



*Summer*

ON THE MOUNT

This summer, we're diving into the greatest sermon ever preached: Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. Found in Matthew chapters 5 through 7, this teaching is both incredibly powerful and deeply personal. Jesus invites us into a radically different way of living in these chapters.

This devotional booklet is designed to help you stay engaged with God's Word all summer long, even while you travel or adjust to the rhythm of the season. Whether you're reading this at the beach, on your back porch, or between soccer games and work meetings, this devotional is here to help you stay connected to what Jesus is doing in you.

Each week matches the sermon topic for that week and includes a short reading, questions for reflection, a simple way to live out the teaching, and a creative prompt to help you engage with Scripture in a fresh way.

Our prayer is that you let Jesus' words shape the way you see God, yourself, and the world around you this summer!



# *Week 1: Blessed*

**PASSAGE: MATTHEW 5:1-12**

## **READING FOR THE WEEK:**

Read Matthew 5 every day this week. Take your time. Ask God to show you something fresh each day.

## **QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:**

- When you hear the word “blessed,” what comes to mind?
- How do Jesus’ blessings in verses 1–12 challenge your current understanding of what it means to live a good life?
- Which one of the Beatitudes speaks most personally to your current season? Why?

## **PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:**

Start your day this week with a posture of humility. Each morning, pray this simple prayer:

“Jesus, today I want to live like I belong to Your Kingdom. Help me to see people the way You do.”

**BONUS CHALLENGE: CHOOSE ONE BEATITUDE AND MEMORIZE IT THIS WEEK.**



# *Week 2: Blessed*

**PASSAGE: MATTHEW 5:3-5**

## **READING FOR THE WEEK:**

Read Matthew 5 every day this week. Focus especially on verses 3–5.

## **QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:**

- “Blessed are the poor in spirit” — how would you define that in your own words?
- Why do you think mourning and meekness are considered blessed by Jesus?
- Which of these three feels hardest to embrace in your own life? Why?
- How do these verses challenge the way our culture defines success or strength?

## **PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:**

This week, intentionally **choose meekness** in one situation where you would normally push for your own way. It could be in a conversation, a decision at work, or even in how you respond online.

Each evening, reflect on this question:  
“Did I choose power or meekness today?”

**BONUS CHALLENGE: WRITE VERSES 3–5 IN YOUR OWN WORDS AND KEEP THEM SOMEWHERE VISIBLE.**



# Week 3: Blessed

## PASSAGE: MATTHEW 5:6-8

### READING FOR THE WEEK:

Read Matthew 5 each day this week, with special focus on verses 6–8. Try reading it in a different translation midweek to hear it with fresh ears.

### QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:

- What does it mean to hunger and thirst for righteousness in your life right now?
- When have you experienced mercy—either receiving it or giving it?
- Why do you think a pure heart is connected to seeing God?
- Which of these blessings feels most alive in you right now—and which one feels most distant?

### PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:

Pick one of the three traits—**righteousness, mercy, or purity**—and make it your focus this week. Set a daily reminder on your phone with one action you want to take to live it out.

Examples:

- Righteousness: Speak up for someone being mistreated.
- Mercy: Forgive someone who doesn't "deserve" it.
- Purity: Limit distractions that clutter your heart and mind (social media, comparison, etc.).

**BONUS CHALLENGE: CHOOSE ONE VERSE (6-8) AND MAKE IT YOUR LOCK SCREEN FOR THE WEEK.**



# Week 4: Blessed

## PASSAGE: MATTHEW 9-12

### READING FOR THE WEEK:

Read Matthew 5 daily, lingering this week on verses 9–12. As you read, ask God to help you see where He's calling you to courage or reconciliation.

### QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:

- What does being a peacemaker actually look like in your everyday relationships?
- Jesus says we're blessed when persecuted. What kind of opposition or pushback have you faced for following Him?
- Why do you think Jesus ends the Beatitudes with this strong focus on joy in hardship?
- Where might God be calling you to step into discomfort for the sake of His Kingdom?

### PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:

**Make peace.** This week, reach out to someone you've had tension with—whether it's unresolved or just awkward. Initiate peace. Ask a question. Offer grace.

If you're not sure who to reach out to, ask: "Jesus, who do I need to make peace with?" Then wait. Listen. Respond.





# *Week 5: Salt & Light*

**PASSAGE: MATTHEW 5:13–16**

## **READING FOR THE WEEK:**

Read Matthew 5 each day, but meditate on verses 13–16. As you read, picture the images Jesus uses—salt and light—and ask, “Where am I already being these? Where am I hiding?”

## **QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:**

- What does it mean to be “the salt of the earth”? Where might your influence add flavor or preserve truth?
- Where are you tempted to hide your light instead of shine it?
- How does this passage challenge the way you think about your presence at work, school, or home?
- If someone watched your life for a week, would they see the light of Christ?

## **PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:**

Shine on purpose. Identify one space this week where you tend to blend in—and intentionally live with courage and kindness there. It could be your office, a social circle, or even online.

Make a plan to:

- Speak encouragement.
- Serve quietly.
- Share a word of hope.

**BONUS CHALLENGE: TAKE A PICTURE OF LIGHT—SUNLIGHT THROUGH A WINDOW, A CANDLE, A STREETLAMP. USE IT AS A DAILY VISUAL REMINDER THIS WEEK.**

# Week 6: Truth & Law

**PASSAGE: MATTHEW 5:17–37**

## **READING FOR THE WEEK:**

Read Matthew 5 each day this week, focusing on verses 17–37. Jesus says He didn't come to abolish the Law but to fulfill it.

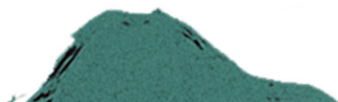
## **QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:**

- Why do you think Jesus raised the standard so high—not just actions, but thoughts and intentions?
- What part of this passage makes you most uncomfortable or convicted?
- How does this challenge your understanding of grace and obedience?
- In what area of life do you most need God's transforming power right now?

## **PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:**

**Take inventory.** Set aside 10–15 minutes this week for a spiritual check-in. Ask the Holy Spirit to search your heart (Psalm 139:23–24). Write down areas where your actions may be okay—but your attitude or thought life needs renewal. Then take one small step of repentance or reconciliation.

**BONUS CHALLENGE: SWITCH TRANSLATIONS TODAY. READ THIS PASSAGE IN A PARAPHRASE (LIKE THE MESSAGE OR THE BIBLE PROJECT PARAPHRASE). HOW DOES THE LANGUAGE HELP YOU HEAR JESUS DIFFERENTLY?**





# *Week 7: Who does that?*

**PASSAGE: MATTHEW 5:38–48**

## **READING FOR THE WEEK:**

Read Matthew 5 daily, zeroing in on verses 38–48. These verses include some of the most difficult commands Jesus ever gave—don’t rush past them. Sit with them. Let them challenge you.

## **QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:**

- What part of this teaching feels most impossible? Why?
- When have you experienced someone “turning the other cheek” or loving an enemy in real life? What impact did it have?
- Jesus says to “be perfect” like your Father—how do you understand that?
- What would it look like to respond with love this week when you feel wronged?

## **PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:**

**Love someone who’s hard to love.** This week, identify one person who drains you, annoys you, or even opposes you. Pray for them daily. Find one simple way to bless or serve them. Don’t do it to feel better about yourself—do it to reflect your Father in heaven.

**BONUS CHALLENGE: MEMORIZE MATTHEW 5:44 — “LOVE YOUR ENEMIES AND PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PERSECUTE YOU.”**



# *Week 8: Hilarious Giving*

**PASSAGE: MATTHEW 6:1–4**

## **READING FOR THE WEEK:**

Read Matthew 6 each day this week. Spend focused time on verses 1–4. Notice how often Jesus talks about motives in this chapter. Ask: “Who am I doing this for?”

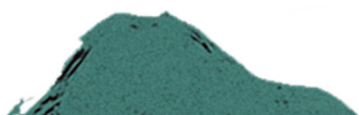
## **QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:**

- Why does Jesus warn us not to practice righteousness “in front of others to be seen”?
- What’s the difference between public good and performative good?
- Have you ever done the right thing... for the wrong reasons?
- What kind of giving brings you real joy—and what kind of giving leaves you empty?

## **PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:**

**Give in secret.** This week, find one meaningful way to be generous without telling anyone. No post. No credit. Just joy between you and God. It could be money, time, encouragement, or service—just make it intentional, thoughtful, and quiet.

**BONUS CHALLENGE: AT THE END OF THE WEEK, WRITE DOWN HOW IT FELT TO GIVE WITHOUT APPLAUSE.**



# *Week 9: Prayer & Fasting*

**PASSAGE: MATTHEW 6:5–18**

## **READING FOR THE WEEK:**

Read Matthew 6 each day, with a slow focus on verses 5–18. Don't just read about prayer—pray as you read. Try writing out the Lord's Prayer and personalizing it line by line.

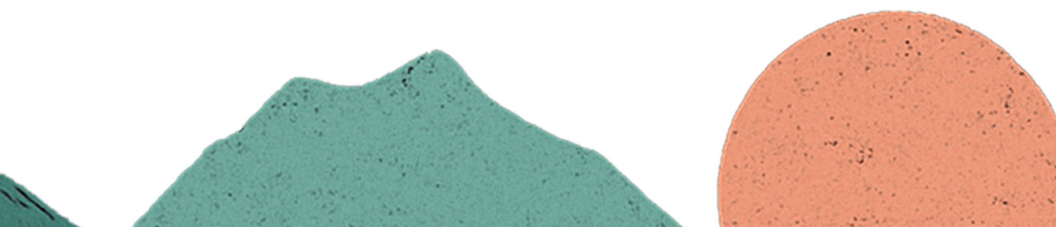
## **QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:**

- What distractions or habits keep you from spending time in prayer?
- Why do you think Jesus taught us to pray in secret?
- Which part of the Lord's Prayer resonates with you most right now?
- What's your current relationship with fasting—curiosity, resistance, experience?

## **PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:**

**Fast from something this week.** Pick one thing that consumes your attention—food, social media, noise—and take a break. During that space, pray.

**BONUS CHALLENGE: EACH MORNING, PRAY THIS LINE BEFORE YOU DO ANYTHING ELSE: “YOUR KINGDOM COME, YOUR WILL BE DONE—TODAY, IN ME.”**



# Week 10: Treasure & Worry

**PASSAGE: MATTHEW 6:19–34**

## **READING FOR THE WEEK:**

Read Matthew 6 daily this week, centering on verses 19–34. Read it once with a pen in hand—underline everything that stirs anxiety, and circle everything that stirs trust.

## **QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:**

- Where do you tend to store your treasure—what gets your time, energy, and attention?
- “You cannot serve both God and money.” What does that look like in your world?
- What are your top 3 worries right now? How does Jesus speak into them in this passage?
- What would it take for you to actually live “seek first His Kingdom” this week?


## **PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:**

**Trade worry for trust.** Write your top 3 anxieties on a note. Then write Matthew 6:33 underneath them:

“But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

Pray over the list every day. Each time anxiety surfaces, turn it into a moment of surrender.

**BONUS CHALLENGE: MAKE A TWO-COLUMN LIST: “WHAT I TREASURE” AND “WHAT JESUS TREASURES.” COMPARE THEM. WHAT SHIFT DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO MAKE?**



# Week 11: Judge Not

**PASSAGE: MATTHEW 7:1-6**

## **READING FOR THE WEEK:**

Read Matthew 7 every day this week, focusing on verses 1-6.

## **QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:**

- Why do you think Jesus speaks so directly about judging others?
- What's the danger of ignoring the "log" in your own eye?
- How can you balance truth and grace in your relationships?
- Are there ways you've felt judged by others—and how does that affect how you treat people now?

## **PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:**

**Shift your lens.** Choose one relationship where you've been critical, harsh, or internally judgmental. This week, look for the good. Call it out. Encourage it. Let grace lead your perspective.

Ask God each morning: "Help me see others the way You see them."

**BONUS CHALLENGE: STAND IN FRONT OF A MIRROR AND ASK, "WHAT'S THE LOG IN MY EYE?" WRITE IT DOWN—NOT TO SHAME YOURSELF, BUT TO SURRENDER IT.**



# *Week 12: Ask, Seek, Knock*

**PASSAGE: MATTHEW 7:7-12**

## **READING FOR THE WEEK:**

Read Matthew 7 every day, focusing this week on verses 7-12. As you read, pause after each verb: ask... seek... knock. Let them echo. What are you truly asking God for right now?

## **QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:**

- What's something you've stopped asking God for—or are afraid to?
- Why do you think Jesus emphasizes persistence in prayer?
- How does verse 12 (the “Golden Rule”) connect to the verses before it?
- What kind of image of God do you think Jesus wants to correct in this passage?

## **PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:**

**Pray boldly and consistently.** This week, write down one deep desire or need. Each day, ask God for it honestly. Seek His will in it. Knock with persistence and trust. Don't just pray once—pray all week. Then look for His response in unexpected ways.



# Week 13: Pick One

**PASSAGE: MATTHEW 7:13–29**

## **READING FOR THE WEEK:**

Read Matthew 7 each day this week, focusing on verses 13–29. Notice how Jesus uses clear contrasts: wide vs. narrow, fruit vs. thorns, sand vs. rock. Ask: What kind of life am I building?

## **QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:**

- Which image stands out most to you—gate, tree, house—and why?
- How is Jesus inviting you to not just listen to Him, but live what He teaches?
- Are there places in your life where your foundation feels shaky?
- What's the difference between admiration of Jesus... and actual obedience?

## **PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:**

**Pick one truth and act on it.** Go back through the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5–7) and highlight one command Jesus gives that you've been avoiding, resisting, or putting off. Then do it—this week. Build on the rock.

**BONUS CHALLENGE: MEMORIZE MATTHEW 7:24 —**  
“EVERYONE WHO HEARS THESE WORDS OF MINE AND PUTS THEM INTO PRACTICE IS LIKE A WISE MAN WHO BUILT HIS HOUSE ON THE ROCK.”





# *Week 14: Best Sermon Ever*

**PASSAGE: MATTHEW 5-7**

## **READING FOR THE WEEK:**

Read the entire Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) each day this week. Try reading it out loud one day, slowly and thoughtfully. Let the full weight of Jesus' words settle in.

## **QUESTIONS & REFLECTION:**

- What part of the Sermon has changed you the most over the past 14 weeks?
- Is there a theme or verse that keeps coming back to mind? Why do you think that is?
- How has Jesus' vision of the Kingdom challenged your assumptions about the "good life"?
- What would it look like for you to build your whole life around these words?

## **PRACTICE WHAT HE PREACHED:**

**Recommit.** Choose one way this fall you will continue to live out the Sermon on the Mount. Write it down. Share it with someone. Put it into practice.

**BONUS CHALLENGE: RECORD A 30-SECOND VOICE MEMO TO YOURSELF: "HERE'S WHAT I LEARNED... HERE'S WHO I WANT TO BECOME." LISTEN BACK IN A MONTH.**



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# *Additional Resources*

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It's our prayer that you have found this guide helpful! If you would like to go a little deeper with the Sermon on the Mount, scan the QR code to discover some resources we've gathered for you; this list doesn't even scratch the surface of what's available out there, but we hope it gets you started.



Be blessed!

