Matthew invites us to respond to God's high calling with faith and diligence.







Day 12: **(**) Matthew's Call to Holiness

# Reflect and Apply

1.	What does 'perfection' mean in your walk with God?
2.	How can you practically pursue holiness today?
3.	Where do you need God's grace to transform you further?







Day 12: **(**) Matthew's Call to Holiness

# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about areas God is leading you to grow in holiness.
2.	Reflect on spiritual habits that help you stay focused on God.
3.	Pray for strength and humility in your growth journey.







Day 12: Natthew's Call to Holiness

## Prayer for Today

Father, help me to pursue holiness with a humble heart. Transform me into Your image and empower me to live set apart for Your glory. May Your Spirit lead me daily into Your perfect way. Amen. 📑 😂 🙏 🥬

















#### Your Verse

Matthew 5:14 - 'You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.'

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- John 8:12 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.'
- Philippians 2:15 'Shine like stars in the universe.'







## Devotional: Shining Bright as Followers

Matthew captures Jesus' call for His followers to be the light in a dark world. As disciples, we are called to reflect Christ's love, truth, and hope visibly in our lives.

Matthew's transformation from hiding behind dishonor to openly following Jesus demonstrates the power of shining light boldly, influencing others.

How is God calling you to be a light in your community, workplace, or family? Your witness can illuminate paths and offer hope amidst challenge.







# Reflect and Apply

1.	In what ways do you currently shine as a light for Christ?
2.	Where might you be holding back your witness?
3.	What practical steps will you take to shine brighter today?







## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about moments you felt God used you as a light.
2.	Reflect on fears that may keep you from shining fully.
3.	Pray for boldness and clarity as you represent Jesus.







## Prayer for Today

Lord, help me to shine Your light in every place I go. Give me courage to live boldly and to point others to You through my words and actions. May Your light never grow dim in me. Amen. 🛠 🐧 🗸 💛









# Day 14: X Servant Leadership









Day 14: X Servant Leadership

#### Your Verse

Matthew 20:26–28 – 'Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant... the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.'

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- John 13:12-15 Jesus washes disciples' feet.
- Philippians 2:5-7 'Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.'







Day 14: X Servant Leadership

## Devotional: Leading by Serving

Matthew includes Jesus' radical teaching on leadership—true greatness is found in serving others. This wisdom contrasts worldly ambition, calling believers to humility and selflessness.

Matthew's own life—from tax collector to disciple—reveals this servant heart in action, modeling Christ's servant leadership.

How can your leadership in family, church, or work reflect this humble service? Serving others glorifies God and advances His kingdom.







Day 14: 🞇 Servant Leadership

## Reflect and Apply

1.	What does servant leadership look like in your context?
2.	How can you adopt Christ's humility in daily interactions?
3.	Who in your life needs your servant-hearted leadership now?







Day 14: 🞇 Servant Leadership

## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Reflect on leaders who exemplify servant leadership you admire.
2.	Write about opportunities to serve where you are.
3.	Pray for a heart that leads like Jesus.







Day 14: 🛠 Servant Leadership

## Prayer for Today









Day 15: Living Out Faith Daily









#### Your Verse

Matthew 6:33 – 'But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.'

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Colossians 3:23 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.'
- James 1:22 'Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.'







#### Devotional: Faith in Action

Matthew consistently presents faith as something lived out daily—prioritizing God's kingdom in lifestyle, decisions, and work. From prayer to actions, faith is active, not passive.

Matthew's transformation demands practical faith expressing itself through obedience and trust.

How do you prioritize God's kingdom each day? Are your actions aligned with your beliefs? Faithfulness in small things shapes our character and testimony.







# Reflect and Apply

1.	What daily habits help you seek God's kingdom first?
2.	How consistent is your faith expression in private and public?
3.	Where might you improve obedience to God's Word today?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write down daily routines that deepen your faith.
	Reflect on challenges to living consistent faith and how to overcome them.
3.	Pray for strength to live your faith genuinely every day.







## Prayer for Today

Father, help me to seek Your kingdom and righteousness above all else. Strengthen me to live my faith authentically in my daily actions. Let my life bring glory to You as I follow Jesus. Amen.  $\bigwedge$   $\swarrow$   $\swarrow$   $\swarrow$ 

















#### Your Verse

Matthew 6:9-13 - The Lord's Prayer

## **Supporting Scriptures**

- Luke 11:1-4 Jesus teaches prayer.
- Philippians 4:6 'Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.'







## Devotional: Communing with the Father

Prayer is central in Matthew's Gospel, especially the model Jesus provided in the Lord's Prayer. Prayer nurtures intimacy with God, aligns us with His will, and sustains discipleship.

Matthew teaches believers to pray with sincerity, persistence, and trust in God's provision and protection.

Are you cultivating a rich prayer life that fuels your relationship with God and mirrors Jesus' example? Prayer transforms hearts and circumstances.







# Reflect and Apply

1.	How would you describe your current prayer life?
2.	What part of the Lord's Prayer speaks most deeply to you?
3.	How can prayer help you in challenges or decisions you face?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Journal your current prayer habits and areas for growth.
2.	Write a prayer using the Lord's Prayer as a guide.
3.	Reflect on answers to past prayers and God's faithfulness.







## Prayer for Today

Dear Father, thank You for teaching me to pray. Help me develop a deep and constant communication with You. Teach me to pray with faith and trust, knowing You hear and act according to Your perfect will. Amen. 4

















Day 17: 💢 Overcoming Opposition

#### Your Verse

Matthew 10:22 – 'You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved.'

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- John 15:18 'If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first.'
- Romans 8:37 'In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.'







Day 17: 💥 Overcoming Opposition

## Devotional: Strength to Endure

Matthew records Jesus' warning about facing opposition for following Him. Discipleship often involves suffering and rejection, yet Jesus assures perseverance leads to salvation.

Matthew's own conversion likely faced resistance from family and community. His faithfulness encourages believers to stand firm in trials.

How can you develop resilience when faced with opposition for your faith?







Day 17: 🔀 Overcoming Opposition

## Reflect and Apply

1.	What kinds of opposition have you experienced or anticipate?
2.	How does knowing Jesus faced rejection encourage you?
3.	What strategies help you stand firm in your faith?







Day 17: 🔀 Overcoming Opposition

## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about a time you faced opposition for standing for Christ.
2.	Reflect on prayers or Scripture that helped during tough times.
3.	Pray for strength and courage to persevere.







Day 17: 🔀 Overcoming Opposition

## Prayer for Today









# Day 18: W The Holy Spirit's Role









Day 18: 🖏 The Holy Spirit's Role

### Your Verse

Matthew 10:20 – 'It will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.'

## **Supporting Scriptures**

- John 14:26 'The Advocate, the Holy Spirit, will teach you all things.'
- Acts 1:8 'But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you.'







Day 18: 😂 The Holy Spirit's Role

## Devotional: Empowered by the Spirit

Matthew highlights the vital role of the Holy Spirit in empowering disciples. Jesus assures His followers they will not be alone when proclaiming the Gospel; the Spirit will guide words and actions.

This empowerment transforms ordinary believers into bold witnesses, just as Matthew himself experienced.

**Are you relying on the Holy Spirit's power in your daily walk?** Invitation to yield control and walk in Spirit-led life.







Day 18: W The Holy Spirit's Role

# Reflect and Apply

1.	How have you sensed the Holy Spirit's guidance in your life?
2.	Do you rely on the Spirit's power or your own strength?
3.	In what areas do you need greater sensitivity to the Holy Spirit?







Day 18: W The Holy Spirit's Role

# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about times you felt Spirit-led.
2.	Reflect on areas where you want to surrender control to God.
3.	Pray for greater openness to the Holy Spirit's empowerment.







Day 18: W The Holy Spirit's Role

## Prayer for Today

Holy Spirit, fill me anew and empower me to live and witness boldly. Teach me, guide me, and help me trust Your leading every day. Amen. 🥞 🖰 🙏 🐦

















### Your Verse

Matthew 28:19 - 'Therefore go and make disciples of all nations...'

## **Supporting Scriptures**

- Acts 1:8 'You will receive power to be my witnesses.'
- Romans 10:14 'How can they believe without someone preaching to them?'







### Devotional: Commissioned to Witness

Matthew closes his Gospel with the Great Commission—Jesus' call to make disciples worldwide. This is a mandate extending to all believers to share faith boldly, trusting God's power and presence.

Matthew's own transformation equipped him to fulfill this mission effectively.

How are you participating in God's mission to reach the lost? Boldness, prayer, and readiness mark faithful discipleship.







# Reflect and Apply

1.	What fears or obstacles keep you from sharing your faith?
2.	How can you take practical steps to be a disciple-maker?
3.	Who in your life needs to hear the Gospel?







# **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write ways you can share Jesus this week.
2.	Reflect on past opportunities to witness and lessons learned.
3.	Pray for boldness and open doors.







## Prayer for Today

Lord, commission me to be Your witness. Remove fear and fill me with boldness. Use my life for Your kingdom and lead me to those who need to know You. Amen. 

Amen.

















### Your Verse

Hebrews 12:1-2 - 'Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus.'

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- 1 Corinthians 9:24 'Do you not run the race to win?'
- Philippians 3:14 'I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.'







## Devotional: Persevering with Purpose

Matthew's story is one of perseverance—continuing steadfastly despite challenges. Like an athlete focused on the finish line, believers must fix their eyes on Jesus and keep moving forward.

Life's distractions and hardships can derail us; Matthew's life inspires endurance fueled by hope and faith.

How can you renew your commitment to the journey God has for you?







# Reflect and Apply

1.	What distractions or challenges threaten your spiritual focus?
2.	How do you renew motivation to persevere in faith?
3.	What helps you keep your eyes on Jesus?







## **Journaling Prompts**

	Write about a recent challenge and how you overcame or plan to overcome it.
2.	Reflect on ways to strengthen your spiritual endurance.
3.	Pray for perseverance and focus.







## Prayer for Today

Jesus, help me run the race with endurance and focus on You. When I grow weary, renew my strength. Let me finish well, bringing glory to Your name.

Amen. 🎘 🚺 🙏 💪

















### Your Verse

2 Corinthians 5:17 – 'If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!'

### **Supporting Scriptures**

- Romans 6:4 'Walk in newness of life.'
- Ephesians 4:22–24 'Put off your old self... be made new in the attitude of your minds.'







## Devotional: Living as a New Creation

Matthew's life embodies the truth that in Christ we become new creations.

His story encourages believers that no matter the past, God's transformative power makes all things new.

Embracing this new life means living differently—aligned with God's will and empowered by His Spirit.

As you conclude this study, reflect on your own journey of transformation. How can you continue to grow and live fully in Christ's newness?







# Reflect and Apply

What does being a 'new creation' mean for your daily life?
How can you continue to grow in Christ beyond this study?
What steps will you take to embody the new life God offers?







## **Journaling Prompts**

1.	Write about ways your life has changed through faith.
2.	Reflect on habits or attitudes God is calling you to renew.
3.	Pray committing to live as a new creation.







## Prayer for Today







## Where God's Word Meets Your Daily Life

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