

Below are some ideas on how to benefit from the study of Matthew. Use any idea that you find helpful, and feel free to post some other and better ideas than these...we can all learn from each other on how to keep growing as a Christian.

There are 28 chapters in Matthew, so one way you could "survey" the book is to read a chapter a day, and to record the most meaningful verse you read out of each chapter. By the end of the month, you'll have read through the entire book.

- 1.If you want to read a little more, try reading 4 chapters a day. (2 in the morning; 2 at night) If you do this every day, you can read through the book in a week, and that way you could read through the book 3 or 4 times in a month.
- 2.Get a study Bible, (NIV Study Bible is a very good one) and read the background information on Matthew. Who wrote it? (Hint: his name is in the title of the book) When was it written? How can it be outlined? What are the major themes? Do you think it's helpful to know those sort of things? I do. It provides a framework and a context that helps me understand it better. (If you don't have a Study Bible, you can also find this material online.)
- 3.What's the most well known part of Matthew? If you said, "The Sermon on the Mount" I think you are right. So...if you prefer to just dig into a smaller piece of the Scripture for a few weeks, you could take just those chapters, (Matthew 5-7) and read them. Talk about personal application! Take a chapter each week, and just read it every day for a week. You'd be surprised at how one chapter can speak to you in so many different ways.
- 4.Do you like to read or hear sermons on passages that you've been studying? I know I do! There are many websites that have outstanding sermons. One of my favorites is John Piper's sermons. He has many sermons on the book of Matthew. You'll be amazed at how God speaks to you. <http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library/sermons/by-scripture/matthew>