

**Investigating**

**God's Word...**

***At Home***

**Volume 2**

**Matthew**



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**Matthew**

*One Story Ministries*

# **Investigating God's Word: At Home (Volume Two)**

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*Dedicated to my children:*

*Victoria, Alexandra, Emmalyne, Olivia  
Katherine, John Charles, Nathanael, Andrew*

# Using this Teaching Guide

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This series of volumes was created to help parents teach the Bible to their children at home. It's a highly interactive study which seeks to promote thought, discussion, and application as you read through the Bible together. By the time you finish all fourteen volumes, your family will investigate the entirety of God's Word.

Each individual lesson is divided up into the following five sections:

## Opening

The *Opening* gets the lesson moving with either introductory thought questions, or a reading from the Psalms or Proverbs. This section serves as a "Call to Study."

## Drill Time

The *Drill Time* section is an opportunity for you to quiz your children to assess their Bible knowledge. Sometimes the questions will be a review of the previous lesson. Other times the questions will cover essential Bible knowledge that all of our children should learn. Still other times the questions will be from another portion of Scripture which connects to the lesson to be studied.

## W.O.W!

The *Word of the Week (W.O.W!)* is designed to build the Christian vocabularies of your children. Each lesson includes a *W.O.W!* that is either a word found in the Bible text or a theological word that is dealt with in the passage. Often times, the *W.O.W!* is found repeatedly in the chosen text, serving as a theme for the lesson. The *Word of the Week* is defined and explained in this section in order for



your children to gain understanding. They will be asked to listen for it in the *Bible Investigation* time.

## **Bible Investigation**

The *Bible Investigation* time is the heart and soul of the lesson. Each passage of Scripture is read to your children a portion at a time, breaking it down for interactive discussion. The discussion sections include questions for your children to answer as well as other commentary on what has just been read. Application sections also appear throughout the *Bible Investigation* in order to put to work what is being studied.

The *Bible Investigation* time is also intended to teach your children how to do methodical Bible study. You will be helping them to observe, interpret, think through, and apply the Scripture.

All sections of Scripture in these volumes are from the *New International Version (NIV)*.

## **Scripture Memory**

At the end of each lesson, a *Scripture Memory text* is given that either comes from the lesson or connects to it in some way. Encourage your children to memorize Scripture each week to commit God's Word to their hearts.

**Enjoy studying God's Word  
together as a family!**



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# Lesson 1

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Matthew 1:1-2:12

## Opening

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**Say:** *Who here was once a baby? Do you remember what it was like to be a baby? Do you remember what the day was like when you were born? Allow answers. Even though you don't remember much about the day you were born, I bet your parents do! Why do you think the birth of a baby is such an exciting time? Allow discussion.*

*Babies are incredible creations! Their births bring amazing joy to parents. Pay attention to our Bible Investigation later on as we read about the birth of the most amazing baby of all time!*

## Drill Time

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*But first, we will move on to DRILL TIME—our regular opportunity to review something we have learned in the past. Are you ready?*

**Today's questions:** *Who was Abraham's son of promise? Who were Isaac's twin sons? Who was Jacob's favorite son? How many sons did Jacob have?*

### Answers:

1. Isaac.
2. Jacob and Esau.
3. Joseph.
4. Twelve.



**Say:** *In Volume One, we learned a lot about Isaac, Jacob and Esau, and Joseph. This time, we are moving way ahead in time and in our Bibles—to the New Testament. But I don't want you to forget about Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph! Without knowing their stories, you wouldn't understand the stories we will learn in this volume. Abraham was not only the father of Isaac, he is also the father of our faith. Pay close attention and see how important Abraham truly is.*

## **W.O.W!**

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*Remember that we always get to learn a new word when we study together! I love learning new words, don't you? Let's learn another one now.*

*Our W.O.W! (Word of the Week) this week is **IMMANUEL**. This word is actually a name. Has anyone heard this name before?*

*The name IMMANUEL means "God is with us." A long time ago the prophet Isaiah (Isaiah 7) told the children of Israel that God would send them a sign of His love for them—and that sign would be a baby boy. And guess what God said this baby's name would be? That's right, IMMANUEL. God with us!*

*What a wonderful name! Who wants God to be with you? We all do, don't we? God has always been with His people—but in IMMANUEL, He is with His people in a very special way.*

*Some of you may already know who IMMANUEL is. If you don't know, we will find out His identity today in our Bible Investigation!*



# Bible Investigation

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**Introduction:** *As I have already mentioned, we are going to move forward in our Bibles to the New Testament. The first book of the New Testament is the Book of MATTHEW. The Book of Matthew is the first of the four GOSPELS in the New Testament. A GOSPEL is a book that brings GOOD NEWS. What GOOD NEWS will we hear in the Gospel of Matthew? Let's find out!*

## **Read Matthew 1:1.**

<sup>1</sup> A record of the genealogy of Jesus Christ the son of David, the son of Abraham:

**Discussion:** *Did you hear what the GOOD NEWS is? The gospel of Matthew tells us all about Jesus! He's the GOOD NEWS. And Matthew starts by telling us the GENEALOGY of Jesus. A GENEALOGY is simply a record of our family—names of our grandfathers, great grandfathers—as far back as we can go.*

*Listen to Jesus' GENEALOGY. Read verses 2-5.*

<sup>2</sup> Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, <sup>3</sup> Judah the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar, Perez the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, <sup>4</sup> Ram the father of Amminadab, Amminadab the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, <sup>5</sup> Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab, Boaz the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth, Obed the father of Jesse,

**Discussion:** *Let's stop there for a moment. We can trace Jesus' family all the way to Abraham. Remember I told you that learning about Abraham was important! Abraham is the father of our faith because he the great-great-great....grandfather of Jesus! Jesus is a child of Abraham—by way of Isaac, Jacob, Judah, etc.*



**Application:** *Did you know that you have a GENEALOGY too? If you ask your grandparents, they can tell you who your great grandparents, and maybe even your great-great grandparents are. You each come from a long line of people, just like Jesus did!*

*Let's keep reading Jesus' genealogy. Read verses 6-11.*

<sup>6</sup>and Jesse the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon, whose mother had been Uriah's wife, <sup>7</sup>Solomon the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asa, <sup>8</sup>Asa the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Jehoram, Jehoram the father of Uzziah, <sup>9</sup>Uzziah the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, <sup>10</sup>Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amon, Amon the father of Josiah, <sup>11</sup>and Josiah the father of Jeconiah and his brothers at the time of the exile to Babylon.

**Discussion:** *Some of these names may be familiar to you, especially King David and King Solomon. As you study more of the Old Testament in your lifetime, you will get to read more about all of these men who ended up being in Jesus' genealogy.*

*Let's move on. Read verses 12-17.*

<sup>12</sup>After the exile to Babylon: Jeconiah was the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, <sup>13</sup>Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, Abiud the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, <sup>14</sup>Azor the father of Zadok, Zadok the father of Akim, Akim the father of Eliud, <sup>15</sup>Eliud the father of Eleazar, Eleazar the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, <sup>16</sup>and Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary, of whom was born Jesus, who is called Christ. <sup>17</sup>Thus there were fourteen generations in all from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the exile to Babylon, and fourteen from the exile to the Christ.



**Discussion:** *Did you hear that? There were fourteen generations between Abraham and David, fourteen from David to the exile, and fourteen between the exile and the birth of Jesus. Isn't that interesting? Forty-two generations lived between Abraham and Jesus. That's a lot of people and a lot of time.*

*Now let's read about the birth of Jesus. Read verses 18-19.*

<sup>18</sup> This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be with child through the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Because Joseph her husband was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.

**Discussion:** *Babies are supposed to come AFTER a man and a woman get married. But Mary became pregnant with baby Jesus BEFORE she was married to Joseph. How did this happen? [Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit, since Jesus is God!] What did Joseph plan to do about this "problem." [He planned to divorce Mary.] Joseph did not understand that Jesus was given to Mary by the Holy Spirit. He thought Jesus was another man's baby. He thought the way to solve this problem was not to marry Mary after all.*

*Let's see what happened next. Read verses 20-21.*

<sup>20</sup> But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup> She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

**Discussion:** *What did God do to make sure that Joseph and Mary would be married? [He sent an angel to tell Joseph about the situation.] Joseph received some GOOD NEWS, didn't he? Why was Joseph to name this baby JESUS? [The*



name Jesus means SAVIOR.] *Already, God was telling Joseph and Mary that Jesus would be the most special baby of all time—He would be the SAVIOR of His people.*

*Let's read on. **Read verses 22-25.***

<sup>22</sup> All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: <sup>23</sup>“The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us.” <sup>24</sup> When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. <sup>25</sup> But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

**Discussion:** *Did you hear our Word of the Week? Who was given the name IMMANUEL? [Jesus.] What does the name IMMANUEL mean? [God with us.] Remember that Isaiah prophesied about the coming of IMMANUEL many, many years before. Did Joseph obey the angel, marry Mary, and name his baby Jesus? [Yes!]*

**Application:** *The name IMMANUEL teaches us that Jesus is not just the son of Mary, He is also the Son of God. Jesus is God with us! And, since Jesus was conceived by God's Holy Spirit, that also shows us that He is fully God. So Jesus is the only one who is FULLY God and FULLY man. He is the GOD-MAN. He is the one sent to save us from our sins!*

*Let's now go to Chapter Two. **Read Matthew 2:1-3.***

<sup>1</sup> After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him.” <sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.

**Discussion:** *What are MAGI? [Wise men.] These wise men followed the stars and were looking for the birth of a new*



*king of the Jews. Why did this disturb King Herod?*  
[Because Herod was the king of the Jews!]

*Let's see what Herod does. Read verses 4-8.*

<sup>4</sup>When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup>"In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: <sup>6</sup>"But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.'" <sup>7</sup>Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

**Discussion:** *Do you think King Herod really wanted to find Jesus so that he could worship Him? [No!] Where was Jesus born? [In Bethlehem in Judea.]*

*Let's finish our reading for today. Read verses 9-12.*

<sup>9</sup>After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup>On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. <sup>12</sup>And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.

**Discussion:** *Baby Jesus was now in a house. What did the wise men do when they saw Jesus? [They bowed down and worshipped Him. They gave him gifts.] These gifts were truly meant for a king! The wise men knew Jesus was a king, and they also knew not to tell Herod about Him. We'll read more about that next time.*



**Conclusion:** *Do you know that Jesus is your King? Do you know that Jesus is “God with you?” We will learn a lot more about Jesus as we continue reading the Gospel of Matthew. Think about how Jesus was born as both God and man. Think about how He was sent to save His people from their sins. Think of the fact that of all the babies ever born, the birth of baby Jesus was the most joyous occasion there has ever been!*

## **Scripture Memory**

### **Matthew 1:23 (NIV)**

<sup>15</sup> “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us.”





# Lesson 2

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*Matthew 2:13-3:17*

## Opening

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**Say:** *We start out our lives as babies, but do we stay that way? [No!] Why not? Allow answers.*

*If we all stayed as babies, who would take care of the babies? Thankfully, God changes babies into children, children into teenagers and teenagers into adults. Do you know that God is in charge of your “growing up?” He gives you the health and strength to get older, bigger, stronger and even wiser.*

*Baby Jesus grew up too! Are you glad about that? We will read about that in our Bible Lesson today!*

## Drill Time

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*But first, let’s move on to DRILL TIME—our opportunity to review what we have learned in the past. We learned the answers to these questions last time. Are you ready?*

**Today’s questions:** *Who were Jesus’ earthly mother and father? Where was Jesus born? Who visited Jesus at His home? What was another one of Jesus’ names?*

### Answers:

1. Mary and Joseph.
2. Bethlehem.
3. The Magi (wise men).



#### 4. Immanuel.

*Remember that Jesus' name means "Savior" and the name IMMANUEL means "God is with us." So even as a baby, we know that Jesus has been sent to save His people from their sins, and to be with His people as fully God and fully man. Isn't that amazing? Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of Mary, making Him both God and man.*

## **W.O.W!**

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**Say:** *Are you ready for another Word of the Week? Our W.O.W! (Word of the Week) for today is **BAPTIZE**.*

*You may have been BAPTIZED as a baby or you may have seen other children or adults being BAPTIZED. A person who is being BAPTIZED has water put on him or her—either a little water or a lot of water. Does anyone know why we BAPTIZE with water? **Allow answers.***

*BAPTIZING with water symbolizes cleansing and washing. It does not mean that our sins are washed away or that we are free from sin. Rather, it is a symbol of what only the Holy Spirit can do—change our hearts and unite us to Jesus Christ. The water does nothing; yet, it is an important sign of what we want God to do for us—save us and cleanse us and bring us to Jesus.*

*We will read about someone BAPTIZING people today and about someone being BAPTIZED. Pay close attention for our Word of the Week!*



# Bible Investigation

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**Introduction:** *We left off with the Magi visiting Jesus. At the end of that visit, why didn't the wise men go back and tell King Herod where Jesus was? [God warned them in a dream not to return to King Herod.] King Herod acted like he just wanted to meet this new baby king of the Jews. Did he really just want to meet Him?*

*Let's begin and find out. Read Matthew 2:13.*

<sup>13</sup> When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

**Discussion:** *Wow! Yet again, God sends His angel to Joseph to tell him something. Where does God want Joseph to take his family? [To Egypt.] King Herod wants to kill Jesus, so it's a good thing God knows all things, isn't it?*

**Application:** *Not only does God know all things, but He is also totally in control. God is protecting His Son from Herod, and He protects you and me too.*

*Let's read on. Read verses 14-15.*

<sup>14</sup> So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, <sup>15</sup> where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

**Discussion:** *If you are paying attention, Matthew tells us that this flight to Egypt fulfilled Old Testament prophecy. All things are happening to Jesus just as God said it would!*

*Let's continue. Read verses 16-18.*

<sup>16</sup> When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys

