

THIS IS MY BIBLE PART 5- ALL ABOUT JESUS Matthew, Mark, Luke Life Group Questions

GETTING STARTED

- 1. The first books of the New Testament are referred to as the "synoptics" meaning "seen together." Why do you think we have three different versions of many of the same events? (use the chart below)
- 2. What does the term "gospels" mean? Why is this important?

DIGGING DEEPER

Matthew–also called Levi–was a Jew who collected taxes for the Roman government.

The book of Matthew centers around five major discourses: The sermon on the mount (chapters 5-7), the sending out of the twelve (chapter 10), Kingdom parables (chapters 13), Kingdom living (chapter 18), and the Olivet discourse (chapters 24-25).

Mark—also called John Mark—was a young man when he joined the followers of Christ. Mark accompanied Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey, but when time got rough, he abandoned the trip. This led to Paul ended up continuing his journey with Silas and Barnabas going with Mark. Paul and Mark would eventually reunite.

91% of Mark's gospel is contained in Matthew and 53% is found in Luke, which leads most scholars to conclude that Mark's gospel was written first.

Luke—Luke was a gentile physician and is the only gentile writer in the Bible. Paul and Luke traveled side by side and were dear friends (2 Timothy 4:11). Luke was more than a physician; he was a lover of people, a healer of the soul. Luke is also the author of the book of Acts.

1. Matthew and Luke include in their gospels the lineage of Jesus (Matthew 1:1-17; Luke 3:23-38). Why is this important?

- 2. At the end of chapter 1 and moving into chapter 2, we read about the birth of Jesus, which parts of that story stand out to you and why?
- 3. Who was John the Baptist and what was his primary purpose? (Matthew 3; Mark 1;)
- 4. Matthew chapters 5-7 is known as the "sermon on the mount." Discuss your favorite parts of Jesus' sermon.
- 5. Jesus was a master storyteller. Discuss your favorite ones in Matthew Chapters 13, 18, 19 and 20; Mark chapter 4 and Luke chapter 8.
- 6. Read Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:15-20. Why is this event important to us today?
- 7. Matthew, Mark and Luke all end their gospels with the death and resurrection of Jesus (Matthew 27, 28; Mark 15, 16; Luke 23, 24). Find a few verses in this story to reflect on together.
- 8. Matthew 28:18-20 is known as the "great commission." Read it together and discuss its significance.

	Matthew	Mark	Luke
Portrayal of Jesus	Messianic King	Servant	Son of Man
Primary recipients	Jews	Romans	Gentiles and Theophilus
Primary purpose	Show Jesus as long awaited Messiah	Strengthen believers	Human side of the Savior
Probable order	second	first	third

APPLYING THE MESSAGE

- 1. What characteristics of Jesus do you appreciate and love the most?
- 2. Jesus suffered a horrible, humiliating, and painful death for you. Take a moment to reflect, personalize and thank Him for His sacrifice for your sins.