



DBR

WITH THE EDGE

January 9 – Matthew 8

Reread Matthew 8:19-20

While people appear to ready to follow Jesus, he doesn't seem as excited as you would think. He wanted people to follow him, but he knew that they may not clearly understand exactly what it takes to be a follower of Christ. What are some things Christians have to give up in order to follow God?

January 10 – Matthew 9:1-17

Reread Matthew 9:2

Jesus did a lot of healing in his ministry. He did this to prove that he was God, as well as to point people to the salvation that can only be found in him. Jesus has the power to forgive sins because of the work he did on the cross. What does it mean to be forgiven by God?

January 11 – Matthew 9:18-38

Reread Matthew 9:29-30

In this passage, Jesus heals a man's eyes and allows him to have his sight. Then he tells him to keep quiet about it. Why do you think Jesus does this? Has he commanded us to speak up, or quiet down? How are you doing at telling others about Jesus' forgiveness?

January 12 – Matthew 10:1-23

Reread Matthew 10:16

Jesus does not promise a pain-free and danger-free life! He describes Christians as prey in the midst of predators. The Bible is clear: the world doesn't like Christians very much. How have you seen this in your life as you stand up for Jesus? Why is it important to be wise to the Enemy's attacks?

January 13 – Matthew 10:24-42

Reread Matthew 10:28

Jesus says that we have no need to fear people if we are right with him. That doesn't mean they cannot hurt us, it means they cannot separate us from God's love. Jesus directs the people's fear to God, who is in control of their life on earth, as well as their eternal life. Knowing that God should be feared and given our deepest honor and respect, how do you view your job to live according to his word?

January 14 – Matthew 11

Reread Matthew 11:28-30

Jesus tells people that he provides relief from a heavy burden. That heavy burden is caused by our own sin. Jesus promises rest and safety from sin's consequences. What happens when a person is forgiven?

January 15 – Matthew 12:1-21

Reread Matthew 12:17

Matthew points the reader to see God's ultimate plan through quoting prophecy. Why is it comforting to know that God has a big plan that he is working out? (Remember that God knows everything). What does this teach you about God himself?

January 16 – Matthew 12:22-50

Reread Matthew 12:36

When we went through the book of Proverbs, we ran across many commands about watching our words. Jesus gives a warning about the words we don't think about very much. "Careless" words are the ones that we say without thinking. How can you stop saying careless words?

January 17 – Matthew 13:1-32

Reread Matthew 13:13

Some times the Bible is hard to understand. That is never more true than when we read parables from Jesus. We all must ask God to give us understanding when we read his words. Next time you pick up your Bible, ask God to teach you things about him in your reading!

January 18 – Matthew 13:33-58

Reread Matthew 13:45-46

The Parable of the Pearl of Great Value is one of the shortest Jesus tells. The pearl represents salvation that is found in Jesus. We are supposed to leave everything behind and follow him. What are some things you need to leave behind in order to serve God?

January 19 – Matthew 14:1-21

Reread Matthew 4:14

At the beginning of this chapter, John the Baptist was killed and news of his death reached Jesus. They were cousins and good friends. While Jesus was sad, tired, and worn down, he went to a "desolate place" (away from the crowds). But the crowds followed him anyway. Verse 14 says that Jesus had "compassion" on them and continued his ministry. How can you love people today when you aren't feeling like it?

January 20 – Matthew 14:22-36

Reread Matthew 14:31

Although this a miracle of Jesus, the point of the story comes when Jesus says something to Peter. He asks Peter why he doubted him! Over and over in the gospels, Jesus reminds people to have faith in him. When is it hard for you to trust God?

January 21 – Matthew 15:1-20

Reread Matthew 15:3-4

Back in Jesus' day, many people trusted in their obedience to tradition as opposed to obedience to God's rules. Our generation has a similar problem, specifically when it comes to disobedience to parents. It is viewed today as "normal" to be disrespectful to your parents, and your culture sees this as "ok". God does not. How can you honor your father or your mother today? What can you do specifically this week to show more respect and honor to them?

January 22 – Matthew 15:21-39

Reread Matthew 15:24

Many of the people Jesus interacted with were outcasts from society. Some had severe physical problems. One thing is true of all of them; they were lost. One of the many reasons Jesus specifically helps many of the poor and ill people, was because they were humble. Jesus is looking to save lost people, but they need to recognize that they ARE lost! This should keep every follower of Christ humble. How can you be more humble today with your friends at school/Edge? What is an area that you need to be more humble in?