

Matthew Study: Week 6  
(All Scripture verses are taken from the NIV.)

Day 1:

READ: Matthew 19:1-15

RESPOND:

“So they are no longer two, but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.”  
Matthew 19:6

- 1) Describe how God views marriage commitments.

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- 2) Give some examples of how a man and woman live as one flesh in a marriage.

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- 3) For those married: Are there any areas in your marriage where you are not living as one flesh with your husband? If so, spend time praying about it.

“I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for marital unfaithfulness, and marries another woman commits adultery.” Matthew 19:9

- 1) Why do you think this verse is shocking to read in our day and culture?

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- 2) Keeping this verse in mind, name one way Christians can live as changed people—set apart from the ways of the world.

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“Jesus said, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.’” Matthew 19:14

- 1) Describe the humility of a child.

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- 2) Which of the characteristics listed in #1 is most applicable to your life right now. (i.e. Which one do you need to work towards?)

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Day 2:

READ: Matthew 19:16-30

RESPOND:

“Why do you ask me about what is good?’ Jesus replied. ‘There is only One who is good. If you want to enter life, obey the commandments.’” Matthew 19:17

- 1) What was the ultimate message Jesus was conveying to this man?  
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- 2) Jesus' response supports Romans 3:10-12. Describe why Christianity is not about being good to be saved.  
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“Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘I tell you the truth, it is hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.’” Matthew 19:23-24

- 1) Remember Matthew 10:39 from our earlier study? “Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.” With this verse also in mind, why do you think it might be a struggle for a person with great wealth to follow Jesus?  
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- 2) What other things might hinder a person from fully surrendering to Jesus?  
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“And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.” Matthew 19:29

- 1) What's the promise?  
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- 2) What do you think the reward of “a hundred times as much” might be?  
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DAY 3:

READ: Matthew 20:1-19

RESPOND:

“Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ‘So the last will be first, and the first will be last.’” Matthew 20:15-16

- 1) This parable is about the kingdom of heaven. Who is the land owner? Who are the workers?

2) Do you think we will be surprised by the rewards received in heaven? How so?

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3) What types of people who are “last” here on earth will be “first” in heaven?

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“We are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and the teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will turn him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified. On the third day he will be raised to life!” Matthew 20:18-19

1) What emotions do you feel as you read these verses?

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2) Jesus' death and resurrection are common language to Christians, but just think of the disciples. The message was still very new to them. What do you think was going through their minds?

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3) Spend time thanking Jesus for his life of teaching and giving. Thank him for suffering for you.

## DAY 4:

**READ:** Matthew 20:20-34

**RESPOND:**

“just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Matthew 20:28

1) Give a few examples of how we are to give our life to serve others.

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2) In what ways are you currently serving others?

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3) Can you think of any areas God is calling you to serve in? If so, spend some time praying about it.

“Jesus stopped and called them. 'What do you want me to do for you?' he asked. 'Lord,' they answered, 'we want our sight.'” Matthew 20:32-33

1) Why do you think Jesus asked this question?

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2) According to Holman New Testament Commentary of Matthew, Jesus wanted them to verbalize their faith in him. How can we also verbalize our faith in him in prayer?

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## DAY 5:

**READ:** Matthew 21:1-17

### **RESPOND:**

“The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, 'Hosanna to the Son of David!' 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!' 'Hosanna in the highest!'” Matthew 21:9

- 1) “Hosanna” means save. Consider the cultural setting of this verse. What were the people thinking Jesus would save them from? (hint: Romans ruled then.)  
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- 2) Some of these people later yelled “crucify”. In what ways can you relate?  
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- 3) Spend time repenting in prayer. Also, praise God for salvation through Jesus!

“Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. 'It is written,' he said to them, 'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it a 'den of robbers.'” Matthew 21:12-13

- 1) What was the purpose of Christ's righteous anger?  
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- 2) What verse did Jesus quote to accomplish his purpose?  
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- 3) What can you learn from his example?  
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## DAY 6:

**READ:** Matthew 21:18-27

### **RESPOND:**

“Seeing a fig tree by the road, he went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. Then he said to it, 'May you never bear fruit again!' Immediately the tree withered.” Matthew 21:19

- 1) What is the concept of this verse and what is it a foreshadow of?  
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“Jesus replied, 'I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. John's baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or from men?' They discussed it among themselves and said, ‘If we say, 'From heaven,' he will ask, 'Then why didn't you believe him?' But if we say, 'From men'—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.’” So they answered Jesus, 'We don't know.' Then he said, 'Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.’” Matthew 21: 24-27.

- 1) What do these verses reveal about Christ's character?

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- 2) Practically speaking, what can you learn from the way Christ handled temptation?

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## DAY 7:

**READ:** Matthew 21:28-46

## **RESPOND:**

“For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.” Matthew 21:32

- 1) Pay attention to the last sentence in this verse. What must a person do to be saved?  
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- 2) What were the Pharisees doing to “earn” salvation?

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“Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.” Matthew 21:43

- 1) Who is “you” referring to?  
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- 2) Who is Jesus referring to when he says the kingdom of God will be “given to a people who will produce its fruit”?  
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- 3) Describe some good fruit produced as a result of becoming a true follower of Christ.  
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- 4) Look up Galatians 5:22-23 and spend some time praying over these verses.