**Wycliffe Associates**

**Bible Translation Reviewers’ Guide**

***Matthew***

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# 1:18-25

***Read the passage.***

**Part 1**

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Joseph found out that Mary was pregnant and decided not to marry her. [1:18-19]
* An angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and told him that Mary’s baby was conceived by the Holy Spirit. [1:20]
* The angel told Joseph to take Mary as his wife and to name the child Jesus. [1:20-21]
* All of this fulfilled what the Lord spoke through a prophet. [1:22-23]
* Joseph did as the angel commanded him and took Mary as his wife. [1:24]
* She gave birth to a son. Joseph named the baby Jesus, just as he had been told to do. [1:25]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did Joseph consider doing when he found out Mary was pregnant? [1:19]

He thought about divorcing her (or breaking the engagement), but he planned to do so quietly.

1. Why do you think Joseph considered divorcing Mary? [1:19]

*(Answer may vary.)* He probably considered divorcing her because he knew she was pregnant, and he knew the baby was not his.

1. What happened to change Joseph’s mind? [1:20]

He had a dream, and an angel of the Lord told him to marry Mary.

1. Who was the baby conceived by? [1:18, 20]

The baby was conceived by the Holy Spirit.

1. Since the baby was conceived by the Holy Spirit, who do you think that means the baby's father was?

This indicates that the baby's father was God.

1. What was the reason that Joseph should name the baby Jesus? [1:21]

Jesus would save his people from their sins.

1. What do verses 22-23 say about why all this happened? [1:22-23]

These verses tell us that everything happened the way it did to fulfill a prophecy made long ago.

1. Who did the prophet say would become pregnant and bear a son? [1:23]

A virgin.

1. What did the prophet say people would call the baby? [1:23]

They would call the baby Immanuel.

1. What was the meaning of what baby Jesus would be called? [1:23]

Immanuel means God with us.

**Matthew 1:18-25 continued**

1. What did Joseph not do until the baby was born? [1:25]

Joseph did not have sexual relations with Mary until after she gave birth to a son.

**Comment Section:**

# 2:1-12

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Wise men came from the east to Jerusalem looking for the one who was born king of the Jews. [2:1-2]
* The chief priests and scribes told Herod that the Christ was to be born in Bethlehem according to Scripture. [2:5-6]
* Herod sent the wise men to Bethlehem. [2:7-8]
* Herod ordered the wise men to return, telling them that he also wanted to worship the baby. [2:8]
* The wise men went to Bethlehem, found the baby, gave him gifts, and worshiped him. [2:11]
* They did not return to Herod. [2:12]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, why did some wise men go to Jerusalem? [2:1-2]

They were looking for the one who had been born King of the Jews.

1. Why were they looking for the King of the Jews? [2:2]

They said that they saw his star and were coming to worship him.

1. Why do you think that Herod was troubled when he heard the wise men wanted to find the King of the Jews that had just been born?

*(Answer may vary.)* Herod was probably worried that a new king might take away his own position as king.

1. How did Herod find out where the Christ would be born? [2:4]

He asked the priests and scribes of the Jewish people where Christ would be born.

1. How did the priests and scribes know where Christ would be born? [2:5-6]

The scriptures said that a ruler would come from Bethlehem.

1. How did the wise men find the one who was born king of the Jews? [2:9-10]

They left Jerusalem, and the star guided them to the house where the child was.

1. What did the wise men do when they found the child? [2:11]

They fell down and worshiped him, and they opened their gifts and gave them to him.

1. Who do you think the child was that they were worshiping? [2:11]

From the rest of the passage, it is clear that the child was Jesus.

1. Why didn’t the wise men return to Herod? [2:12]

They had been warned by God in a dream not to return to Herod.

Matthew 2:1-12 continued

1. Matthew told about the wise men coming to worship the one born king of the Jews, the prophecy about the ruler being born in Bethlehem, and the star over the house in Bethlehem where the child was. Why do you think Matthew told about these events? [2:2-6]

*(Answer may vary.)* Matthew probably told about these events to show that Jesus is the one that the Old Testament prophesied to be the King of the Jews.

**Comment Section:**

# 3:13-17

**Background:** After Jesus grew up, John the Baptist went into the wilderness and preached that people should stop sinning and be baptized. John also taught that someone more powerful than he would come, and that person would judge people.

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus came to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. [3:13]
* John tried to stop Jesus, but Jesus said it was right for John to baptize him. [3:14-15].
* After John baptized Jesus, God’s Spirit came down like a dove and rested on Jesus. [3:16]
* A voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son. I am very pleased with him.” [3:17]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. When Jesus came to be baptized, what did John tell Jesus? [3:14]

John told Jesus that he needed to be baptized by Jesus.

1. What did Jesus say was the reason that John should baptize him? [3:15]

It was right for them to fulfill all righteousness.

1. What did the Spirit of God do when Jesus came out of the water? [3:16]

The Spirit of God came down and rested on Jesus.

1. What did the voice from heaven say after Jesus came out of the water? [3:17]

The voice said, “This is my beloved Son. I am very pleased with him.”

1. Whose voice do you think was speaking? [3:17]

By saying the voice came out of heaven, the passage shows that it was the voice of God the Father.

1. Who do you think God the Father was speaking about in verse 17? [3:17]

The passage shows that he was speaking about Jesus.

Comment Section:

# 4:1-11

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* The Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness. [4:1]
* Jesus fasted, and he was hungry. [4:2]
* The devil tempted Jesus three times. [4:3-10]
* Each time, Jesus quoted scripture to the devil. [4:4-10]
* After the devil left him, angels came and served Jesus. [4:11]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. How long did Jesus fast? [4:2]

Jesus fasted for forty days.

1. What did the devil first tempt Jesus to do? [4:3]

The devil tempted Jesus to command the stones to become bread.

1. How did Jesus respond? [4:4]

Jesus quoted what was written about not living on just bread but on every word that comes out of the mouth of God.

1. What do you think it means to live on God’s word? [4:4]

*(Answer may vary.)* It may mean to believe God’s word and obey it. It may mean that God’s words are needed by all, just as food is.

1. What did the devil next tempt Jesus to do? [4:5-6]

The devil tempted Jesus to throw himself down from the highest point of the temple building.

1. How did Jesus respond? [4:7]

Jesus quoted what was written about not testing the Lord God.

1. When the devil tempted Jesus the first two times, what part of what he said was the same? [4:3, 6]

Both times the devil said, “If you are the Son of God.”

1. Do you think that Jesus would have been able to turn the stones into bread? Why do you think that? [4:3-4]

*(Answer may vary.)* Probably Jesus would have been able to do that because he was the Son of God.

1. The devil said that he would give Jesus the kingdoms of the world if Jesus would do what? [4:8-9]

The devil said that he would give the kingdoms to Jesus if Jesus would fall down and worship him.

1. How did Jesus respond? [4:10]

Jesus told Satan to go away, and he quoted what was written about worshiping only the Lord God.

Matthew 4:1-11 continued

1. Where do you think the words that Jesus quoted were written? [4:4, 7, 10]

Here and in other parts of the New Testament, the words “it is written” indicate that they were written in the scriptures—in the part of the Bible that we now call the Old Testament.

1. Who or what did Jesus obey? [4:4, 7, 10]

Jesus obeyed God and his word.

Comment Section:

# 5:1-12

**Background:** Jesus went around teaching people to repent because the kingdom of God was near. He also told some men to follow him, and he healed many people. Large crowds of people followed Jesus.

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus went up on a mountain and taught his disciples. [5:1-2]
* Jesus described people who were blessed and then told how they would be blessed. [5:2-12]
* Jesus told the disciples to rejoice when they were persecuted for believing in him. [5:11-12]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did Jesus do when he saw the crowds? [5:1-2]

Jesus went up on a mountain and taught his disciples.

1. Who does the kingdom of heaven belong to? [5:3]

It belongs to the poor in spirit.

1. Who will be comforted? [5:4]

Those who mourn will be comforted.

1. Who will inherit the earth? [5:5]

The meek will inherit the earth.

1. Who will be filled? [5:6]

Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will be filled.

1. What do you think those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will be filled with? [5:6]

*(Answer may vary.)* The passage probably means they will be filled with righteousness.

1. Who will receive mercy? [5:7]

The merciful will receive mercy.

1. Who will see God? [5:8]

The pure in heart will see God.

1. Who will be called sons of God? [5:9]

The peacemakers will be called sons of God.

1. Why do you think the peacemakers will be called sons of God? [5:9]

*(Answer may vary.)* The passage might mean that by helping people to have peace with one another, they will reflect the character of God, who enables people to have peace with him.

1. Who does the kingdom of heaven belong to? [5:10]

It belongs to those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake.

Matthew 5:1-12 continued

1. Why would the disciples be blessed when others were cruel to them? [5:11-12]

They were blessed because their reward would be great in heaven, even though they were being persecuted like the prophets who lived before them.

Comment Section:

# 6:1-15

**Background:** Jesus continued to teach his disciples on the mountain.

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus taught people not to do good works in order to be seen by other people. [6:1-4]
* Jesus taught people not to pray in order to be seen by other people. [6:5-8]
* Jesus taught people how to pray. [6:9-13]
* Jesus taught about forgiveness. [6:14-15]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did Jesus warn them against doing? [6:1]

He warned them not to do their good deeds to be seen by others.

1. What did he say the result of doing their good deeds to be seen by others would be? [6:1]

Their Father in heaven would not reward them.

1. Who do you think Jesus meant when he spoke of their Father in heaven? [6:1]

It is evident that he was talking about God the Father.

1. Why did hypocrites sound a trumpet when they gave to the poor? [6:2]

Because they wanted other people to glorify them.

1. When Jesus said not to let their left hand know what their right hand was doing, what do you think he meant? [6:3]

*(Answer may vary.)* He may have meant that they should do their good works so secretly that even those closest to them would not know about it. Or maybe it should become so customary or simple to do a good work that they might not even remember doing it.

1. What did Jesus say about the Father in verses 4 and 6? [6:4, 6]

The Father sees who gives and prays in secret, and he will reward these people.

1. What did he say the Father knows in verse 8? [6:8]

He knows what people need before they ask for it.

1. What did Jesus tell his disciples to call God when they prayed? [6:8]

He told them to call him Father.

Matthew 6:1-15 continued

1. What things did Jesus tell them to pray about? [6:9-13]

He said to pray for:

* the Father’s name to be honored as holy
* his kingdom to come
* his will to be done
* their daily needs
* forgiveness
* protection from temptation and evil

1. What did Jesus say the Father would do if they would forgive other people? [6:14]

He said the Father would forgive them.

1. What would happen if they would not forgive others? [6:15]

The Father would not forgive them.

**Comment Section:**

# 9:18-26

**Background:** After Jesus taught his disciples on the mountain, he went to other places in Galilee, teaching and healing people.

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* An official came to Jesus, and he asked Jesus to bring his daughter back to life. [9:18-19]
* A woman who had an illness for twelve years touched the edge of Jesus’ garment so she could be healed. [9:20-21]
* Jesus told the woman her faith had made her well and she was healed. [9:22]
* Jesus came to the house of the official and brought his daughter back to life. [9:23-26]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did the official say to Jesus? [9:18]

The official told Jesus that his daughter had died, but that Jesus could make her live.

1. Who touched the edge of Jesus’ garment? [9:20]

A woman who had been bleeding for twelve years touched the edge of Jesus’ garment.

1. Why did the woman touch Jesus’ garment? [9:21]

She said that if she touched the edge of Jesus’ garment, she would be made well.

1. What did Jesus say to the woman? [9:22]

He said that her faith had made her well.

1. What did Jesus see when he got to the house of the official? [9:23]

He saw flute players and a noisy crowd.

1. What did Jesus say about the girl? [9:24]

He said that she was not dead but asleep.

1. What did the crowd do when Jesus told them the girl was asleep? [9:24]

The crowd laughed at him.

1. What happened when Jesus went into the room? [9:25]

He took the girl by the hand, and she got up.

1. What do you think Jesus did for the girl? [9:24-25]

*(Answer may vary.)* The text indicates that she was dead, but when Jesus took her by the hand, she became alive.

1. What happened after Jesus caused the girl to live? [9:26]

News about what Jesus did spread throughout the land.

**Comment Section:**

# 11:25-27

**Background:** John the Baptist sent messengers to ask Jesus if he was the one who would come from God. Jesus told them to tell John about Jesus' miracles and teaching. Then Jesus taught the crowds that John was the one the scriptures had said would prepare the way of the Messiah, yet the people of that generation criticized both John and Jesus. Then Jesus rebuked the towns who saw his miracles but did not turn from their sins.

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus praised the Father. [11:25]
* It pleased the Father to hide things from the wise and to reveal them to children. [11:25-26]
* Jesus spoke about who knows the Father and the Son. [11:27]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Why did Jesus praise the Father? [11:25]

Jesus praised him because the Father hid things from the wise and revealed things to little children.

1. What kinds of things do you think God hid from the wise? [11:25]

*(Answer may vary.)* God apparently hid certain teachings and understanding from the wise. Maybe Jesus was talking about God not revealing to the wise who Jesus really is.

1. Why do you think God would hide something from the wise but reveal it to little children? [11:25]

*(Answer may vary.)* God probably reveals things to people who are like little children because they are humble and listen to him. However, those who think they are wise are prideful and will not listen to God.

1. What did Jesus say that his Father had done? [11:27]

His Father had entrusted all things to him (Jesus).

1. To whom do you think Jesus was referring when he spoke about his Father? [11:27]

The text implies he was referring to God the Father.

1. Who knows the Son? [11:27]

No one knows the Son except the Father.

1. To whom was Jesus referring when he spoke about the Son? [11:27]

He was referring to himself.

1. Who knows the Father? [11:27]

Only the Son and those to whom the Son reveals him know the Father.

**Comment Section:**

# 12:22-29

**Background:** Jesus continued to teach and heal people.

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus healed a man who had a demon in him, and the crowds were amazed. [12:22-23]
* The Pharisees said that Jesus was casting out demons by the power of the prince of demons. [12:24]
* Jesus responded by asking them questions about how Satan’s kingdom could survive if he drives out his own demons and by what power their people drive out demons. [12:25-27]
* Jesus said if he is driving out demons by the power of the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God had come among them. [12:28]
* Jesus asked how a person could steal from a strong man without tying up the strong man first. [12:29]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Who did people bring to Jesus? [12:22]

They brought a man who was blind and mute and who had a demon in him.

1. What did Jesus do? [12:22]

Jesus healed the man, and then the man could speak and see.

1. What did the crowd say about Jesus? [12:23]

They asked if he could be the Son of David.

1. What did the Pharisees say about Jesus? [12:24]

They said that Jesus cast out demons by Beelzebul, the prince of the demons.

1. What did Jesus say would happen when a kingdom, city, or house is divided against itself? [12:25]

He said a kingdom would become desolate and a city or house would not be able to stand.

1. What do you think Jesus meant when he said a kingdom, city, or house divided would become desolate or could not stand? [12:25]

*(Answer may vary.)* Perhaps Jesus meant if the people in these places are fighting among each other they cannot fight against their enemies. They will be destroyed.

1. What question did Jesus ask the Pharisees? [12:26]

If Satan drives out Satan, how will his kingdom stand?

1. Why do you think Jesus asked the question about Satan’s kingdom? [12:26]

*(Answer may vary.)* He probably wanted them to realize that it was foolish to say Jesus drove out demons by the power of the prince of demons.

1. What other question did Jesus ask the Pharisees? [12:27]

If he drove out demons by Beelzebul, Jesus asked, by whom do others drive them out?

Matthew 12:22-29 continued

1. Why do you think he asked this? [12:27]

*(Answer may vary.)* He was probably pointing out that if it were true that someone could only drive out demons by the power of the prince of demons, it would apply equally to their own people who drove out demons.

1. What did Jesus say about the kingdom of God? [12:28]

Jesus said that if he drove out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God had come upon them.

1. What did Jesus ask about the strong man? [12:29]

Jesus asked how anyone could enter the house of the strong man and take away his belongings without first tying up the strong man.

1. Why do you think Jesus asked the question about the strong man? [12:29]

*(Answer may vary.)* He probably wanted them to admit that he did not work by Satan’s power. Rather, he had to overpower Satan in order to cast demons out of people.

**Comment Section:**

# 13:44-46

**Background:** Jesus went and sat down beside the sea. A large crowd gathered around him, and he used parables to teach them about the kingdom of God.

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus said that the kingdom of heaven was like a treasure hidden in a field. [13:44]
* Jesus also said that the kingdom of heaven was like a merchant looking for valuable pearls. [13:45-46]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. How did Jesus describe the kingdom of heaven in verse 44? [13:44]

It is like a treasure hidden in a field.

1. What did the man do when he found the treasure hidden in the field? [13:44]

The man hid the treasure and sold all his possessions and bought the field.

1. Why do you think the man bought the field? [13:44]

He probably wanted the treasure that was hidden in the field.

1. How did Jesus describe the kingdom of heaven in verse 45? [13:45]

The kingdom of heaven is like a man who was a merchant looking for valuable pearls.

1. What did the man do when he found a very valuable pearl? [13:46]

He went and sold everything that he owned and bought it.

1. Why do you think the two men in the stories sold everything they possessed? [13:44-46]

It appears that they sold everything so they could get enough money to buy the land and the pearl.

1. What do you think was Jesus’ reason for saying that the kingdom of Heaven is like these things? [13:44-46]

*(Answer may vary.)* He seems to have meant that the kingdom of Heaven is more important than anything else.

**Comment Section:**

# 14:13-21

**Background**: King Herod killed Jesus’ cousin, John the Baptist. John’s disciples went and told Jesus about it.

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus went to a place far away from people, but the crowds followed him, and he had compassion on them.   
  [14:13-14]
* Jesus told his disciples to feed the people, but they could only find a small amount of food. [14:15-18]
* Jesus blessed the food and gave it to the disciples, and they gave it to the people. [14:19]
* There was enough for over 5,000 people. After the people ate, there was a lot of food left over. [14:20-21]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Where did Jesus go in a boat? [14:13]

He went to a place far away from people.

1. What did Jesus do when he saw the large crowd of people? [14:14]

He had compassion on them and healed those who were sick.

1. Why did the disciples want Jesus to send the crowds away? [14:15]

Because it was late in the day, the disciples knew the people needed to be able to go to the villages to buy food.

1. What did Jesus tell his disciples to do? [14:16]

He told them to give the people something to eat.

1. How did the disciples reply to Jesus? [14:17]

They said that they had only five loaves of bread and two fish.

1. Why do you think the disciples said this to Jesus? [14:17]

*(Answer may vary.)* It appears that they were telling Jesus they did not have enough food to give to so many people.

1. What did Jesus do with the food? [14:19]

He looked up to heaven, blessed the food, broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples.

1. After the people all ate, how much food was left over? [14:20]

Twelve baskets full of food were left over.

1. How many people ate the food that Jesus provided? [14:21]

About 5,000 men, plus women and children, ate the food.

Matthew 14:13-21 continued

1. What do you think was Jesus’ reason for feeding the crowd? [14:15-21]

*(Answer may vary.)* He had compassion for the crowd. Perhaps he did this miracle to show them his glory and power. Perhaps he wanted them to think of how God provided for his people.

**Comment Section:**

**14:22-36**

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus’ disciples got into a boat and went out on the sea. [14:22]
* At night, Jesus walked on the water to his disciples. He told them not to be afraid. [14:25-27]
* Peter walked toward Jesus on the water, but he began to sink. Jesus saved him. [14:29-31]
* The wind stopped blowing. [14:32]
* The disciples worshiped Jesus. [14:33]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did Jesus do on the mountain? [14:23]

He prayed.

1. What happened while the disciples were in the boat? [14:24]

The wind blew strongly against them, and the boat was tossed around by the waves.

1. What unusual thing did Jesus do in verse 25? [14:25]

Jesus walked to them on the water.

1. Why do you think that the disciples thought that the person walking to them on the sea was a ghost? [14:26]

*(Answer may vary.)* They probably thought this because people have bodies that cannot walk on the sea.

1. What did Peter ask Jesus to do to show that it really was him walking on the water? [14:28]

Peter asked Jesus to command him to go to Jesus on the water.

1. What happened when Peter was walking on the water, and he saw the wind? [14:30]

Peter became afraid, and he began to sink.

1. What did Peter do when he began to sink? [14:30]

He cried out to the Lord to save him.

1. How did Jesus save Peter? [14:31-32]

Jesus grabbed Peter and they went into the boat.

1. What happened when Jesus and Peter went into the boat? [14:32]

The wind stopped blowing.

1. How did the disciples respond? [14:33]

They worshiped Jesus and acknowledged that Jesus is the Son of God.

1. What events in this passage do you think showed the disciples that Jesus was the Son of God? [14:25-32]

Jesus walked on the sea, Jesus enabled Peter to walk on the sea, and Jesus made the wind stop blowing.

Matthew 14:22-36 continued

1. When the boat got to land, what did the men in that place do? [14:34-35]

They sent messages to the surrounding area, and people brought sick people to Jesus.

1. What do you think was the reason that people wanted to touch the edge of Jesus’ garment? [14:36]

They probably believed (had faith) that just touching Jesus’ garment would heal them.

1. How many of those who touched Jesus' garment were healed? [14:36]

All people who touched it were healed.

Comment Section:

# 16:13-28

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus asked his disciples who he is, and Peter said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." [16:13-16]
* Jesus said that he would build his church and the gates of Hades would not prevail against it. [16:18]
* Jesus told his disciples that he would be killed and that he would be raised to life. Peter rebuked Jesus for saying that. [16:21-22]
* Jesus said that whoever wanted to follow Jesus must pick up his cross and follow him. [16:24]
* Jesus told the disciples that the Son of Man will come in the glory of his Father with his angels and reward every person according to his deeds. [16:27]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did Jesus ask his disciples? [16:13]

He asked them to tell him who people said the Son of Man is.

1. How did the disciples answer Jesus? [16:14]

They replied that some people said he was John the Baptist, some said Elijah, some said Jeremiah, and some said one of the prophets.

1. Then what did Jesus ask his disciples? [16:15]

He asked the disciples who they would say he is.

1. What did Simon Peter say? [16:16]

Peter said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”

1. How did Peter know this about Jesus? [16:17]

Jesus’ Father, who is in heaven, revealed it to Peter. (That is what Jesus told Peter.)

1. What did Jesus say he would build his church on? [16:18]

Jesus would build his church on this rock.

1. What do you think Jesus was talking about when he spoke of “my church”? [16:18]

*(Answer may vary.)* He was probably talking about the group of people who would belong to him.

1. What did Jesus say he would give Peter? [16:19]

Jesus said he would give Peter the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

1. What did Jesus command the disciples to do? [16:20]

Jesus commanded the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

1. What did Jesus begin to tell his disciples? [16:21]

Jesus began to tell the disciples that he must go to Jerusalem, that he would experience many bad things, that he would be killed, and that he would be raised back to life on the third day.

Matthew 16:13-28 continued

1. What did Peter do? [16:22]

Peter took Jesus aside and told him that this must never happen to him.

1. What did Jesus say to Peter? [16:23]

Jesus told Satan to get behind him. He said that Peter was a stumbling block because Peter was not thinking about the things of God.

1. What did Jesus say his followers must do? [16:24]

Jesus said that they must deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow him.

1. What did Jesus say would happen to the one who wanted to save his life? [16:25]

He would lose it.

1. What did Jesus say would happen to the one who lost his life for Jesus’ sake? [16:25]

He would find it.

1. What do you think Jesus meant by his two questions in verse 26? [16:26]

*(Answer may vary.)* The passage seems to be saying that if a person gained the whole world but lost his life, he would not profit, and that there was nothing that anyone could give in exchange for his life.

1. What did Jesus say the Son of Man will do? [16:27]

He will come in the glory of his Father with his angels. Then he will reward every person according to his deeds.

1. What did Jesus say would happen in verse 28? [16:28]

Some of the disciples would not experience death until they saw the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.

Comment Section:

# 17:1-7

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus’ appearance changed. [17:2]
* Moses and Elijah appeared and talked with Jesus. [17:3]
* Peter offered to build shelters for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah. [17:4]
* A bright cloud overshadowed them. [17:5]
* A voice out of the cloud said, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Listen to him.” [17:5]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. When Jesus, Peter, James, and John were on the mountain, what happened to Jesus? [17:1-2]

His appearance was greatly changed.

1. How did Jesus’ appearance change? [17:2]

His face shone like the sun, and his clothes became as bright as the light.

1. Who appeared and spoke with Jesus? [17:3]

Moses and Elijah appeared with Jesus.

1. Why do you think it would have been surprising to see Moses and Elijah speaking with Jesus? [17:3]

*(Answer may vary.)* It was probably surprising because Moses and Elijah had lived hundreds of years before this, so they were not still living when Jesus and his disciples were on the earth.

1. What did Peter offer to do? [17:4]

He offered to build shelters for Jesus, Moses, and Elijah.

1. What did the voice out of the cloud say? [17:5]

The voice said that Jesus was his beloved Son, and that he was very pleased with Jesus. The voice said the disciples should listen to Jesus.

1. Whose voice do you think spoke out of the cloud? [17:5]

It is evident that it was the voice of God the Father, because he called Jesus his Son.

1. When he said that they should listen to his beloved Son, who do you think he was speaking about? [17:5]

This indicates that God the Father was speaking about Jesus his Son.

1. When Jesus’ disciples heard the voice, what did they do? [17:6]

They fell down with their faces to the ground, and they were very afraid.

Matthew 17:1-7 continued

1. What did Jesus do then? [17:7]

He came and touched them. He told them not to be afraid.

Comment Section:

# 18:21-35

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Peter asked Jesus how often he should forgive his brother when he sinned against him. He wanted to know if 7 times was enough. [18:21]
* Jesus responded by saying 70 times 7. Then he told a story. [18:22-23]
* In Jesus’ story, a king forgave the large debt of a servant, but the servant would not forgive the small debt of a fellow servant. [18:24-31]
* The king called in the first servant and punished him. [18:32-34]
* Jesus said his heavenly Father would do the same to anyone who does not forgive a brother. [18:35]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did Peter want to know in verse 21? [18:21]

He wanted to know how often he needed to forgive someone who sinned against him. He wanted to know if 7 times was enough.

1. Jesus said a person should forgive another person how often? [18:22]

Jesus said 70 times 7.

1. In Jesus’ story, how much did the servant owe the king? [18:24]

The servant owed 10,000 talents.

1. What did the king say should happen to the servant? [18:25]

The king said that the servant should be sold, along with his wife and children and everything he had.

1. How do you think selling the servant and his family and possessions would help the master? [18:25]

*(Answer may vary.)* Perhaps it would provide enough money to pay what the servant owed.

1. What did the servant want? [18:26]

He wanted the king to be patient and said he would pay him everything.

1. What did the king do for the servant? [18:27]

The king released the servant and forgave his debt.

1. What did the servant do when he found a fellow servant who owed him? [18:28]

He began to choke that servant and demanded that his fellow servant should pay him back.

1. Compare how much the two servants owed. [18:24, 28]

The first servant owed much more than the second servant.

1. What did that second servant want? [18:29]

He wanted the first servant to be patient with him, and he would pay him back.

Matthew 18:21-35 continued

1. What did the first servant do? [18:30]

He refused to wait, and he threw the second servant into prison.

1. Why was the king so angry with the first servant? [18:32-34]

The king had forgiven all of the first servant’s debt. That servant should have had mercy, and he should have forgiven the second servant’s debt.

1. What did the king do to the first servant? [18:34]

He handed the servant over to the torturers.

1. What did Jesus say would happen to people who do not forgive other people? [18:35]

His heavenly Father will do the same as the king in the story did.

1. How do you think this parable addresses Peter’s question about forgiveness? [18:23-35]

*(Answer may vary.)* Jesus seems to show by this parable that God is very forgiving and has forgiven people for so much. Therefore, people should not put a limit on how much they forgive other people.

Comment Section:

# 19:16-30

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* A young man asked Jesus how he could have eternal life, and he told Jesus that he had kept all the commandments. [19:16-20]
* When Jesus told the young man to sell his possessions and give to the poor, the young man was sad because he had many possessions. [19:21-22]
* When Jesus said it was hard for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God, the disciples asked who can be saved. [19:23-25]
* Jesus said that with God, all things are possible. [19:26]
* Jesus said that everyone who has left things or people for his name’s sake will receive much more and will inherit eternal life. [19:29]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did the man ask Jesus? [19:16]

He asked Jesus what good thing he needed to do in order to have eternal life.

1. What did Jesus tell him to do? [19:17]

Jesus told him to obey the commandments.

1. How did the man reply? [19:18]

He asked which commandments he needed to obey.

1. Which commandments did Jesus say the young man must obey? [19:18-19]

Do not murder, do not commit adultery, do not steal, do not bear false witness, honor your father and your mother, and love your neighbor as yourself.

1. How did the young man answer Jesus? [19:20]

The young man said that he had obeyed all these commands.

1. What did Jesus say to the young man? [19:21]

He told the young man to sell his possessions and give to the poor and then follow Jesus.

1. Why was the young man sad? [19:22]

The young man was sad because he had many possessions.

1. Why do you think having many possessions caused the young man to be sad? [19:22]

*(Answer may vary.)* The passage indicates that he did not want to sell them. He probably thought that selling all of his possessions would be too much to give up for Jesus.

1. What did Jesus say to his disciples? [19:23-24]

He said that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God.

Matthew 19:16-30 continued

1. How did his disciples respond? [19:25]

They were astonished and asked who could then be saved.

1. Why do you think the disciples were astonished? [19:25]

*(Answer may vary.)* Perhaps they thought that if people were rich, it was because they were good and that God was blessing them. If good people could not enter into God’s kingdom, then they did not know who could. Or maybe they wondered how a camel could go through the eye of a needle.

1. How did Jesus answer the disciples? [19:26]

Jesus that that with people this is impossible, but with God all things are possible.

1. What did Peter say to Jesus? [19:27]

Peter said the disciples had left everything and followed Jesus. He wanted to know what they would have because of this.

1. How did Jesus answer Peter and the disciples? [19:28]

Jesus told his disciples that in the age to come, they would sit on twelve thrones and judge the twelve tribes of Israel.

1. What else did Jesus say to the disciples? [19:29]

Everyone who has left houses, brothers, sisters, father, mother, children, or land for Jesus’ name's sake will receive one hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.

1. How did Jesus end this discussion? [19:30]

He said that many who were first will be last, and those who were the last will be first.

1. What do you think Jesus meant when he said that the first will be last and the last will be first? [19:30]

*(Answer may vary.)* He probably meant that many people who were considered to be important now will not be important later, and that many who were considered to be unimportant now will be very important later.

Comment Section:

# 20:1-16

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus told his disciples a story to explain what the kingdom of heaven is like. [20:1-16]
* In the story, a landowner went to hire some men to work in his field. [20:1]
* The landowner went at various times of the day and hired more workers. [20:3-7]
* The landowner paid all the men the same amount of money. [20:9-10]
* Some of the men complained about how much the landowner paid them. [20:11-12]
* Jesus said the last will be first, and the first will be last. [20:16]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What did the landowner do to get workers for his vineyard? [20:1-6]

He went to the marketplace and hired people to go and work for him.

1. When he hired the first group, how much did he say he would give them? [20:2]

He said that he would give them one denarius a day.

1. When he hired other people later in the day, what did he say he would give them? [20:4]

He said that he would give them what was right.

1. At the end of the day, how much did the laborers who were hired last receive? [20:9]

They each received a denarius.

1. Explain why you think the laborers who were hired first became upset with what they received. [20:11-12]

*(Answer may vary.)* Perhaps they felt cheated because they got the same amount as the ones who worked only one hour.

1. Did the landowner cheat the first workers? [20:13]

He did not cheat them. He gave them the amount they had agreed upon.

1. How do you think the kingdom of heaven is like this parable? [20:1-16]

*(Answer may vary.)* Perhaps people do not necessarily earn more rewards from God just because they have worked harder or longer. All God’s rewards are gifts, and God gives them in a way that pleases himself.

Comment Section:

# 22:1-14

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus told a story (parable) to explain what the kingdom of heaven is like. [22:1-2]
* The kingdom of heaven is like a marriage feast that a king prepared for his son. [22:2]
* The king invited people to the feast, but when the feast was ready, they refused to come. [22:3-5]
* The king sent his servants to go out and invite as many people as they could find. [22:8-10]
* One man who came to the feast was not wearing wedding clothes, so the king told his servants to throw the man out into the outer darkness. [22:11-13]
* The parable ends by saying that many people are called, but few are chosen. [22:14]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. How did Jesus speak to the people? [22:1]

Jesus spoke to the people in parables.

1. What did Jesus say the kingdom of heaven is like? [22:2]

The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a marriage feast for his son.

1. Did everyone who was invited come to the feast? [22:5]

No, they paid no attention to the king.

1. What else did some of the people who were invited to the feast do? [22:6]

They seized the king's servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them.

1. How did the king respond? [22:7]

The king was angry, so he sent his soldiers. The soldiers destroyed those people and burned their city.

1. What did the king tell his servants? [22:9]

He told them to go to the highway crossings and invite as many people to the marriage feast as they could find.

1. What did the king see when he came in to look at his guests? [22:11]

He saw a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes.

1. What did the king say to the man without wedding clothes? [22:12]

He called the man friend, and he asked how the man came in there without wedding clothes.

1. What did the man say to the king? [22:12]

He said nothing. He was speechless.

1. What happened to the man without wedding clothes? [22:13]

The king’s servants threw him into the outer darkness.

1. How did the parable end? [22:14]

Jesus said that many people are called, but few are chosen.

Matthew 22:1-14 continued

1. How do you think the kingdom of heaven is like this parable? [22:1-14]

*(Answer may vary.)* Perhaps it is because God invites people to belong to his kingdom, but they refuse. So, God invites other people to be part of his kingdom.

Comment Section:

# 24:36-51

**Background:** Jesus’ disciples asked him what would be the sign of his coming at the end of the age. Jesus told them about some of the things that would happen before he comes back.

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Jesus said that nobody but the Father knows what day and hour the Son of Man will come. [24:36]
* Jesus said that the coming of the Son of Man will be like the days of Noah, when people did the ordinary things they normally do and were not ready when the flood came. [24:37-39]
* Jesus told his disciples to be ready because the Son of Man will come at a time they do not expect. [24:44]
* Jesus told how a master who returns home will treat his faithful servants and his wicked servants. [24:45-51]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. Who did Jesus say knows when the Son of Man will come? [24:36]

Jesus said that only the Father knows.

1. How will the coming of the Son of Man be like the days of Noah? [24:37-39]

Before the Son of Man comes, people will be doing ordinary things, and they won't know when he will come.

1. What did Jesus say about two men working in a field and two women grinding with a mill? [2:40-42]

He said that one will be taken, and one will be left.

1. Why do you think the same thing will not happen to both women and both men? [2:40-42]

*(Answer may vary.)* Perhaps one will be ready when the Son of Man comes and the other will not be ready.

1. Why did Jesus warn his disciples to be on guard or stay alert? [24:42]

He said this because people don’t know when the Lord will come.

1. Why would the master of the house have stayed alert if he had known when the thief was coming? [24:43-44]

The master would have stayed alert so he could keep the thief from breaking into his house.

1. How do you think the coming of the Son of Man is like a thief coming? [24:44]

*(Answer may vary.)* Probably it is because people don’t know when the Son of Man will come, just as they don’t know when a thief will come.

1. Who is the wise and faithful servant? [24:45-46]

He is a person who carefully watches over the master's household until the master returns.

1. What will the master do for the faithful servant? [24:47]

The master will set the faithful servant over all the master’s possessions.

1. Who is the evil servant? [24:48-49]

The evil servant is the one who begins to mistreat his fellow servants once he believes his master is delayed.

Matthew 24:36-51 continued

1. When the master returns at an unexpected time, what will he do to the evil servant? [24:50-51]

The master will cut him into pieces and put him with the hypocrites, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

**Comment Section:**

# 27:1-10

**Background**: Some of the religious leaders made a plot to arrest Jesus. They gave money to Judas, one of Jesus’ disciples, and Judas led a crowd (who came from these leaders) to Jesus at night. They arrested Jesus and took him to the High Priest. The High Priest said that Jesus deserved to die.

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* The chief priest and elders delivered Jesus to Pilate, the governor, to put him to death. [27:1-2]
* When Judas saw that Jesus had been condemned, he felt bad and returned the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests. [27:3-4]
* When the chief priest and elders would not take back the silver, Judas threw the silver into the temple and then went out and hanged himself. [27:5]
* The chief priest took the money and bought the potter's field. [27:6-8]
* This fulfilled what Jeremiah the prophet had said would happen. [27:9-10]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What happened after the chief priest and elders plotted to put Jesus to death? [27:1-2]

They bound Jesus and delivered him to Pilate the governor.

1. What did Judas do when he saw that Jesus had been condemned to death? [27:3]

Judas changed his mind and tried to return the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests.

1. What do you think Judas meant when he said that he betrayed innocent blood? [27:4]

*(Answer may vary.)* Judas probably meant that when he betrayed Jesus, he betrayed an innocent person, and now that innocent person was going to die.

1. What did the chief priest and elders tell Judas when he said that he had betrayed innocent blood? [27:4]

They said that it did not matter to them, and that Judas should take care of it himself.

1. What did Judas do? [27:5]

Judas threw the thirty pieces of silver into the temple. Then he went out and hanged himself.

1. What do you think the chief priests meant when they said that the silver was the price of blood? [27:6]

*(Answer may vary.)* They probably meant that the silver had been used to pay for someone to be killed.

1. What did the chief priest and elders do with the silver that Judas threw into the temple? [27:7]

They bought the potter's field in which to bury strangers.

1. What was the potter’s field called? [27:8]

The field has been called the Field of Blood.

Matthew 27:1-10 continued

1. How did this event fulfill Jeremiah’s prophecy? [27:9-10]

Jeremiah prophesied about people taking thirty pieces of silver, the price that was set on someone by the sons of Israel, and buying a potter’s field. In Matthew, the chief priests took the thirty pieces of silver that they paid for Jesus to be arrested and killed, and they bought a potter’s field.

**Comment Section:**

# 28:1-20

**Background**: Pilate tried Jesus and gave him to the soldiers to crucify him. They crucified Jesus, and he died. Many women who followed Jesus were watching. A disciple named Joseph buried Jesus’ body in a tomb and rolled a stone in front of it. Two disciples named Mary watched. The chief priests sealed the tomb and posted a guard so that no one could go inside and steal Jesus’ body.

***Read the passage.***

Part 1

Tell in your own words what you just read in these verses.

* Two women went to the tomb, and an angel came down and rolled away the stone from the tomb. [28:1-2]
* The angel told the women to go tell the disciples what had happened. [28:5-7]
* Jesus appeared to the women, and they worshiped him. [28:8-10]
* The guards reported to the chief priests what had happened. [28:11]
* The chief priest gave money to the guards to lie about what had happened. [28:11-15]
* Jesus’ disciples went to him in Galilee, and he told them to make disciples of all nations. [28:16-20]

Part 2

Answer the following questions.

1. What happened at dawn on the first day of the week? [28:1]

Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb.

1. What happened as Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to the tomb? [28:2]

There was a great earthquake. Then an angel of the Lord came and rolled away the stone and sat on it.

1. What did the angel of the Lord look like? [28:3]

His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing was white as snow.

1. What did the guards do when the angel of the Lord appeared? [28:4]

The guards shook with fear and became like dead men.

1. What did the angel say to the women? [28:5]

He told them not to be afraid, and he said he knew who they were looking for: Jesus, who had been crucified.

1. What did the angel say about Jesus? [28:6]

He said that he was not there, but had risen, just as he had said.

1. What did the angel tell the women to do? [28:6]

He told them to come see the place where the Lord was lying.

1. Why do you think the angel told them to come and see where the Lord lay? [26:6]

*(Answer may vary.)* He probably did this because seeing the empty tomb would help them know that the Lord really had risen from the dead.

1. What do you think it means that Jesus was risen, or that Jesus was risen from the dead? [28:6-7]

This passage shows that it means that Jesus came back to life after he had died.

Matthew 28:1-20 continued

1. What did the angel tell the women to do? [28:7]

The angel told them to tell the disciples that Jesus had risen from the dead.

1. What did the women do? [28:8]

The women left the tomb and ran to tell the disciples.

1. What happened when the women left the tomb? [28:9]

Jesus appeared and the women worshiped him.

1. What did Jesus tell the women? [28:10]

He told them not to be afraid, but to tell his brothers to leave for Galilee. They would see him there.

1. What did the soldiers do after they left the tomb? [28:11]

They told the chief priests what had happened.

1. What did the chief priests and elders do? [28:12]

They gave a large amount of money to the soldiers.

1. What did the chief priests and elders tell the soldiers to say? [28:13]

They told the soldiers to say that, while they were sleeping, the disciples of Jesus came by night and stole his body.

1. What did the soldiers do? [28:15]

The soldiers took the money and did as the chief priests and elders told them.

1. Where did the eleven disciples go? [28:16]

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.

1. What did the disciples do when they saw Jesus? [28:17]

They worshiped him, but some doubted.

1. What did Jesus say had been given to him? [28:18]

All authority in heaven and earth had been given to him.

1. After Jesus told them that he has been given all authority in heaven and earth, what did he tell his disciples to do? [28:18-19]

He told them to make disciples of all nations and to baptize them into the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

1. What do you think it means to make disciples? [28:19]

*(Answer may vary.)* From the end of the verse, it appears to mean that they are to teach people to help them believe in and obey Jesus.

1. What do you think it means to baptize people in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit? [28:19]

*(Answer may vary.)* Perhaps it means baptizing people is a sign that they are saved by faith in the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and that they are under the authority of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Perhaps it indicates that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit should be named while baptizing people.

1. What did Jesus tell the disciples to do? [28:20]

He told them to teach the people of the nations to obey what he said.

Comment Section: