

February 20 - Week 7 – Questions to Consider
Matthew 10 ~ Matthew 14 ~ Mark 6 ~ Luke 9 ~ John 6

Fun Small Group Warm Up Question:

What was your favorite teacher or subject in school?

1. What do you think the apostles were experiencing as they were doing the same miracles Jesus was doing (Matthew 10:8)? Why do you think Jesus warns them about taking limited supplies and not receiving money for their miracles?
2. What do you think Jesus means by “let your peace come upon it” and “let your peace return to you” (Matthew 10:13)? How might that apply to us in witnessing today?
3. What does it mean to be “wise as serpents and innocent as doves” (Matthew 10:16)? Why is it important to have “understanding of the times” (1 Chronicles 12:32)? How can we try to “be wise as to what is good and innocent as to what is evil” (Romans 16:19)?
4. What does God mean that “the one who endures to the end will be saved” (Matthew 10:22)? What does it mean to “acknowledge” or “deny” God before men (Matthew 10:32)? Why is that so serious?
5. Do you think some people want to be in Heaven more to see their deceased relatives than to see Jesus? What do people often say that might reflect this? How does that counter Matthew 10:37?
6. How does John the Baptist’s courage inspire you (Matthew 14:1-12, Mark 6:18)? Where do we need to speak with more boldness and courage today? How can we do better at speaking the truth while saying it with love in our hearts (Ephesians 4:15)?
7. Why did Peter begin to sink in Matthew 14:22-33? When do we begin to “sink” in life? What was Jesus’ response to Peter when he cried out for help? What is Jesus’ response to us when we cry out sincerely and desperately for Him?
8. Why do you think the feeding of the 5,000 (Matthew 14, Mark 6, Luke 9, & John 6) is important (the only miracle reported in all 4 Gospels)? Why do you think Mark 6:52 is included?
9. How do you think the disciples were prepared to see Him do the same miracle in feeding 4,000 (Matthew 15 & Mark 8)? In Matthew 16 & Mark 8 the disciples were still struggling after seeing two massive feeding miracles, yet Jesus is patient with them and does not give up on them. How does this encourage you?
10. Look at John 6:66-71. Why did many turn aside after some tough teachings? Why did Peter and the other 11 stay? Why do you think Jesus references Judas’ future betrayal here? How does this apply to us today?

Who Is Your Herod? How To Be Like John!

Mark 6:14–29 (ESV)

Look at Herod

1. Heard about Jesus’ Reputation, Works, & Teachings

v.14 “King Herod heard of it, for Jesus’ name had become known.:

2. Made the Wrong Conclusion about Jesus

v.14-16 “Some said, ‘John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him.’ [15] But others said, ‘He is Elijah.’ And others said, ‘He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.’ [16] But when Herod heard of it, he said, ‘John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.’”

3. Disobeys God

- Disobedience to Scripture - Pleasure

- Opposition to Followers of Jesus - Pride

v.17 “For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, because he had married her.”

Look at John

1. Faithfulness to Speak the Truth

v.18 “For John had been saying to Herod, ‘It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.’”

Luke 3:19–20 “and for all the evil things that Herod had done”

2. Courage In Spite of the Consequences

v.19 “And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not,”

3. Life Bears Witness to the Love & Power of God

v.20 “for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe.”

How To Be Like John!

L_____ Righteously

• Wicked People Fear Good People

Matthew 11:11 “Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist.”

Be Prepared for Gospel Opportunities

• Be W_____

Mark 6:20 When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.

“We should be honest with people and tell them the truth about their sin, if we really love them.” ~ Ray Comfort

• Be Bold & Courageous

- Matthew 3:7–10 “But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? [8] Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. [9] And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. [10] Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”
- 2 Samuel 12:7–9 “Nathan said to David, “You are the man! ... Why have you despised the word of the LORD, to do what is evil in his sight?”
- Isaiah 5:20 “Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter!”

• Be W_____

Proverbs 26:4–5 “Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest you be like him yourself. [5] Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own eyes”

“Don’t be afraid of offending men, dear Christian.
Be afraid of offending God.” ~ Ray Comfort

• Be Loving

Proverbs 27:5–6 “Better is open rebuke than hidden love. [6] Faithful are the wounds of a friend; profuse are the kisses of an enemy.”

• Be B_____ When There Is No Visible, Lasting Repentance

- Luke 9:9 “Herod said, ‘John I beheaded, but who is this about whom I hear such things?’ And he sought to see him.”
- Luke 23:8 “When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had long desired to see him, because he had heard about him, and he was hoping to see some sign done by him.”
- Luke 23:11 “And Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him. Then, arraying him in splendid clothing, he sent him back to Pilate.”

• Be Hopeful for an Amazing Work of God

- *Joanna* - Luke 8:1-3 “with him...some women...Joanna, the wife of Chuza, Herod’s household manager”
- *Manaen* - Acts 13:1 “Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.”
- *King David* - Psalm 51:3–4 “For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. [4] Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.”

This Next Week’s New Testament Reading Plan:

Week 8: Matthew 15, 16, & 17; Mark 7 & 8

- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcdevo

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How To Be Like John!

Live Righteously

• Wicked People Fear Good People

Matthew 11:11 “Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist.”

Be Prepared for Gospel Opportunities

• Be Winsome

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• Be Bold & Courageous

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• Be Wise

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- **Be Loving**

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enemy.”

- **Be Broken When There Is No Visible, Lasting
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