

The Pastor's Bible Study

An interactive study of the Gospel of Matthew

Week 5 ~ Exploring Chapter 4:1-16

Personal Study Time:

(Use the following suggestions in your personal Bible study time this week to prepare for our class discussion next Saturday.)

- Start a new section in your Matthew notebook with the title: Chapter 4:1-16
- Read Matthew Chapter 4:1-16 through at least twice
- After two times through the passage record your answers to the following questions in your Matthew Notebook.
 - List the common elements between 3:16, 17 and 4:1, 2
 - How is this significant to Matthew's message?
 - What relevance does it have in your own life if any?
- Re-read 4:1-11 three times and then record your responses to these questions in your notebook.
 - What common elements exist between the three temptations?
 - In a paragraph or two write down your thoughts regarding the impact of the common elements
 - How does Jesus' tempter change his approach over the course of his three attempts?
 - In a paragraph or two write down your thoughts regarding the difference approach the tempter takes with the third temptation.
 - Do you find any elements of progression in the three temptations? If so, what are they?
 - What is the overall significance of the story of the temptations to the development of Matthew's Gospel?
 - What do you think is the essence or central implication of each of the temptations?
 - Does the Holy Spirit ever lead anyone into temptation? Explain.
- Re-Read 4:1-11 and then record your answers to the following questions in your notebook.
 - How familiar are you with your Bible?
 - Can you, like Jesus, reply to Satan with an accurate, "It is written"?
 - What can you do to improve your knowledge of God's Word and the proper way to understand it?
 - What lessons can you learn from Christ's temptations in relation to your own life?
 - Do you feel the Holy Spirit calling you to make specific changes in your life?
 - If so, what are the changes and how will you implement them?
 - Does your daily life give evidence that you seek to emulate the life of Jesus?
 - In what ways?
- Re-Read 4:12-16
 - How did Jesus respond to the news about John? Use a Bible dictionary to learn more about Galilee and Capernaum. Record your findings in your notebook.