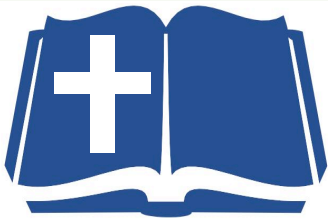


# THE MESSAGE ON

# MAIN ST

A Weekly Resource to Help You Draw Near to God

## WEEK 6 - STUDY GUIDE



### SOCIAL DISTANCING, SPIRITUAL NEARNESS

“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.” (James 4:8)

**NOTE:** This week our study of Matthew comes to a close. Thus far our plan has followed a chapter a day, but this week’s guide will alter that pattern in order to end the study on Saturday and to give more attention to the important events of these chapters.

## Strive To Be An Example!

Once upon a time a man set out to change the world. Before long he discovered that the world was far too big for one person to change. So he decided to change his country. However, crooked politicians and special interest groups hindered his efforts, so he decided to change his neighborhood. But his neighbors simply closed their doors and shut their windows, so he decided to change his family. Instead of changing, his family rebelled and things only got worse. Finally, the man decided to change himself. And when he did that, he changed the world.

This story illustrates a biblical concept: The world needs good examples. The Apostle Paul told Timothy to “be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12). Paul understood that you cannot just tell others how to live, you must show them. As the old adage goes, “Your actions speak louder than your words” are also reflected in the words of John, “My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.” (1 John 3:18)

Jesus left behind a great example to follow. He said, “For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you” (John 13:15). Christians must strive to follow in His steps. For in order to change the world, change must begin with me.

— Josh Allen (Pikeville, KY)

## CAN YOU GIVE GOD A FEW MINUTES OF YOUR DAY?

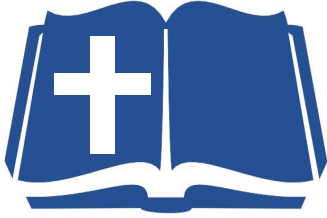
## ABOUT THE PLAN

We have been studying the book of Matthew. Our goal is to spend time each day with Jesus. This guide is a tool to help you.

In this guide there are helps for every Sunday & Wednesday. On those days join us online at [mainstcoc.org](http://mainstcoc.org). Here are some helpful hints:

- **Start with a Commitment** to set aside time in your day, EVERY DAY, either individually or as a family (or both). Make a true commitment or you will never follow through.
- **Click the Links.** You will find many links throughout this guide. Online resources such as websites, videos, and articles can be accessed on your electronic device through this PDF file. Each link will appear in bright Blue text like this: [MAINSTCOC.ORG](http://MAINSTCOC.ORG). Just click on the link and it should open in your browser window.
- **Utilize the Resources.** Many extra resources are provided along the right sidebar of each page. Most of these do not follow the study of Matthew but are other valuable resources for you to check out.
- **Pray, Pray, Pray!** This cannot be stressed this enough. Pray throughout your day (1 Thessalonians 5:17) and ask God for wisdom (James 1:5).
- **Share this guide with others.**

# MONDAY - WEEK 6



## Daily Bible Reading



### MATTHEW 26:1-35

Bible Gateway provides the Bible online for free in a variety of translations. Disclaimer: We do not endorse other advertisements or links on their site.

## THOUGHTS FROM THE TEXT

### It's Not Just A Cracker

A few years back my 3-year old son spoke up during the Lord's Supper. While the unleavened bread was being passed down our pew, he declared, "Dad, I want some." This was nothing new. He had been doing it for almost as long as he had been able to speak. My usual response was, "Son, this is just for Christians" and on this occasion my reply was, "Son, this is only for people who have been baptized." This, however, did not suffice. He fixed me with a very knowing and confident look for a toddler and declared, "Dad, I know it is just a cracker."

Afterward I tried to explain things further to my little boy, but to no avail. I feel he seemed to believe that the adults were just trying to trick him and keep this little snack for ourselves. You see, my son in his innocent immaturity could not grasp that this cup and cracker represent something profound. It makes me wonder, do we who are mature ever lose sight of what that wafer and cup represent? Please consider the following:

It's not just a cracker, it's an **emblem**. While the bread and fruit of the vine do not literally become the body and blood of our Lord, as some falsely teach, we must never look at them as "common" things (Hebrews 10:29). They serve as powerful symbols of the death of our Lord. We take them in obedience to His command, "this do in remembrance of Me" (Luke 22:19). "With just a morsel of bread and a few drops of grape juice, we draw our hearts back to Him who died for us." (Christopher Stinnett). The Corinthian church once lost sight of this and made a mockery of this act of worship. They did not observe it as a memorial, instead they turned it into a common feast. Paul challenged them on this, saying, "For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body." (1 Corinthians 11:29).

It's not just a cracker, it's an **examination**. Paul taught, "...whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup" (1 Corinthians 11:27-29). It is designed as a time to examine one's life in relation to the Cross. Have we been drawing near to Him or pulling away? (James 4:8). As we travel back to Calvary our relation to the cross becomes clear.

It's not just a cracker, it's **communion** (1 Corinthians 10:16). Communion means fellowship or joint participation. Jesus indeed promised, "...I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom." (Matthew 26:29. Cf. Lk 22:28-29). The church is His kingdom (Mark 9:1, Acts 2:47, Colossians 1:12-13). We must never forget that as we come together on the Lord's day to partake of this memorial meal, Jesus is our unseen guest.

It's not just a cracker, it's a **proclamation**. In our weekly observation of this memorial we proclaim our Faith. Paul said, "For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes." (1 Corinthians 11:26). We proclaim our faith in the saving power of Jesus' death, burial, resurrection, and His future coming.

No, it's not just a cracker and a bit of juice. It is so much more! It is a meal shared with our Lord in which we look backward remembering His death, we look inward in self-examination, and we look forward toward His future return.

— Josh Allen (Pikeville, KY)

## RESOURCES FOR GROWTH & ENCOURAGEMENT

- ➔ [Video.WVBS.org](http://Video.WVBS.org) – Free, professionally-produced, lessons on various topics.
- ➔ [Worldbibleschool.org](http://Worldbibleschool.org) – Learn the Gospel and find out how to have eternal life.

## DAILY DEVOTIONAL RESOURCES

- ➔ **Daily Boost** - Glenn Colley offers daily thoughts for individuals & families.
- ➔ **Your Daily 180** – Bill Haywood offers daily 3-minute devotional videos.

## SPIRITUAL MUSIC RESOURCES

- ➔ [Searchtv.org/music.html](http://Searchtv.org/music.html) – A large database of a *cappella* hymns.

"speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19)

## ARTICLES RELATED TO TODAY'S READING

- ✔ ["The Extravagance of Love" by Tommy South](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199101_06.pdf)

[http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_199101\\_06.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199101_06.pdf)

- ✔ ["The Heart's Extravagance" by Charles B. Hodge](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_198311_21.pdf)

[http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_198311\\_21.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_198311_21.pdf)

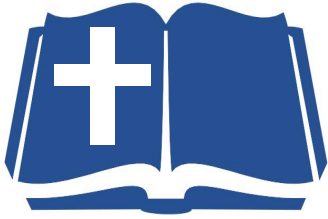
- ✔ ["In Remembrance of Me"](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_200008_09.pdf)

[http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_200008\\_09.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_200008_09.pdf)

- ✔ ["The Lord's Supper"](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_200303_15.pdf)

[http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_200303\\_15.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_200303_15.pdf)

# TUESDAY - WEEK 6



## Daily Bible Reading



### MATTHEW 26:36-56

Bible Gateway provides the Bible online for free in a variety of translations. Disclaimer: We do not endorse other advertisements or links on their site.

## THOUGHTS FROM THE TEXT

### The Garden of Gethsemane

By Josh Allen (Pikeville, KY)

As the night drew on Jesus and His disciples departed the upper room. They made their way outside Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives where there is a garden (John 18:1) called “Gethsemane” (literally, “Olive Press”). It is aptly named for it is here that the Lord was pressed upon by enormous emotion.

**It was a Garden of Sorrow.** Isaiah described Jesus as “Man of sorrows” (Isaiah 53:3). Gethsemane reveals this woe. His emotion is more vivid here than any other place in Scripture. Here “He offered up prayers and supplications, with vehement cries and tears to Him who was able to save Him from death...” (Hebrews 5:7). Matthew recorded His words of woe, “...He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, ‘My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death...’” (Matthew 26:37-38).

He was troubled in spirit for many reasons:

- He was about to be betrayed by a close disciple and friend (Matthew 26:21-25, John 13:21).
- He knew that Peter, would also soon deny Him (Mt. 26:33-35).
- Indeed, He knew they would “all fall away” (Mt. 26:31-33).
- He had just celebrated the Passover. This Passover (and all that had come before) pointed to His death (Luke 22:15-17).
- He felt the dread of the physical pain, the cup of suffering, He would have to endure. (Matthew 26:39).
- He felt the dread of having to bear our sins (2 Corinthians 5:21, Matthew 27:46).

**It was a Garden of Supplication.** In the Garden Jesus prayed. He prayed persistently (Matthew 26:39,42,44). He prayed personally (Matthew 26:39). He prayed passionately (Luke 22:44). His pain is seen in prayer posture. He came to the garden under great strain. He goes to His knees in prayer (Luke 22:41). Under the stress He falls to the ground (Mark 14:35). Finally He collapsed and “fell on His face” (Matthew 26:39). Luke illustrates Jesus’ great distress by revealing the fact, “His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground” (22:44).

**It was a Garden of Surrender.** Jesus won a victory in the Garden that night. He set aside His sorrow and surrendered to the Father’s will. He prayed, “My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done.” The phrase “Your will be done” summed up Jesus’ life (John 4:34). Are you submitting to the Father’s will for your life?

## RESOURCES FOR GROWTH & ENCOURAGEMENT

- ➔ **GNTtv.org** – Official site of the “Good News Today” television program.
- ➔ **Apologeticspress.org** – Strengthen your faith in God, Jesus Christ, & the Bible.

## DAILY DEVOTIONAL RESOURCES

- ➔ **The Porch & the Torch** – Study the Bible with Dan Winkler through these videos.
- ➔ **MercyMail** – An archive of Devotional thoughts from Steve Higginbotham.

## SPIRITUAL MUSIC RESOURCES

- ➔ **Kleinwood.com/annual-singing** – Over 700 *a cappella* hymns.
- “speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” (Ephesians 5:19)

## ARTICLES RELATED TO TODAY’S READING

- ✔ **“The Judas Potential” by Tommy South** - [http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_199101\\_07.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199101_07.pdf)
- ✔ **“The Agony of Gethsemane” by Wayne Jackson** [www.christiancourier.com/articles/421-agony-of-gethsemane-the](http://www.christiancourier.com/articles/421-agony-of-gethsemane-the)
- ✔ **“The Disciples’ Failure” by Tommy South** - [http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_199101\\_08.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199101_08.pdf)





Jeremiah

15:16

Matthew 4:4

# WEDNESDAYS JOIN US ONLINE FOR BIBLE STUDY AT 7PM AT MAINSTCOC.ORG

## Scriptures to Memorize

Here is a list of notable verses:

The importance of memorizing scripture is seen in Psalm 119:11. David said, ***“Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.”*** The ability to recall verses and to remember where they are found is vital to any Bible study. We have selected a number of well-known and essential scriptures for your consideration.

### Hints for Memorization

- Repetition, repetition, repetition!
- Make flash cards.
- Take a phrase like, ***“Love suffers long and is kind.”*** Repeat it again and again emphasizing different words each time. Then move to the next phrase. Do this with each phrase until you can say the whole verse without looking. Example:
  - “**LOVE** suffers long and is kind”
  - “Love **SUFFERS** long and is kind”
  - “Love suffers **LONG** and is kind”
  - “Love suffers long **AND** is kind”
  - “Love suffers long and **IS** kind”
  - “Love suffers long and is **KIND**”
- Meditate on the verses throughout your day (in the car, on lunch break, etc)

[www.mainstcoc.com](http://www.mainstcoc.com)

Visit our website to listen to scripture songs to help you memorize.

We have uploaded over 50 Bible verses (and Bible lists) that have been put to music and sung by our members. This is a great tool to help with your memorization.

### Do You Know Your Bible Lists?

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Books of OT      | <input type="checkbox"/> Days of Creation    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Books of NT      | <input type="checkbox"/> Fruit of the Spirit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Apostles      | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 Commandments     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 Sons of Jacob |  |

These (and others) have been put to music and are now available on our website.

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Genesis 1:1     | <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 22:42         | <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 5:1     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Num 6:24-25     | <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 23:34         | <input type="checkbox"/> Philippians 2:5   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Deut 6:4-5      | <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 24:46-47      | <input type="checkbox"/> Phil 3:12-14      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *1 Kings 8:23    | <input type="checkbox"/> John 1:1-5         | <input type="checkbox"/> *Philippians 4:4  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 3:3       | <input type="checkbox"/> John 3:16-17       | <input type="checkbox"/> Philippians 4:6-7 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 8:1       | <input type="checkbox"/> John 4:23-24       | <input type="checkbox"/> Philippians 4:8   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 18:3, 46  | <input type="checkbox"/> John 8:23-24       | <input type="checkbox"/> *Philippians 4:13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 19:1      | <input type="checkbox"/> John 8:31-32       | <input type="checkbox"/> Col 1:13-14       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 19:7-10   | <input type="checkbox"/> John 14:1-4        | <input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 2:14   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 20:7      | <input type="checkbox"/> *John 14:6         | <input type="checkbox"/> Col 3:16-17       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Psalm 23         | <input type="checkbox"/> John 14:15         | <input type="checkbox"/> *1 Thess 5:17-18  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 25:1-2    | <input type="checkbox"/> *John 15:12        | <input type="checkbox"/> *1 Timothy 1:17   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 46:10     | <input type="checkbox"/> John 17:17         | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Timothy 4:12    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 51:10-12  | <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 2:37-38       | <input type="checkbox"/> *1 Timothy 6:10   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 89:1      | <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 2:40          | <input type="checkbox"/> *2 Timothy 1:12   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 95:1-5    | <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 2:47          | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Timothy 2:15    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 95:6-7    | <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 11:26         | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Timothy 3:16-17 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 103:12    | <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 17:30         | <input type="checkbox"/> Titus 2:11        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 117       | <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 20:7          | <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 4:15-16   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 118:1     | <input type="checkbox"/> Acts 22:16         | <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 9:16-17   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 118:24    | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 1:16        | <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 10:4      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 119:105   | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 3:23        | <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 11:1      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Psalm 121:1-8   | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 5:8-10      | <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 11:6      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Proverbs 3:5    | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 6:3-4       | <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 12:1-2    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Proverbs 22:6   | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 6:23        | <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 13:8      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Isaiah 40:31    | <input type="checkbox"/> *Romans 8:1        | <input type="checkbox"/> James 1:2-3       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Isaiah 43:1-3   | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 8:31        | <input type="checkbox"/> James 1:12-15     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Lam 3:23-24     | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 10:17       | <input type="checkbox"/> James 1:22        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Habakuk 2:20    | <input type="checkbox"/> Romans 12:1-2      | <input type="checkbox"/> James 2:19-20     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Matthew 4:4     | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Corinthians 1:8  | <input type="checkbox"/> *James 4:10       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Matthew 6:33    | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Corinthians 3:11 | <input type="checkbox"/> James 4:13-14     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Matthew 6:9-13  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 5:6-7        | <input type="checkbox"/> James 4:17        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mat 7:13-14      | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 9:24-27      | <input type="checkbox"/> James 5:13        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Matthew 7:7     | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 10:12-13     | <input type="checkbox"/> James 5:16        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 7:21     | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 13:13        | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Peter 1:22      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Matt 11:28-30   | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 14:40        | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Peter 2:21      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matthew 16:13-16 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Cor 15:3-4       | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Peter 3:21      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Matthew 16:24   | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 2:4  | <input type="checkbox"/> *1 Peter 5:7      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Matthew 21:9    | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 4:7-9        | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Peter 1:3       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matt 26:26-28    | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 5:1  | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Peter 1:5-8     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Matt 28:18-20    | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Corinthians 5:7  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 John 1:7-9      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 7:7         | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 5:10         | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 John 3:4        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 8:34        | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 5:21         | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 John 3:16-19    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 8:36-37     | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Cor 7:10         | <input type="checkbox"/> *1 John 4:7-8     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 10:27       | <input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 1:8      | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 John 1:9        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 13:32       | <input type="checkbox"/> *Galatians 2:20    | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 John 1:4        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mark 16:15-16    | <input type="checkbox"/> Galatians 3:27     | <input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 2:10   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 1:37        | <input type="checkbox"/> *Gal 5:22-23       | <input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 21:4   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> *Luke 4:18-19    | <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 2:8-9    | <input type="checkbox"/> Revelation 22:13  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 13:3        | <input type="checkbox"/> *Ephesians 3:20-2  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Luke 15:7        | <input type="checkbox"/> Ephesians 4:4-6    |  |

Passages with an asterisk (\*) have been put to music.

## The Bible

66 Books

1189 Chapters

40 Authors

\*Each guided by the same Spirit (2 Peter 1:22)

2 Divisions:

\*Old Testament with 39 Books

\*New Testament with 27 Books

Old Testament has 5 Sections:

5 Books of Law (Genesis-Deut)

12 Books of History (Joshua-Esther)

5 Books of Poetry (Job-Song)

5 Major Prophets (Isaiah-Daniel)

12 Minor Prophets (Hosea-Malachi)

New Testament has 4 Sections:

4 Biographies (Matthew-John)

1 Book of History (Acts of Apostles)

21 Epistles (Romans-Jude)

1 Book of Prophecy (Revelation)

## Other Facts:

Longest Book Psalms (150 chapters)

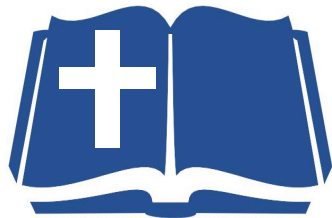
Shortest Book 3 John

Longest Chapter Psalm 119 (176 vs)

Shortest Chapter Psalm 117 (2 verses)

Shortest Verse John 11:35

# THURSDAY - WEEK 6



## Daily Bible Reading



**MATTHEW 26:57-75, 27:1-26**

Bible Gateway provides the Bible online for free in a variety of translations. Disclaimer: We do not endorse other advertisements or links on their site.

## THOUGHTS FROM THE TEXT

### THE SINS OF PILATE

Many things could be said in connection with Pontius Pilate, yet there is one act for which he will forever be notorious. The Bible records that “when Pilate saw that he could not prevail at all, but rather that a tumult was rising, he took water and washed his hands before the multitude, saying, ‘I am innocent of the blood of this just Person’” (Matthew 27:24). In this one infamous act Pilate tried to free himself of the blood of Christ and the responsibility of his actions. In considering this passage, I couldn’t help but think of the irony of Pilate’s actions, especially when compared to another, more powerful, washing described in scripture; baptism.

While it is true that both involve water (albeit in different amounts since “baptism” literally means “immersion and Pilate merely washed his hands) and both involve an individual seeking freedom from the guilt of his actions, it is here where the similarity ends. For by washing his hands Pilate was trying to take care of his own problem via his own power. He thought the only way to free himself and bring an end to the matter was to distance himself from Jesus. However the Bible teaches that to find freedom from the sin and the guilt of our actions one must draw near to Jesus.

In Hebrews chapter 10 the writer discusses the removal of sin, showing how it is “not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins” (10:4). It is only through the sacrifice of Jesus (10:19) that one may draw near unto God and rid himself of an “evil conscience” (guilty conscience, NIV, 10:22). Pilate only washed the dirt off of his hands, but baptism “saves” because it is more than the “removal of the filth of the flesh” it is “the answer of a good conscience toward God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 3:21; c.f. Acts 22:16; Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3, 6).

Pilate washed to signify the end of his association with Jesus of Nazareth, but the Bible writers show baptism to be the beginning of a relationship with Him. Paul wrote, “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ” (Galatians 3:26-27). “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life” (Romans 6:3-4). According to passages such as these, baptism is all about Jesus. In baptism we die with Him, we are buried with Him, we are raised with Him, and united with Him. In baptism the old person dies and a new life begins. We wash, not to end, but to begin our association with Him. Only in Him one can we discover a new birth (John 3:3-5) and a new beginning (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Pilate washed to show he was not responsible for what would happen to Jesus; whereas in baptism all must take responsibility. “Repent and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38). On the day of Pentecost Peter taught those listening that before they could enjoy the blessings of baptism (i.e. have their sins remitted) they had to repent. Pilate wanted to place the guilt on others. He said, “I am innocent” (Matthew 27:24), yet Pilate was not innocent. And the fact remains, neither are we. “All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23) and “the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). Our sin put Jesus on the Cross just as surely as did the sins of Pilate. No matter how often we wash our hands that guilt remains unless we turn to Jesus. There is one who can wash “us from our sins in His own blood” (Revelation 1:5). How will you respond to Jesus?

- Josh Allen (Pikeville, KY)

## RESOURCES FOR GROWTH & ENCOURAGEMENT

- ➔ **FREE PTP365** – A library of audio and video lessons presented at the *Polishing The Pulpit* conference. Now free for a limited time. [Free365.polishingthepulpit.com](http://Free365.polishingthepulpit.com)

## DAILY DEVOTIONAL RESOURCES

- ➔ **The Light Network** – Encourage your soul. Enlighten your mind. Empower your faith.
- ➔ **Lightgrams** – Tim Hall offers biblical encouragement for Christian living.

## SPIRITUAL MUSIC RESOURCES

- ➔ **Mychurchofchristradio.com** – An internet radio station featuring a *cappella* songs  
“speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” (Ephesians 5:19)

## ARTICLES RELATED TO TODAY’S READING

- ✓ **“The Trials: Identity & Innocence”** by **Tommy South** [www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_199101\\_09.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199101_09.pdf)
- ✓ **“When Silence Is Eloquent”** by **Wayne Jackson** [www.christiancourier.com/articles/1573-when-silence-is-eloquent](http://www.christiancourier.com/articles/1573-when-silence-is-eloquent)
- ✓ **“When The Rooster Crows”** by **David Roper** – [http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_199409\\_06.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199409_06.pdf)

# FRIDAY - WEEK 6



## Daily Bible Reading

### MATTHEW 27:27-66

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## THOUGHTS FROM THE TEXT

### He Did It For Me

by Josh Allen (Pikeville, KY)

Jesus was crucified. The fact is undeniable. However one cannot say that Jesus simply died. His death was so much more than that.

**His death was sacrificial.** It was an offering. Jesus spoke of this, "My Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it again. No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again." (John 10:17-18). Jesus had the power to stop the evil men who crucified Him, but He did not resist. "He offered up Himself" (Hebrews 7:27). "Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many." (Hebrews 9:28)

**His death was substitutionary.** Paul declared, on more than one occasion, that Jesus "gave Himself for":

- ➔ He "gave Himself a ransom for all" (1 Timothy 2:6).
- ➔ He "gave Himself for us" (Titus 2:14; c.f. Galatians 1:4).
- ➔ He "gave Himself for me" (Galatians 2:20)

Those two words at the end of Galatians 2:20 might seem insignificant yet on them stand the sum of Christianity. He sacrificed Himself "for me"!

Let us remember this truth as we consider passages like Matthew 27:22-35:

- They "scourged" Him (v. 26) ...*For Me*
- They "delivered Jesus to be crucified" (v. 26) ...*For Me*
- They "stripped Him" (v. 28) ...*For Me*
- They "twisted a crown of thorns and put it on His head" (v. 29) ...*For Me*
- They "mocked Him" (v. 29) ...*For Me*
- They "spat on Him" (v. 30) ...*For Me*
- They took a "reed and struck Him on the head" (v. 30) ...*For Me*
- They "led Him away to be crucified" (v. 31) ...*For Me*
- They compelled Him "to bear His cross" (v. 32) ...*For Me*
- "Then they crucified Him" (v. 35) ...*For Me*

He "loved me and gave Himself for me" (Gal 2:20), "for us" (1 Thessalonians 5:10), and "for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again" (2 Corinthians 5:15).

## RESOURCES FOR GROWTH & ENCOURAGEMENT

- ➔ [Searchtv.org](http://Searchtv.org) – Official site of the "In Search Of The Lord's Way" television program
- ➔ [thegospelofchrist.com](http://thegospelofchrist.com) – Official site of The Gospel of Christ program. Offering episodes & study aids.

## DAILY DEVOTIONAL RESOURCES

- ➔ [Today With Jesus](http://TodayWithJesus.com) – Learn from the Life of Jesus with Dan Winkler & Robert Hatfield.
- ➔ [Living Water Archive](http://LivingWaterArchive.com) – An archive of Devotional thoughts from David A. Sargent.

## SPIRITUAL MUSIC RESOURCES

- ➔ [Searchtv.org/music.html](http://Searchtv.org/music.html) – A large database of a *cappella* hymns.

"speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19)

## ARTICLES RELATED TO TODAY'S READING

- ["The Death of Christ" by C.W. Bradley](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_198304_12.pdf) [http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_198304\\_12.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_198304_12.pdf)
- ["What Jesus Accomplished On the Cross" by Tommy South](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199101_10.pdf) [http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_199101\\_10.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199101_10.pdf)
- ["The Cross" by Tommy South](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199101_11.pdf) [http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_199101\\_11.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199101_11.pdf)
- ["The Cross for a Pulpit" by David Roper](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199409_07.pdf) [http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_199409\\_07.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199409_07.pdf)
- ["The Crucifixion of Christ" by Wayne Jackson](http://www.christiancourier.com/articles/855-crucifixion-of-christ-the) [www.christiancourier.com/articles/855-crucifixion-of-christ-the](http://www.christiancourier.com/articles/855-crucifixion-of-christ-the)
- ["A Reflection Upon Three Crosses" by Wayne Jackson](http://www.christiancourier.com/articles/1383-reflection-upon-three-crosses-a) [https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/1383-reflection-upon-three-crosses-a](http://www.christiancourier.com/articles/1383-reflection-upon-three-crosses-a)



# SATURDAY - WEEK 6



## Daily Bible Reading



### MATTHEW CHAPTER 28

Bible Gateway provides the Bible online for free in a variety of translations. Disclaimer: We do not endorse other advertisements or links on their site.

## THOUGHTS FROM THE TEXT

### “UP FROM THE GRAVE HE AROSE”

— Josh Allen (Pikeville, KY)

It has been said, “The best news the world has ever had came from a graveyard near Jerusalem.” This is true because:

**The resurrection revealed Jesus to be the Son of God.** When His opponents asked for a sign to “prove” Himself, He “answered and said to them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up’...But He was speaking of the temple of His body.” (John 2:19-22). On a similar occasion, they again asked for a sign, but He said, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.” (Matthew 12:39-40). The resurrection would be the greatest sign He would perform. It declared His Divinity. Paul said, with this sign He was “declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.” (Romans 1:4). “To this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living.” (Romans 14:9, Cf. Acts 2:32-36). Indeed, He is the Resurrection and the Life (John 11:25).

**The resurrection revealed the Word of God to be True.** The resurrection fulfilled prophecy. In one such passage, Psalm 16:8-11, David spoke of the coming Messiah, “I have set the LORD always before me; because He is at my right hand I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my glory rejoices; my flesh also will rest in hope. For You will not leave my soul in Sheol, nor will You allow Your Holy One to see corruption. You will show me the path of life...” The Apostle Peter used this passage in Acts 2:24-28 to make a powerful point in the first Gospel sermon. Peter declared, that David, “being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that of the fruit of his body, according to the flesh, He would raise up the Christ to sit on his throne, he, foreseeing this, spoke concerning the resurrection of the Christ, that His soul was not left in Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses.” (Acts 2:30-32). Although David lived centuries before the time of Christ, he spoke with accuracy about the things Jesus fulfilled, for he spoke by the Spirit of God (2 Peter 1:21). Indeed, all the promises of God are true.

**The resurrection revealed the Power and Promise of God.** In His resurrection Jesus is described as “the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep.” (1 Corinthians 15:20) This terminology refers to a plant or tree which is beginning to bear fruit. When the first fruits come it is a joyful sign that more is on the way. Jesus’ resurrection not only contains a bold declaration about Him, but also contains a powerful promise which points to our own resurrection. “For since by man came death, by Man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive” (1 Corinthians 15:21-22).

*“Up from the grave he arose; with a mighty triumph o'er his foes; He arose a victor from the dark domain, and he lives forever, with His saints to reign. He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!”*

## RESOURCES FOR GROWTH & ENCOURAGEMENT

- ➔ **GBNtv.org** – Official site of Gospel Broadcasting Network, offering hundreds of Bible study videos.
- ➔ **Elizabethtoncoc.org/biblical-viewpoints** – Archive of “Biblical Viewpoints” episodes.

## DAILY DEVOTIONAL RESOURCES

- ➔ **Today With Jesus** – Learn from the Life of Jesus with Dan Winkler & Robert Hatfield.
- ➔ **Living Water Archive** – An archive of Devotional thoughts from David A. Sargent.

## SPIRITUAL MUSIC RESOURCES

- ➔ **Kleinwood.com/annual-singing** – Over 700 a cappella hymns.

## ARTICLES RELATED TO TODAY'S READING

- ✔ **“The Resurrection” by Tommy South** [http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_199101\\_12.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199101_12.pdf)
- ✔ **“Four Imperatives Of the Resurrection” by Robert Dockery** [http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/en\\_201806\\_08.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/en_201806_08.pdf)
- ✔ **“The Tomb Was Found Empty” by Jason Jackson** [www.christiancourier.com/articles/1345-tomb-was-found-empty-the](http://www.christiancourier.com/articles/1345-tomb-was-found-empty-the)
- ✔ **“The Resurrection of Jesus Christ” by Ronnie White** [http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_198511\\_11.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_198511_11.pdf)
- ✔ **“The Resurrection of Christ” by C.W. Bradley** [http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_198308\\_05.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_198308_05.pdf)
- ✔ **“The Great Commission According to Matthew” by Wayne Jackson** <https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/247-great-commission-according-to-matthew-the>
- ✔ **“Making Disciples” by Tommy South** [http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en\\_lessons/EN\\_199101\\_13.pdf](http://www.biblecourses.com/English/en_lessons/EN_199101_13.pdf)



# MAIN STREET

## CHURCH OF CHRIST

**SUNDAYS JOIN US ONLINE**  
**FOR WORSHIP AT 11AM & 6PM AT MAINSTCOC.ORG**

### MAIN ST. LINKS

- [Home Page – MAINSTCOC.ORG](#)
- [STUDY GUIDE - Home Page](#)
- [Facebook Page](#)
- [Live Stream Channel](#)
- [CONTACT US](#)

Main Street Church of Christ  
 198 Main St. (PO 2747)  
 Pikeville, Kentucky 41502

### Check Out This Additional Resource:

**A Legacy of Faith** offers a free Bible study guide for each chapter of Matthew, entitled, “Studying Matthew with Your Children”. *And it’s not just for children. It can be download for free.* It would be a great resource to use along with this guide.

This is a great blog to subscribe to. They daily articles and podcasts about Christian living with an emphasis on the family.



#### Matthew: Jesus the King

Chapter 1

There are two major parts to Matthew 1:

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus (Matthew 1:1-17), and
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus (Matthew 1:18-25).

#### QUESTIONS FROM THE CHAPTER

1. In Matthew 1:1, Jesus Christ is called the Son of \_\_\_\_\_, and the Son of \_\_\_\_\_

### EXAMPLE

5. Who told Joseph not to be afraid to take Mary? (1:20) \_\_\_\_\_
6. What does “Immanuel” mean? (1:23) \_\_\_\_\_

#### THINGS TO DISCUSS

1. What does the word “genealogy” mean?
2. Why did God give us this long family tree of Jesus?
3. What does “betrothed” mean?
4. What good things can we learn from Joseph in this chapter?

### OTHER NOTABLE LINKS

- [Biblecourses.com](#)  
<http://www.biblecourses.com/English/>
- [Preachinghelp.org](#)  
<http://preachinghelp.org>
- [House to House/Heart to Heart](#)  
[housetohouse.com](http://housetohouse.com)
- [Mathetis.org](#)  
<https://www.mathetis.org>
- [Focus Press](#)  
[www.focuspress.org](http://www.focuspress.org)
- [Digital Bible Study](#)  
[www.facebook.com/digitalbiblestudy1](http://www.facebook.com/digitalbiblestudy1)
- [The Christian Courier](#)  
<https://www.christiancourier.com>
- [Karns Church of Christ](#)  
<https://karnscoc.org>
- [Bear Valley Church of Christ](#)  
<http://www.bearvalleycofc.com>
- [West Huntsville Church of Christ](#)  
<https://westhuntsville.org>
- [The Average Christian Podcast](#)  
 with Zack Krug