

Together with Jesus

Week 6 – Matthew 11 and 12 – Jesus Rejected by Israel

Matthew 11:1-6

John the Baptist's Questions

John sends a delegation of his disciples to ask Jesus a pointed question about who He is. Jesus' response references Messianic prophecies from Isaiah 29, 35, and 61.

- **What do you think is the motivation behind John sending his disciples with these questions?**

Matthew 11:7-19

Who is John the Baptist?

Following the departure of John's disciples, Jesus begins to question the crowd on their understanding of who John is.

- **What do you think of Jesus' claim that John is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?**

Matthew 11:20-24

The Unrepentant Cities

Jesus shifts His discussion to Jewish cities, making inflammatory statements about them in comparison to Gentile cities.

- **How do these passages speak to our context today? What can we learn from them?**

Matthew 11:25-30

Jesus' Light Burden

Jesus' call to repentance doesn't come without the Gospel. Here He offers a "light burden" to any that would come to Him.

- **How do you understand what Jesus means by these statements?**

Matthew 12:1-7

Questions about the Sabbath

The Sabbath becomes the example of the way that the Jewish religious are following the Law without actual regard to God or man.

- **How does "I desire mercy and not sacrifice" fit this situation?**

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Matthew 12:8-21

Sabbath Day Test Case

Not only does Jesus heal a man here on the Sabbath, but He actually seems to take people out of the Synagogue to follow Him.

- **Why do you think Jesus quotes Isaiah here?**

Matthew 12:22-37

Blasphemy, the Fruit of the Pharisees

Jesus gives a very stern warning to the Pharisees and other religious of Judea, warning them against blaspheming the Holy Spirit and turning their hearts from God.

- **How do you feel the Jewish religious people are blaspheming here?**

Matthew 12:38-45

Demand for Signs

Jesus is asked for signs to legitimate His claims, but responds with more inflammatory comments about the Gentiles taking priority in the kingdom.

- **What kind of signs do you think the scribes and Pharisees would have accepted?**

Matthew 12:46-50

Jesus' True Family

Jesus uses a visit from His family to make a point about what really makes people a part of His family.

- **How do you become a part of Jesus true family?**

Red Letter Challenge this week – Pray Earnestly

This week, take Jesus' words from Matthew 9:38, "Pray Earnestly" to heart. This week take some time to pray to God. Not sure what to say? That's ok, tell God that you don't know what to say and then be quiet and listen for Him.

