



FOOTSTEPS EVERY DAY

A DAILY READING PLAN FOR MATTHEW

Jesus had a predictable pattern of spending time alone with his heavenly Father the King, *Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he got up, went out, and made his way to a deserted place; and there he was praying.* (Mark 1:35) Those who follow Jesus recognize this is a critical rhythm of discipleship—seeking to become more like him by hearing and responding to what he is saying every day. When we listen for the voice of Jesus speaking through his written Word, the Holy Spirit plants faith in our hearts. When we exercise that faith by taking a concrete step in the footsteps of Jesus, we grow as his fruitful disciples and learn to live a more Jesus-shaped life.

Footsteps Every Day is a daily Bible reading plan, designed to help followers of Jesus establish a regular pattern of spending time alone with God, reading Scripture, listening in prayer, and responding with a step of faith. The plan for *Matthew* is comprised of 84 passages that make up Matthew's account of Jesus' life. If you read six days a week, you will read the Gospel of Matthew in just over 14 weeks. If you use all four reading plans for Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, you will go on an incredible year-long journey through all four Gospels in 313 readings, following the life of Jesus by reading every recorded thing he said and did during his life on earth!

This reading plan is designed to go with the series of Devotional Commentaries by Bob Rognlien called *Footsteps Every Day: A Devotional Commentary*, which draw on history, archaeology, and culture to illuminate the Way of Jesus and help you follow him with concrete steps of faith. For more information visit www.bobrognlien.com.

Here are some recommendations for a fruitful devotional journey:

- Pick a time in which you have the highest likelihood of being consistent each day.
- Set aside at least 15 minutes, or better 30 minutes.
- Pick a place where you will be the least distracted and interrupted.
- Make yourself comfortable but adopt an attentive posture.
- Read the Scripture passage in your own Bible. Read it again. Listen.
- Use a devotional commentary to help reflect on its meaning.
- Take some time to prayerfully listen, noting what God seems to be pointing out to you.
- Highlight important phrases and make relevant notes in the margins.
- Prayerfully ask God what he is saying to you and write down what is coming to you.
- Then ask God to show you the next step of faith he wants you to take.
- Write down the step of faith and ask someone to pray for you to follow through.
- Take that step of faith! Rinse and repeat every day!

When we read God's Word and listen to what Jesus is saying to us through the Spirit, it produces faith in our hearts. Our role is to respond to what Jesus is saying by exercising that faith, taking the next step in following the footsteps of Jesus. We are not trying to change ourselves by moral willpower, but rather are putting ourselves in the place where God's Spirit can transform us from the inside out and produce through us good fruit that lasts. This is what it means to live as a Jesus-shaped disciple. Please don't approach your daily reading as a religious task that you must perform but as a gracious daily invitation to draw near to Jesus, hear his voice, and follow where he leads you on this great adventure of discipleship!

WEEK ONE

Day 1: Matthew 1:1-17
Day 2: Matthew 1:18-25
Day 3: Matthew 2:1-12
Day 4: Matthew 2:13-23
Day 5: Matthew 3:1-17
Day 6: Matthew 4:1-11

WEEK TWO

Day 7: Matthew 4:12-25
Day 8: Matthew 5:1-16
Day 9: Matthew 5:17-26
Day 10: Matthew 5:27-42
Day 11: Matthew 5:43-6:4
Day 12: Matthew 6:5-18

WEEK THREE

Day 13: Matthew 6:19-34
Day 14: Matthew 7:1-12
Day 15: Matthew 7:13-23
Day 16: Matthew 7:24-8:4
Day 17: Matthew 8:5-22
Day 18: Matthew 8:23-34

WEEK FOUR

Day 19: Matthew 9:1-13
Day 20: Matthew 9:14-26
Day 21: Matthew 9:27-38
Day 22: Matthew 10:1-15
Day 23: Matthew 10:16-25
Day 24: Matthew 10:26-42

WEEK FIVE

Day 25: Matthew 11:1-15
Day 26: Matthew 11:16-24
Day 27: Matthew 11:25-28
Day 28: Matthew 12:1-21
Day 29: Matthew 12:22-32
Day 30: Matthew 12:33-45

WEEK SIX

Day 31: Matthew 12:46-13:9
Day 32: Matthew 13:10-23
Day 33: Matthew 13:24-35
Day 34: Matthew 13:36-46
Day 35: Matthew 13:47-58
Day 36: Matthew 14:1-14

WEEK SEVEN

Day 37: Matthew 14:15-21
Day 38: Matthew 14:22-36
Day 39: Matthew 15:1-20
Day 40: Matthew 15:21-28
Day 41: Matthew 15:29-39
Day 42: Matthew 16:1-12

WEEK EIGHT

Day 43: Matthew 16:13-28
Day 44: Matthew 17:1-13
Day 45: Matthew 17:14-27
Day 46: Matthew 18:1-14
Day 47: Matthew 18:15-35
Day 48: Matthew 19:1-12

WEEK NINE

Day 49: Matthew 19:13-22
Day 50: Matthew 19:23-30
Day 51: Matthew 20:1-16
Day 52: Matthew 20:17-28
Day 53: Matthew 20:29-21:11
Day 54: Matthew 21:12-22

WEEK TEN

Day 55: Matthew 21:23-32
Day 56: Matthew 21:33-46
Day 57: Matthew 22:1-14
Day 58: Matthew 22:15-22
Day 59: Matthew 22:23-33
Day 60: Matthew 22:34-40

WEEK ELEVEN

Day 61: Matthew 22:41-46
Day 62: Matthew 23:1-12
Day 63: Matthew 23:13-22
Day 64: Matthew 23:23-32
Day 65: Matthew 23:33-39
Day 66: Matthew 24:1-28

WEEK TWELVE

Day 67: Matthew 24:29-35
Day 68: Matthew 24:36-44
Day 69: Matthew 24:45-51
Day 70: Matthew 25:1-13
Day 71: Matthew 25:14-30
Day 72: Matthew 25:31-46

WEEK THIRTEEN

Day 73: Matthew 26:1-13
Day 74: Matthew 26:14-30
Day 75: Matthew 26:31-35
Day 76: Matthew 26:36-46
Day 77: Matthew 26:47-56
Day 78: Matthew 26:57-68

WEEK FOURTEEN

Day 79: Matthew 26:69-75
Day 80: Matthew 27:1-10
Day 81: Matthew 27:11-31
Day 82: Matthew 27:32-44
Day 83: Matthew 27:45-56
Day 84: Matthew 27:57-66

WEEK FIFTEEN

Day 85: Matthew 28:1-15
Day 86: Matthew 28:16-20

Continue the *Footsteps Every Day* journey
with Mark, Luke, and John!

