

EXODUS  
Women

EXODUS WOMEN'S SPRING BIBLE STUDY

# Spring Training

★ **LIVING LIFE RIGHT SIDE UP:  
A STUDY OF THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT** ★

Exodus Women's Bible Study  
Spring Training  
Living Life Right-Side Up: A Study of the Sermon on the Mount  
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# Spring Training

★ **LIVING LIFE RIGHT SIDE UP:  
A STUDY OF THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT** ★

The purpose of this Bible Study is two-fold. First and foremost, we want to dig deep into the biblical masterpiece known as the Sermon on the Mount and see that Jesus calls His followers to live counter-culturally in every area of life. Perhaps the most counter-cultural challenge will be to not rely on our own efforts to obey Jesus's call, but to live under His rule and trust Him to provide the desire and power to live out God's kingdom mandate clearly laid out in Matthew 5-7.

Additionally, this Spring Training Study will equip us to know how to study the Bible. Every Spring, Major League Baseball players, from rookies to all-stars, gather in Florida or Arizona to get back in shape and practice the basic skills of baseball. This study is an opportunity to gather around God's Word and get in shape spiritually. Whether you have studied Scripture for years, or this is the first time you've opened the Bible, this study will equip you to make progress in the basic skills of Bible study.

As we utilize God's graciously given tools to study His divinely inspired Word, let's remember we have His Spirit within us, empowering us to study the Bible and to live right-side up in this upside-down world.

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Exodus Women's Bible Study seeks to equip women to know God and His transforming power through the study of His Word.

# How to Use This Training Manual

## WEEK 1

At our first meeting we will be introduced to this study and the Spring Training format. Using the image of a baseball diamond we will see how we can “advance the bases” using tools of **observation** and **interpretation** to “work our way home” to personal **application**. The teaching coaches will demonstrate these tools as they guide us to study Matthew 5:1-12.

## WEEKS 2-8

Each week we will have five days of personal study. Day 1 we will be “At Bat” seeking to “Know the Basics” of what the passage says. We will advance to first base on Day 2 and use tools to “Know the Field” of the passage’s context. At second base on Day 3, we will “Know the Positions” seeking to understand where we stand in relation to Jesus and His original audience. Third base on Day 4 will help us “Know the Signals” as we look to Jesus for instruction and power. Finally, we will “Know How to Apply” as we “Bring it Home” on Day 5.

## FOCUS ON PATIENCE AND PROGRESS

The goal is not to answer every question perfectly but to make progress in using Bible Study tools. Be patient with the process and yourself. It is okay to not be able to answer a question. Struggling with a passage can result in a deeper connection with Jesus.

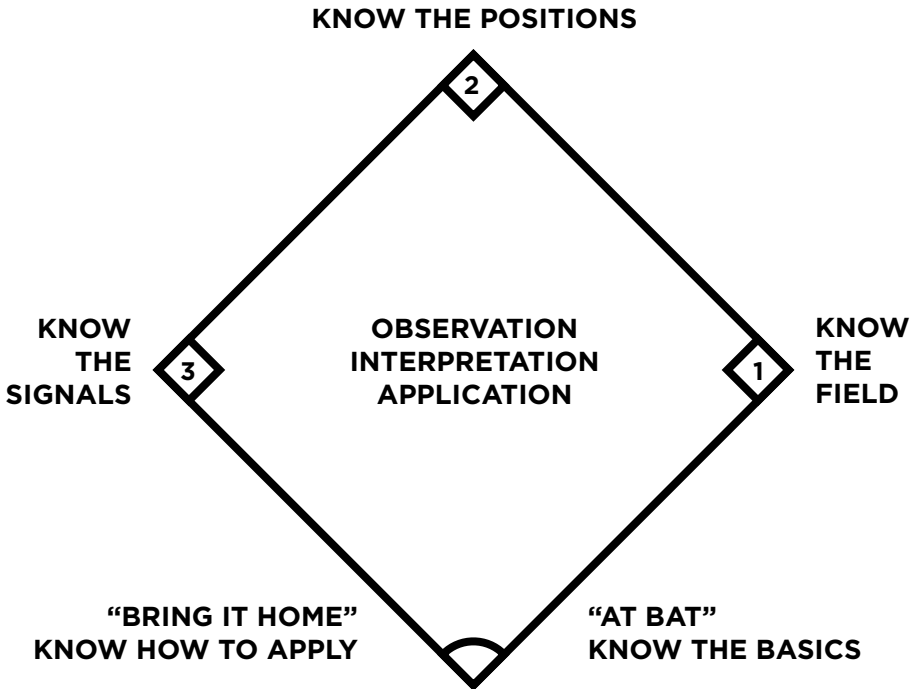
## FOCUS ON TEAMWORK

Teams are stronger when every player is present and prepared. So, make every effort to complete the five days of study and then come participate in Huddle discussions. There will be a large group teaching before Huddle time. If you miss a week, are studying on your own, or want to revisit a teaching, you can access each week’s teaching on the Exodus Women podcast or YouTube video on the Women’s Bible Study Resources webpage at:

**[theexoduschurch.org/WBS](http://theexoduschurch.org/WBS)**



# *Working Our Way Home*



# *Bible Study Tools*

## **PRAYER**

Your greatest tool in studying the Bible is prayer. Pray before you begin your study, and continue praying as you study, talking over what you're reading with the Lord. Day 5 of each week will provide an opportunity to conclude your week's study with a written prayer.

## **SCRIPTURE**

The best commentary on the Bible is the Bible, so:

- Read the Bible! Read the passage several times in different translations. Literal word-for-word translations like the ESV and CSB are best for in-depth study while paraphrases such as The Message or New Living Translation can help you see the flow.
- When a Bible writer quotes a passage or references an event from the Old Testament, go back and read that passage.
- Read **cross-references** to gain a broader biblical understanding of a theme or verse in the passage.

## **WORDS**

- As you read a passage, you may want to use colored highlighters to note repeated words that give insight into the main idea of the passage.
- Noting **transition words** will help you put the passage into context and draw the conclusions the Bible writer intended.
- Looking up definitions of words (even words you think you know the meaning of) can give you deeper insight or even a different perspective on a passage.

## **CONTEXT**

Context is crucial to correctly interpreting and applying Scripture. Days 2 and 3 will guide you to explore **literary, biblical, and historical/cultural contexts** of the passage. We recommend you not consult any study helps until instructed on Day 3 because we want to hear God speak to us through His Word, not rely on what He has said to someone else. Listed on the next page are some resources that can help you find context.

# *Bible Study Tools*

## **RESOURCES**

Let's start with resources to NOT use: We urge you to not do a web search when you have questions because a lot of what is on the Internet is not biblically sound. Please do not "ask Chat GPT" to explain a passage. Although technology can at times be a helpful tool, God calls His people to study and think through the leading of His Holy Spirit, not Artificial Intelligence.

Here are some reliable resources:

- A Glossary at the back of this Training Manual provides definitions of theological and Bible study terms. Any **bolded words** can be found in the Glossary.
- ESV Study Bible (physical copy and/or app) is helpful for gaining context.
- Step Bible (website and app) is helpful in defining words and providing a limited number of cross-references.
- BlueLetterBible (website and app) provides numerous resources, including definitions of words in the original language, cross-references, and access to solid commentaries.
- The BibleProject.com has many helpful videos and articles. In 2024 BibleProject did almost a full year of podcasts on the Sermon on the Mount.
- YouVersion (app) and BibleGateway (website) provide numerous Bible translations and cross-references.

For more encouragement related to our study and information about opportunities to connect with the Lord and other women at Exodus, join the Exodus Women group on the Church Center app and/or follow Exodus Women on Instagram @exoduswomen. If you have questions or need care, email [women@theexoduschurch.org](mailto:women@theexoduschurch.org) and someone will happily respond to you.

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.



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# Week 1

★ MATTHEW 5:1-12 ★

# *Week 7 Scripture*

## **Matthew 5:1-12**

1 Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.

2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

# *Week 7: Day 7*

## **AT BAT: KNOW THE BASICS**

Pray. Read Matthew 5:1-12.

1. Read Matthew 5:1-12 on the facing page again and as you do:

\*Highlight or underline repeated words, themes, and phrases.

\*Write question marks next to verses you don't understand, or write some of your questions below. (Don't try to answer the questions, just acknowledge them.)

2. Look up definitions of some of the words you highlighted, along with any other words you'd like to understand more fully.

3. What literary techniques is Jesus using in this passage? (For example: repetition, **proverb**, illustration, contrasts, **hyperbole**.)

4. In one short sentence, state what Jesus was emphasizing in this passage to His audience on the mountainside. (This is a them/then main idea statement, no us/now language yet!)

*Extra Innings:* Write an outline of the passage.

(*Extra innings* are optional for those who want to dig deeper.)

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# Week 1: Day 2

## FIRST BASE: KNOW THE FIELD

Pray. Read Matthew 5:1-12 in another translation.

1. Read Matthew 5:1-12 again and this time circle/highlight **transition words**. (There may not be transition words in every passage.) If transition words exist, what information do they give you about what Jesus is emphasizing in this passage?

2. Examine the **literary context** of Matthew 5:1-12 by reading verses that come immediately before and after it. How do these verses inform the meaning of the passage?

3. Now examine the **biblical context** of Matthew 5:1-12 by reading at least four **cross-references**, particularly those related to words you highlighted or wrote a question mark next to in Day One. Record the cross-references you read and state how they influenced or enhanced your understanding of this passage.

4. How are Jesus's teachings in this passage upside down from this world's way of viewing and living life?

*Extra Innings:* Why did God include this passage in Scripture? What would be missing if this had been left out?

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# Week 1: Day 3

## SECOND BASE: KNOW THE POSITIONS

Pray. Read Matthew 5:1-12 in another translation.

1. Use a reliable, biblically sound study resource (see Resources pg. 9) to note **historical** and/or **cultural contexts** of this passage. How does this influence or enhance your understanding of this passage?

2. How might your **framework** prompt you to view this passage differently than Jesus's original audience on the mountainside?

3. Read Matthew 7:28-29. How did Jesus demonstrate His authority in Matthew 5:1-12 to His audience on the mountainside that day?

4. Whose authority is Jesus challenging or overriding with these right-side up statements for people in our culture today (yourself included)?

5. Revisit your main idea statement from Day One, Question 4. What are the implications of that main idea - what is Jesus emphasizing to audiences of every generation? (NOW you can use us/now language!)

*Extra Innings:* Select a verse or verses from this passage to commit to memory. Write it down somewhere you can see it often as a reminder to meditate on it throughout this study.

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 7: Day 4*

## THIRD BASE: KNOW THE SIGNALS

Pray. Read Matthew 5:1-12.

1. What does Jesus value?
2. What does Jesus promise?
3. What does Jesus command and/or what attributes does He call for?
4. Which of these commands or attributes do you often attempt to keep in your own strength?
5. Which of Jesus's "right-side up" statements in Matthew 5:1-12 are the most difficult for you to live out and why?

6. Read Ezekiel 36:26-27 in the margin. How do these verses encourage you as you consider Jesus's call to live out that challenging right-side up statement in this upside-down world?

*And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.  
And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

*Ezekiel 36:26-27*

*Extra Innings:* Imagine you are teaching a lesson on this passage. What title would you give your talk?

# *Week 7: Day 5*

## **BRING IT HOME: KNOW HOW TO APPLY**

Pray. Read Matthew 5:1-12 once more.

1. Does this passage speak more to your head (thoughts), hands (actions), or heart (attitude)? Explain.

2. Consider the Eternal. How does this passage affect your relationship with God?

3. Consider the Internal. How does this passage affect you personally – are you confronted with truth, chastised regarding sin, comforted and encouraged, challenged to make a change?

4. Consider the External. How does this passage affect your relationship with others?

5. Write a prayer, responding to God about what He has revealed to you in Matthew 5:1-12.

# *Week 7 Notes*

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# Week 2

★ MATTHEW 5:13-20 ★

# *Week 2 Scripture*

## **Matthew 5:13-20**

13 "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet.

14 "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. 15 Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. 18 For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. 19 Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. 20 For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

# *Week 2: Day 1*

## **AT BAT: KNOW THE BASICS**

Pray. Read Matthew 5:13-20.

1. Read Matthew 5:13-20 on the facing page again and as you do:

\*Highlight or underline repeated words, themes, and phrases.

\*Write question marks next to verses you don't understand, or write some of your questions below. (Don't try to answer the questions, just acknowledge them.)

2. Look up definitions of some of the words you highlighted, along with any other words you'd like to understand more fully.

3. What literary techniques is Jesus using in this passage? (For example: repetition, **proverb**, illustration, contrasts, **hyperbole**.)

4. In one short sentence, state what Jesus was emphasizing in this passage to His audience on the mountainside. (This is a them/then main idea statement, no us/now language yet!)

*Extra Innings:* Write an outline of the passage.

(*Extra innings* are optional for those who want to dig deeper.)

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 2: Day 2*

## FIRST BASE: KNOW THE FIELD

Pray. Read Matthew 5:13-20 in another translation.

1. Read Matthew 5:13-20 again and this time circle/highlight **transition words**. (There may not be transition words in every passage.) If transition words exist, what information do they give you about what Jesus is emphasizing in this passage?

2. Examine the **literary context** of Matthew 5:13-20 by reading verses that come immediately before and after it. How do these verses inform the meaning of the passage?

3. Now examine the **biblical context** of Matthew 5:13-20 by reading at least four **cross-references**, particularly those related to words you highlighted or wrote a question mark next to in Day One. Record the cross-references you read and state how they influenced or enhanced your understanding of this passage.

4. How are Jesus's teachings in this passage upside down from this world's way of viewing and living life?

*Extra Innings:* Why did God include this passage in Scripture? What would be missing if this had been left out?

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 2: Day 3*

## SECOND BASE: KNOW THE POSITIONS

Pray. Read Matthew 5:13-20 in another translation.

1. Use a reliable, biblically sound study resource (see Resources pg. 9) to note **historical** and/or **cultural contexts** of this passage. How does this influence or enhance your understanding of this passage?

2. How might your **framework** prompt you to view this passage differently than Jesus's original audience on the mountainside?

3. Read Matthew 7:28-29. How did Jesus demonstrate His authority in Matthew 5:13-20 to His audience on the mountainside that day?

4. Whose authority is Jesus challenging or overriding with these right-side up statements for people in our culture today (yourself included)?

5. Revisit your main idea statement from Day One, Question 4. What are the implications of that main idea - what is Jesus emphasizing to audiences of every generation? (NOW you can use us/now language!)

*Extra Innings:* Select a verse or verses from this passage to commit to memory. Write it down somewhere you can see it often as a reminder to meditate on it throughout this study.

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 2: Day 4*

## THIRD BASE: KNOW THE SIGNALS

Pray. Read Matthew 5:13-20.

1. What does Jesus value?
2. What does Jesus promise?
3. What does Jesus command and/or what attributes does He call for?
4. Which of these commands or attributes do you often attempt to keep in your own strength?
5. Which of Jesus's "right-side up" statements in Matthew 5:13-20 are the most difficult for you to live out and why?
6. Read Ezekiel 36:26-27 in the margin. How do these verses encourage you as you consider Jesus's call to live out that challenging right-side up statement in this upside-down world?

*And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.  
And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

*Ezekiel 36:26-27*

*Extra Innings:* Imagine you are teaching a lesson on this passage. What title would you give your talk?

# *Week 2: Day 5*

## **BRING IT HOME: KNOW HOW TO APPLY**

Pray. Read Matthew 5:13-20 once more.

1. Does this passage speak more to your head (thoughts), hands (actions), or heart (attitude)? Explain.

2. Consider the Eternal. How does this passage affect your relationship with God?

3. Consider the Internal. How does this passage affect you personally – are you confronted with truth, chastised regarding sin, comforted and encouraged, challenged to make a change?

4. Consider the External. How does this passage affect your relationship with others?

5. Write a prayer, responding to God about what He has revealed to you in Matthew 5:13-20.

# *Week 2 Notes*

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# Week 3

★ MATTHEW 5:21-32 ★

# *Week 3 Scripture*

## **Matthew 5:21-32**

21 "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' 22 But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire. 23 So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. 25 Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. 26 Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

27 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' 28 But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. 29 If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. 30 And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.

31 "It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' 32 But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

# *Week 3: Day 1*

## **AT BAT: KNOW THE BASICS**

Pray. Read Matthew 5:21-32.

1. Read Matthew 5:21-32 on the facing page again and as you do:

\*Highlight or underline repeated words, themes, and phrases.

\*Write question marks next to verses you don't understand, or write some of your questions below. (Don't try to answer the questions, just acknowledge them.)

2. Look up definitions of some of the words you highlighted, along with any other words you'd like to understand more fully.

3. What literary techniques is Jesus using in this passage? (For example: repetition, **proverb**, illustration, contrasts, **hyperbole**.)

4. In one short sentence, state what Jesus was emphasizing in this passage to His audience on the mountainside. (This is a them/then main idea statement, no us/now language yet!)

*Extra Innings:* Write an outline of the passage.

(*Extra innings* are optional for those who want to dig deeper.)

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 3: Day 2*

## FIRST BASE: KNOW THE FIELD

Pray. Read Matthew 5:21-32 in another translation.

1. Read Matthew 5:21-32 again and this time circle/highlight **transition words**. (There may not be transition words in every passage.) If transition words exist, what information do they give you about what Jesus is emphasizing in this passage?

2. Examine the **literary context** of Matthew 5:21-32 by reading verses that come immediately before and after it. How do these verses inform the meaning of the passage?

3. Now examine the **biblical context** of Matthew 5:21-32 by reading at least four **cross-references**, particularly those related to words you highlighted or wrote a question mark next to in Day One. Record the cross-references you read and state how they influenced or enhanced your understanding of this passage.

4. How are Jesus's teachings in this passage upside down from this world's way of viewing and living life?

*Extra Innings:* Why did God include this passage in Scripture? What would be missing if this had been left out?

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# Week 3: Day 3

## SECOND BASE: KNOW THE POSITIONS

Pray. Read Matthew 5:21-32 in another translation.

1. Use a reliable, biblically sound study resource (see Resources pg. 9) to note **historical** and/or **cultural contexts** of this passage. How does this influence or enhance your understanding of this passage?

2. How might your **framework** prompt you to view this passage differently than Jesus's original audience on the mountainside?

3. Read Matthew 7:28-29. How did Jesus demonstrate His authority in Matthew 5:21-32 to His audience on the mountainside that day?

4. Whose authority is Jesus challenging or overriding with these right-side up statements for people in our culture today (yourself included)?

5. Revisit your main idea statement from Day One, Question 4. What are the implications of that main idea - what is Jesus emphasizing to audiences of every generation? (NOW you can use us/now language!)

*Extra Innings:* Select a verse or verses from this passage to commit to memory. Write it down somewhere you can see it often as a reminder to meditate on it throughout this study.

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 3: Day 4*

## THIRD BASE: KNOW THE SIGNALS

Pray. Read Matthew 5:21-32.

1. What does Jesus value?
2. What does Jesus promise?
3. What does Jesus command and/or what attributes does He call for?
4. Which of these commands or attributes do you often attempt to keep in your own strength?
5. Which of Jesus's "right-side up" statements in Matthew 5:21-32 are the most difficult for you to live out and why?
6. Read Ezekiel 36:26-27 in the margin. How do these verses encourage you as you consider Jesus's call to live out that challenging right-side up statement in this upside-down world?

*And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.  
And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

*Ezekiel 36:26-27*

*Extra Innings:* Imagine you are teaching a lesson on this passage. What title would you give your talk?

# *Week 3: Day 5*

## **BRING IT HOME: KNOW HOW TO APPLY**

Pray. Read Matthew 5:21-32 once more.

1. Does this passage speak more to your head (thoughts), hands (actions), or heart (attitude)? Explain.

2. Consider the Eternal. How does this passage affect your relationship with God?

3. Consider the Internal. How does this passage affect you personally – are you confronted with truth, chastised regarding sin, comforted and encouraged, challenged to make a change?

4. Consider the External. How does this passage affect your relationship with others?

5. Write a prayer, responding to God about what He has revealed to you in Matthew 5:21-32.

# *Week 3 Notes*

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# *Week 4*

★ **MATTHEW 5:33-48** ★

# *Week 4 Scripture*

## **Matthew 5:33-48**

33 "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.' 34 But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, 35 or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. 36 And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. 37 Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil.

38 "You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' 39 But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. 40 And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. 41 And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. 42 Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' 44 But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, 45 so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. 46 For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? 47 And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? 48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

# *Week 4: Day 1*

## **AT BAT: KNOW THE BASICS**

Pray. Read Matthew 5:33-48.

1. Read Matthew 5:33-48 on the facing page again and as you do:

\*Highlight or underline repeated words, themes, and phrases.

\*Write question marks next to verses you don't understand, or write some of your questions below. (Don't try to answer the questions, just acknowledge them.)

2. Look up definitions of some of the words you highlighted, along with any other words you'd like to understand more fully.

3. What literary techniques is Jesus using in this passage? (For example: repetition, **proverb**, illustration, contrasts, **hyperbole**.)

4. In one short sentence, state what Jesus was emphasizing in this passage to His audience on the mountainside. (This is a them/then main idea statement, no us/now language yet!)

*Extra Innings:* Write an outline of the passage.

(*Extra innings* are optional for those who want to dig deeper.)

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 4: Day 2*

## FIRST BASE: KNOW THE FIELD

Pray. Read Matthew 5:33-48 in another translation.

1. Read Matthew 5:33-48 again and this time circle/highlight **transition words**. (There may not be transition words in every passage.) If transition words exist, what information do they give you about what Jesus is emphasizing in this passage?
2. Examine the **literary context** of Matthew 5:33-48 by reading verses that come immediately before and after it. How do these verses inform the meaning of the passage?
3. Now examine the **biblical context** of Matthew 5:33-48 by reading at least four **cross-references**, particularly those related to words you highlighted or wrote a question mark next to in Day One. Record the cross-references you read and state how they influenced or enhanced your understanding of this passage.
4. How are Jesus's teachings in this passage upside down from this world's way of viewing and living life?

*Extra Innings:* Why did God include this passage in Scripture? What would be missing if this had been left out?

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# Week 4: Day 3

## SECOND BASE: KNOW THE POSITIONS

Pray. Read Matthew 5:33-48 in another translation.

1. Use a reliable, biblically sound study resource (see Resources pg. 9) to note **historical** and/or **cultural contexts** of this passage. How does this influence or enhance your understanding of this passage?

2. How might your **framework** prompt you to view this passage differently than Jesus's original audience on the mountainside?

3. Read Matthew 7:28-29. How did Jesus demonstrate His authority in Matthew 5:33-48 to His audience on the mountainside that day?

4. Whose authority is Jesus challenging or overriding with these right-side up statements for people in our culture today (yourself included)?

5. Revisit your main idea statement from Day One, Question 4. What are the implications of that main idea - what is Jesus emphasizing to audiences of every generation? (NOW you can use us/now language!)

*Extra Innings:* Select a verse or verses from this passage to commit to memory. Write it down somewhere you can see it often as a reminder to meditate on it throughout this study.

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 4: Day 4*

## THIRD BASE: KNOW THE SIGNALS

Pray. Read Matthew 5:33-48.

1. What does Jesus value?
2. What does Jesus promise?
3. What does Jesus command and/or what attributes does He call for?
4. Which of these commands or attributes do you often attempt to keep in your own strength?
5. Which of Jesus's "right-side up" statements in Matthew 5:33-48 are the most difficult for you to live out and why?
6. Read Ezekiel 36:26-27 in the margin. How do these verses encourage you as you consider Jesus's call to live out that challenging right-side up statement in this upside-down world?

*And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.  
And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

*Ezekiel 36:26-27*

*Extra Innings:* Imagine you are teaching a lesson on this passage. What title would you give your talk?

# *Week 4: Day 5*

## **BRING IT HOME: KNOW HOW TO APPLY**

Pray. Read Matthew 5:33-48 once more.

1. Does this passage speak more to your head (thoughts), hands (actions), or heart (attitude)? Explain.

2. Consider the Eternal. How does this passage affect your relationship with God?

3. Consider the Internal. How does this passage affect you personally – are you confronted with truth, chastised regarding sin, comforted and encouraged, challenged to make a change?

4. Consider the External. How does this passage affect your relationship with others?

5. Write a prayer, responding to God about what He has revealed to you in Matthew 5:33-48.

# *Week 4 Notes*

EXODUS  
*Women*

# *Week 5*

★ **MATTHEW 6:1-18** ★

# Week 5 Scripture

## **Matthew 6:1-18**

1 "Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.

2 "Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

5 "And when you pray, you must not be like the hypocrites. For they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, that they may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 6 But when you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you. 7 "And when you pray, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard for their many words. 8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. 9 Pray then like this:

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

10 Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

11 Give us this day our daily bread,

12 and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

14 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, 15 but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.=

16 "And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. 17 But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, 18 that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

# *Week 5: Day 1*

## **AT BAT: KNOW THE BASICS**

Pray. Read Matthew 6:1-18.

1. Read Matthew 6:1-18 on the facing page again and as you do:

\*Highlight or underline repeated words, themes, and phrases.

\*Write question marks next to verses you don't understand, or write some of your questions below. (Don't try to answer the questions, just acknowledge them.)

2. Look up definitions of some of the words you highlighted, along with any other words you'd like to understand more fully.

3. What literary techniques is Jesus using in this passage? (For example: repetition, **proverb**, illustration, contrasts, **hyperbole**.)

4. In one short sentence, state what Jesus was emphasizing in this passage to His audience on the mountainside. (This is a them/then main idea statement, no us/now language yet!)

*Extra Innings:* Write an outline of the passage.

(*Extra innings* are optional for those who want to dig deeper.)

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 5: Day 2*

## FIRST BASE: KNOW THE FIELD

Pray. Read Matthew 6:1-18 in another translation.

1. Read Matthew 6:1-18 again and this time circle/highlight **transition words**. (There may not be transition words in every passage.) If transition words exist, what information do they give you about what Jesus is emphasizing in this passage?

2. Examine the **literary context** of Matthew 6:1-18 by reading verses that come immediately before and after it. How do these verses inform the meaning of the passage?

3. Now examine the **biblical context** of Matthew 6:1-18 by reading at least four **cross-references**, particularly those related to words you highlighted or wrote a question mark next to in Day One. Record the cross-references you read and state how they influenced or enhanced your understanding of this passage.

4. How are Jesus's teachings in this passage upside down from this world's way of viewing and living life?

*Extra Innings:* Why did God include this passage in Scripture? What would be missing if this had been left out?

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 5: Day 3*

## SECOND BASE: KNOW THE POSITIONS

Pray. Read Matthew 6:1-18 in another translation.

1. Use a reliable, biblically sound study resource (see Resources pg. 9) to note **historical** and/or **cultural contexts** of this passage. How does this influence or enhance your understanding of this passage?

2. How might your **framework** prompt you to view this passage differently than Jesus's original audience on the mountainside?

3. Read Matthew 7:28-29. How did Jesus demonstrate His authority in Matthew 6:1-18 to His audience on the mountainside that day?

4. Whose authority is Jesus challenging or overriding with these right-side up statements for people in our culture today (yourself included)?

5. Revisit your main idea statement from Day One, Question 4. What are the implications of that main idea - what is Jesus emphasizing to audiences of every generation? (NOW you can use us/now language!)

*Extra Innings:* Select a verse or verses from this passage to commit to memory. Write it down somewhere you can see it often as a reminder to meditate on it throughout this study.

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 5: Day 4*

## THIRD BASE: KNOW THE SIGNALS

Pray. Read Matthew 6:1-18.

1. What does Jesus value?
2. What does Jesus promise?
3. What does Jesus command and/or what attributes does He call for?
4. Which of these commands or attributes do you often attempt to keep in your own strength?
5. Which of Jesus's "right-side up" statements in Matthew 6:1-18 are the most difficult for you to live out and why?

6. Read Ezekiel 36:26-27 in the margin. How do these verses encourage you as you consider Jesus's call to live out that challenging right-side up statement in this upside-down world?

*And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.  
And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

*Ezekiel 36:26-27*

*Extra Innings:* Imagine you are teaching a lesson on this passage. What title would you give your talk?

# *Week 5: Day 5*

## **BRING IT HOME: KNOW HOW TO APPLY**

Pray. Read Matthew 6:1-18 once more.

1. Does this passage speak more to your head (thoughts), hands (actions), or heart (attitude)? Explain.

2. Consider the Eternal. How does this passage affect your relationship with God?

3. Consider the Internal. How does this passage affect you personally – are you confronted with truth, chastised regarding sin, comforted and encouraged, challenged to make a change?

4. Consider the External. How does this passage affect your relationship with others?

5. Write a prayer, responding to God about what He has revealed to you in Matthew 6:1-18.

# *Week 5 Notes*

EXODUS  
*Women*

# *Week 6*

★ **MATTHEW 6:19-34** ★

# *Week 6 Scripture*

## **Matthew 6:19-34**

19 "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, 20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. So, if your eye is healthy, your whole body will be full of light, 23 but if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light in you is darkness, how great is the darkness!

24 "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

25 "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? 27 And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? 28 And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, 29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? 31 Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' 32 For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

34 "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

# *Week 6: Day 1*

## **AT BAT: KNOW THE BASICS**

Pray. Read Matthew 6:19-34.

1. Read Matthew 6:19-34 on the facing page again and as you do:

\*Highlight or underline repeated words, themes, and phrases.

\*Write question marks next to verses you don't understand, or write some of your questions below. (Don't try to answer the questions, just acknowledge them.)

2. Look up definitions of some of the words you highlighted, along with any other words you'd like to understand more fully.

3. What literary techniques is Jesus using in this passage? (For example: repetition, **proverb**, illustration, contrasts, **hyperbole**.)

4. In one short sentence, state what Jesus was emphasizing in this passage to His audience on the mountainside. (This is a them/then main idea statement, no us/now language yet!)

*Extra Innings:* Write an outline of the passage.

(*Extra innings* are optional for those who want to dig deeper.)

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 6: Day 2*

## FIRST BASE: KNOW THE FIELD

Pray. Read Matthew 6:19-34 in another translation.

1. Read Matthew 6:19-34 again and this time circle/highlight **transition words**. (There may not be transition words in every passage.) If transition words exist, what information do they give you about what Jesus is emphasizing in this passage?

2. Examine the **literary context** of Matthew 6:19-34 by reading verses that come immediately before and after it. How do these verses inform the meaning of the passage?

3. Now examine the **biblical context** of Matthew 6:19-34 by reading at least four **cross-references**, particularly those related to words you highlighted or wrote a question mark next to in Day One. Record the cross-references you read and state how they influenced or enhanced your understanding of this passage.

4. How are Jesus's teachings in this passage upside down from this world's way of viewing and living life?

*Extra Innings:* Why did God include this passage in Scripture? What would be missing if this had been left out?

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# Week 6: Day 3

## SECOND BASE: KNOW THE POSITIONS

Pray. Read Matthew 6:19-34 in another translation.

1. Use a reliable, biblically sound study resource (see Resources pg. 9) to note **historical** and/or **cultural contexts** of this passage. How does this influence or enhance your understanding of this passage?

2. How might your **framework** prompt you to view this passage differently than Jesus's original audience on the mountainside?

3. Read Matthew 7:28-29. How did Jesus demonstrate His authority in Matthew 6:19-34 to His audience on the mountainside that day?

4. Whose authority is Jesus challenging or overriding with these right-side up statements for people in our culture today (yourself included)?

5. Revisit your main idea statement from Day One, Question 4. What are the implications of that main idea - what is Jesus emphasizing to audiences of every generation? (NOW you can use us/now language!)

*Extra Innings:* Select a verse or verses from this passage to commit to memory. Write it down somewhere you can see it often as a reminder to meditate on it throughout this study.

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 6: Day 4*

## THIRD BASE: KNOW THE SIGNALS

Pray. Read Matthew 6:19-34.

1. What does Jesus value?
2. What does Jesus promise?
3. What does Jesus command and/or what attributes does He call for?
4. Which of these commands or attributes do you often attempt to keep in your own strength?
5. Which of Jesus's "right-side up" statements in Matthew 6:19-34 are the most difficult for you to live out and why?

6. Read Ezekiel 36:26-27 in the margin. How do these verses encourage you as you consider Jesus's call to live out that challenging right-side up statement in this upside-down world?

*And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.  
And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

*Ezekiel 36:26-27*

*Extra Innings:* Imagine you are teaching a lesson on this passage. What title would you give your talk?

# *Week 6: Day 5*

## **BRING IT HOME: KNOW HOW TO APPLY**

Pray. Read Matthew 6:19-34 once more.

1. Does this passage speak more to your head (thoughts), hands (actions), or heart (attitude)? Explain.

2. Consider the Eternal. How does this passage affect your relationship with God?

3. Consider the Internal. How does this passage affect you personally – are you confronted with truth, chastised regarding sin, comforted and encouraged, challenged to make a change?

4. Consider the External. How does this passage affect your relationship with others?

5. Write a prayer, responding to God about what He has revealed to you in Matthew 6:19-34.

# *Week 6 Notes*

EXODUS  
Women

# Week 7

★ MATTHEW 7:1-14 ★

# *Week 7 Scripture*

## **Matthew 7:1-14**

1 "Judge not, that you be not judged. 2 For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you. 3 Why do you see the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? 4 Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when there is the log in your own eye? 5 You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye.

6 "Do not give dogs what is holy, and do not throw your pearls before pigs, lest they trample them underfoot and turn to attack you.

7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. 9 Or which one of you, if his son asks him for bread, will give him a stone? 10 Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a serpent? 11 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

12 "So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.

13 "Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. 14 For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

# *Week 7: Day 1*

## **AT BAT: KNOW THE BASICS**

Pray. Read Matthew 7:1-14.

1. Read Matthew 7:1-14 on the facing page again and as you do:

\*Highlight or underline repeated words, themes, and phrases.

\*Write question marks next to verses you don't understand, or write some of your questions below. (Don't try to answer the questions, just acknowledge them.)

2. Look up definitions of some of the words you highlighted, along with any other words you'd like to understand more fully.

3. What literary techniques is Jesus using in this passage? (For example: repetition, **proverb**, illustration, contrasts, **hyperbole**.)

4. In one short sentence, state what Jesus was emphasizing in this passage to His audience on the mountainside. (This is a them/then main idea statement, no us/now language yet!)

*Extra Innings:* Write an outline of the passage.

(*Extra innings* are optional for those who want to dig deeper.)

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# Week 7: Day 2

## FIRST BASE: KNOW THE FIELD

Pray. Read Matthew 7:1-14 in another translation.

1. Read Matthew 7:1-14 again and this time circle/highlight **transition words**. (There may not be transition words in every passage.) If transition words exist, what information do they give you about what Jesus is emphasizing in this passage?

2. Examine the **literary context** of Matthew 7:1-14 by reading verses that come immediately before and after it. How do these verses inform the meaning of the passage?

3. Now examine the **biblical context** of Matthew 7:1-14 by reading at least four **cross-references**, particularly those related to words you highlighted or wrote a question mark next to in Day One. Record the cross-references you read and state how they influenced or enhanced your understanding of this passage.

4. How are Jesus's teachings in this passage upside down from this world's way of viewing and living life?

*Extra Innings:* Why did God include this passage in Scripture? What would be missing if this had been left out?

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# Week 7: Day 3

## SECOND BASE: KNOW THE POSITIONS

Pray. Read Matthew 7:1-14 in another translation.

1. Use a reliable, biblically sound study resource (see Resources pg. 9) to note **historical** and/or **cultural contexts** of this passage. How does this influence or enhance your understanding of this passage?

2. How might your **framework** prompt you to view this passage differently than Jesus's original audience on the mountainside?

3. Read Matthew 7:28-29. How did Jesus demonstrate His authority in Matthew 7:1-14 to His audience on the mountainside that day?

4. Whose authority is Jesus challenging or overriding with these right-side up statements for people in our culture today (yourself included)?

5. Revisit your main idea statement from Day One, Question 4. What are the implications of that main idea - what is Jesus emphasizing to audiences of every generation? (NOW you can use us/now language!)

*Extra Innings:* Select a verse or verses from this passage to commit to memory. Write it down somewhere you can see it often as a reminder to meditate on it throughout this study.

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 7: Day 4*

## THIRD BASE: KNOW THE SIGNALS

Pray. Read Matthew 7:1-14.

1. What does Jesus value?
2. What does Jesus promise?
3. What does Jesus command and/or what attributes does He call for?
4. Which of these commands or attributes do you often attempt to keep in your own strength?
5. Which of Jesus's "right-side up" statements in Matthew 7:1-14 are the most difficult for you to live out and why?

6. Read Ezekiel 36:26-27 in the margin. How do these verses encourage you as you consider Jesus's call to live out that challenging right-side up statement in this upside-down world?

*And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.  
And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

*Ezekiel 36:26-27*

*Extra Innings:* Imagine you are teaching a lesson on this passage. What title would you give your talk?

# *Week 7: Day 5*

## **BRING IT HOME: KNOW HOW TO APPLY**

Pray. Read Matthew 7:1-14 once more.

1. Does this passage speak more to your head (thoughts), hands (actions), or heart (attitude)? Explain.

2. Consider the Eternal. How does this passage affect your relationship with God?

3. Consider the Internal. How does this passage affect you personally – are you confronted with truth, chastised regarding sin, comforted and encouraged, challenged to make a change?

4. Consider the External. How does this passage affect your relationship with others?

5. Write a prayer, responding to God about what He has revealed to you in Matthew 7:1-14.

# *Week 7 Notes*

EXODUS  
Women

# Week 8

★ MATTHEW 7:15-29 ★

# *Week 8 Scripture*

## **Matthew 7:15-29**

15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. 16 You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. 18 A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.

21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' 23 And then will I declare to them, 'I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

24 "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock. 26 And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. 27 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell, and great was the fall of it."

28 And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, 29 for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

# *Week 8: Day 1*

## **AT BAT: KNOW THE BASICS**

Pray. Read Matthew 7:15-29.

1. Read Matthew 7:15-29 on the facing page again and as you do:

\*Highlight or underline repeated words, themes, and phrases.

\*Write question marks next to verses you don't understand, or write some of your questions below. (Don't try to answer the questions, just acknowledge them.)

2. Look up definitions of some of the words you highlighted, along with any other words you'd like to understand more fully.

3. What literary techniques is Jesus using in this passage? (For example: repetition, **proverb**, illustration, contrasts, **hyperbole**.)

4. In one short sentence, state what Jesus was emphasizing in this passage to His audience on the mountainside. (This is a them/then main idea statement, no us/now language yet!)

*Extra Innings:* Write an outline of the passage.

(*Extra innings* are optional for those who want to dig deeper.)

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 8: Day 2*

## FIRST BASE: KNOW THE FIELD

Pray. Read Matthew 7:15-29 in another translation.

1. Read Matthew 7:15-29 again and this time circle/highlight **transition words**. (There may not be transition words in every passage.) If transition words exist, what information do they give you about what Jesus is emphasizing in this passage?

2. Examine the **literary context** of Matthew 7:15-29 by reading verses that come immediately before and after it. How do these verses inform the meaning of the passage?

3. Now examine the **biblical context** of Matthew 7:15-29 by reading at least four **cross-references**, particularly those related to words you highlighted or wrote a question mark next to in Day One. Record the cross-references you read and state how they influenced or enhanced your understanding of this passage.

4. How are Jesus's teachings in this passage upside down from this world's way of viewing and living life?

*Extra Innings:* Why did God include this passage in Scripture? What would be missing if this had been left out?

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# Week 8: Day 3

## SECOND BASE: KNOW THE POSITIONS

Pray. Read Matthew 7:15-29 in another translation.

1. Use a reliable, biblically sound study resource (see Resources pg. 9) to note **historical** and/or **cultural contexts** of this passage. How does this influence or enhance your understanding of this passage?

2. How might your **framework** prompt you to view this passage differently than Jesus's original audience on the mountainside?

3. Read Matthew 7:28-29. How did Jesus demonstrate His authority in Matthew 7:15-29 to His audience on the mountainside that day?

4. Whose authority is Jesus challenging or overriding with these right-side up statements for people in our culture today (yourself included)?

5. Revisit your main idea statement from Day One, Question 4. What are the implications of that main idea - what is Jesus emphasizing to audiences of every generation? (NOW you can use us/now language!)

*Extra Innings:* Select a verse or verses from this passage to commit to memory. Write it down somewhere you can see it often as a reminder to meditate on it throughout this study.

**Bolded words** are defined in the glossary.

# *Week 8: Day 4*

## THIRD BASE: KNOW THE SIGNALS

Pray. Read Matthew 7:15-29.

1. What does Jesus value?
2. What does Jesus promise?
3. What does Jesus command and/or what attributes does He call for?
4. Which of these commands or attributes do you often attempt to keep in your own strength?
5. Which of Jesus's "right-side up" statements in Matthew 7:15-29 are the most difficult for you to live out and why?

6. Read Ezekiel 36:26-27 in the margin. How do these verses encourage you as you consider Jesus's call to live out that challenging right-side up statement in this upside-down world?

*And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.  
And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

*Ezekiel 36:26-27*

*Extra Innings:* Imagine you are teaching a lesson on this passage. What title would you give your talk?

# *Week 8: Day 5*

## **BRING IT HOME: KNOW HOW TO APPLY**

Pray. Read Matthew 7:15-29 once more.

1. Does this passage speak more to your head (thoughts), hands (actions), or heart (attitude)? Explain.

2. Consider the Eternal. How does this passage affect your relationship with God?

3. Consider the Internal. How does this passage affect you personally – are you confronted with truth, chastised regarding sin, comforted and encouraged, challenged to make a change?

4. Consider the External. How does this passage affect your relationship with others?

5. Write a prayer, responding to God about what He has revealed to you in Matthew 7:15-29.

# *Week 8 Notes*

# Glossary

**Application** - The Bible study process of examining how God is calling us to respond to the passage.

**Biblical context** - Quotations or allusions to other passages in Scripture. Cross-references (see below) are useful in understanding the biblical context of a passage. .

**Biblical exposition** - Exposing the text for what's there - a comprehensive description and explanation of a passage.

**Cross-references** - The little Scripture references often provided in the margins or bottoms of each page of the Bible that send us to other passages with similar themes that can help us further understand the passage we are studying.

**Cultural Context** - Details relevant to life lived in the particular location and time of the passage.

**Framework** - Preconceived notions we bring to the text based on gender, life circumstances, culture, etc.

**Genre** - Category of literature in Scripture characterized by similarities in form, style, or subject matter. The main genres of Scripture include sub-genres such as narrative (story), discourse (sermon), and poetry. See Appendix B for the main genres of the Bible

**Historical Context** - Life circumstances of the original audience.

**Hyperbole** - A figure of speech that uses intentional exaggeration to emphasize a point and make a statement more memorable. When used in Scripture, it is meant to draw attention to truth, not provide actual facts or literal instructions.

**Interpretation** - The Bible study process of examining what the passage means.

**Literary Context** - What is around the text (the passages before/after; the entire book).

**Observation** - The Bible study process of examining what the passage says.

**Proverb** - A short pithy wisdom statement providing general truth or practical advice. Biblical Proverbs are the words of God, carrying His authority to direct hearts and minds to that which is right, trustworthy, and true.

**Transition Words** - Words that convey the connection or relationship between two parts of a passage i.e. therefore, since, then (see Appendix A for further details on transition words).

# *Appendix A*

## TRANSITION WORDS

### USED TO SHOW ORDER

- Above all
- Before
- Next
- Following
- Finally
- Now

### USED TO SHOW CONDITION

- If
- Unless
- In case

### USED TO SHOW RESULT

- Therefore
- Thus
- Due to

### USED TO SHOW EMPHASIS

- Indeed
- Again
- For this reason
- Truly
- Certainly
- Surely

### USED TO SHOW CONTRAST

- Nevertheless
- Even so
- While
- Yet
- However
- But

### USED TO SHOW REASON

- Because of
- Due to
- In order to
- In fact

### USED TO SHOW SUMMARY

- In conclusion
- Altogether
- Briefly
- Therefore

# *Appendix B*

## GENRES OF SCRIPTURE

### OLD TESTAMENT

#### LAW

- Genesis
- Exodus
- Leviticus
- Numbers
- Deuteronomy

#### HISTORY

- Joshua
- Judges
- Ruth
- 1 Samuel
- 2 Samuel
- 1 Kings
- 2 Kings
- 1 Chronicles
- 2 Chronicles
- Ezra
- Nehemiah
- Esther

#### WISDOM LITERATURE/ POETRY

- Job
- Psalm
- Proverbs
- Ecclesiastes
- Song of Solomon

#### PROPHECY (MAJOR PROPHETS)

- Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Lamentations
- Ezekiel
- Daniel

#### PROPHECY (MINOR PROPHETS)

- Hosea
- Joel
- Amos
- Obadiah
- Jonah
- Micah
- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

### NEW TESTAMENT

#### GOSPELS

- Matthew
- Mark
- Luke
- John

#### HISTORY

- Acts

#### LETTERS

- Romans
- 1 Corinthians
- 2 Corinthians
- Galatians
- Ephesians
- Philippians
- Colossians
- 1 Thessalonians
- 2 Thessalonians
- 1 Timothy
- 2 Timothy
- Titus
- Philemon
- Hebrews
- James
- 1 Peter
- 2 Peter
- 1 John
- 2 John
- 3 John
- Jude

#### PROPHECY

- Revelation



# EXODUS Women

**Exodus Women aims to equip women to joyfully connect, grow, learn, pray, and serve together in accordance with God's Word and in alignment with God's will, so that Christ will be glorified in all that we do.**

**EXODUS WOMEN IS A MINISTRY OF**

 **exoduschurch**

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