

MEET ME IN THE
PAGES

Reading Schedule
for the Gospel of Matthew

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

Have you ever longed to know Jesus as the disciples knew Him? Have you wished you could see Him, hear Him, and experience His presence as intimately as they once did?


During the Spring of 2020, The Harbor is embarking on a journey together through the four Gospels as we seek to grow individually and collectively in both our knowledge of, and experience with, Jesus.

Our goal is that as Jesus invites us to meet Him in the pages of Scripture, we would experience Him meeting us in the pages of our lives. We pray that as you encounter the life and ministry of Jesus, He will step into the pages of YOUR life, bringing you the hope, healing, freedom, and purpose He came to provide.

The key to intimately meeting Jesus in the pages of Scripture, and then having Him intimately meet us in the pages of our lives, is to seek transformative life application within the words of Scripture, which the author of the book of Hebrews says is *“living and active”* (Heb 4:12).

As a help to get you started on your journey through the Gospels, we are providing a link that will take you to a concise, biblical summary of what the Gospels are all about. As well, we are providing links to sections of each of the Gospels that will help to provide some great context before you step into the actual text.

To greatly simplify accessing this content, QR codes are also provided. Simply scan the code with the camera of your phone or a QR code reader app to get to the videos quickly. Here is the link and QR code for the summary of the Gospels.

<p>How to Read the Gospels https://youtu.be/xrzq_X1NNaA</p>	
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Check out **Appendix A** in the back of this devotional for all the links and QR codes.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

This journal is intended to facilitate a reflective time in God’s Word. Before starting, we recommend you read the content in **Appendix B** which describes a Bible study method that is taught at The Harbor called **KNOW/FEEL/DO**. Then use this journal in the following way:

Each morning, **PRAY**, asking the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to see God’s truth in the Scriptures you are about to read.

Read the chapter through one time, then go back and read it again, making note of the verse(s) in which you met Jesus.

Based upon that verse(s), spend some time considering what God would have you **KNOW** (about Him, about you, about your circumstances/behaviors) and then write that in the journal in one or two sentences.

Contemplate how God would have you **FEEL** based upon that truth and compare it to how you actually feel about it. It is often in the tension between how God would have us feel and how we are feeling in the moment that the real goal of life change can be identified, which leads us to the final question.

Now consider what God would have you **DO** to apply this biblical truth to your life (something He wants you to believe, receive, say, stop doing, or change your thinking on). Make this practical and actionable. Write it out in one or two sentences in your journal. Don’t overreach, keep it to one thing.

Finally, offer a **PRAYER** to God asking for help in applying this Scripture to your life, confessing any sin the verse(s) has exposed, or expressing thanks for affirmation of something you are already doing well.

The reading plan is designed so that one chapter of Matthew is read each day of the week, leaving Saturday and Sunday for catch up and review. Read each chapter slowly, taking it all in, one verse at a time.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 6, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 1

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 7, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 2

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 8, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 3

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 9, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 4

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 10, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 5

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 13, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 6

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 14, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 7

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 15, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 8

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 16, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 9

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 17, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 10

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 20, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 11

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 21, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 12

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 22, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 13

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 23, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 14

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 24, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 15

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 27, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 16

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 28, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 17

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 29, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 18

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 30, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 19

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

January 31, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 20

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

February 3, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 21

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

February 4, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 22

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

February 5, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 23

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

February 6, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 24

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

February 7, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 25

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

February 10, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 26

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

February 11, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 27

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

February 12, 2020 – Matthew Chapter 28

In the Scripture you read today, in which verse(s) did Jesus meet you, and based on that verse(s), what would God want you to know, feel, and do?

Make note of the verse(s):

What does God want you to know?

How does God want you to feel (and how does that connect with how you are currently feeling?)

Where and how might Jesus step into the pages of your life and transform what you do?

Conclude by lifting a prayer of praise and thanksgiving that Jesus Himself is waiting with great anticipation to meet you in the pages of Scripture, and that He is ready to talk to you, guide you, and act on your behalf.

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

APPENDIX A – YouTube Links (from The Bible Project)

How to Read the Gospels https://youtu.be/xrzq_X1NNaA	
Matthew 1-13 https://youtu.be/3Dv4-n6OYGI	
Matthew 14-28 https://youtu.be/GGCF3OPWN14	
Mark https://youtu.be/HGHqu9-DtXk	
Luke 1-9 https://youtu.be/XIb_dClxzo	
Luke 10-24 https://youtu.be/26z_KhwNdD8	
John 1-12 https://youtu.be/G-2e9mMf7E8	
John 13-21 https://youtu.be/RUfh_wOsauk	

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

APPENDIX B – Bible Study Method – KNOW/FEEL/DO (adapted from the book *Fully Alive* by Rick Baldwin)

The transforming power of truth found in Scripture convinces us that we are fully forgiven because of Christ, and we recognize that God has a unique, meaningful, challenging reason for us to live. By the power of God’s word, our minds and hearts, our direction in life, and our relationships can be transformed.

God uses the Bible to ***transform the way we think*** about God, about ourselves, about our purpose, and about others. We often see things through our own limited and skewed perspective.

The prophet Isaiah quotes God as saying, *“My thoughts are completely different from yours”, says the Lord. ‘And My ways are far beyond anything you could imagine. For just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.’*” (Isaiah 55:8-9)

God strategically uses the Bible to help us see things as He sees them. He offers us wisdom and insight. Psalm 19:7–8 states, *“The decrees of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple...The commands of the Lord are clear, giving insight to life.”* God’s word is our benchmark to know what is true. Then we can measure our thoughts against His standard and change our thoughts to fit the truth.

When we open the pages of the Bible, the first question to ask is **“What does God want me to know** in this passage I’m reading?”

God’s truth reaches down into the secret places in our hearts to reveal our deepest motives and carries us to new heights of understanding God’s incredible power and grace.

Another purpose of the Bible is to ***transform how we feel***. The truth of God’s word is not only for our heads; it also speaks to our hearts. David wrote, *“I have hidden Your word in my heart.”* (Psalm 119:11)

The “heart” is the seat of reflection, and it includes both thoughts and feelings. In essence, David was saying, “God, I have taken Your word all the way to the depths of my heart, to the center of my emotions.” In the Psalm

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

David wrote to show that God’s truth transforms our minds. He reminds us that it transforms our emotions, too. He wrote, “The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul... The commandments of the Lord are right, bringing joy to the heart.” (Psalm 19:7–8)

The transformation of our hearts by God’s word doesn’t mean, however, that our feelings will always be happy, pleasant, and serene. To be fully alive in Christ means that we care about the same things God cares about. We rejoice when love and justice prevail, but we feel genuine anger and sorrow when we see people experience cruelty and injustice. As we become more fully alive, we will have honest emotions, just like Jesus and the psalmist did.

We need wisdom to know which feelings are healthy and which are destructive. We need to look at the model of Jesus, who, as the perfect man, experienced and expressed deep and authentic emotions.

A good spiritual check is to read a passage in the Bible and ask the question, “Based upon what I have just read, ***how does God want me to feel?***”

If we read about the crucifixion and our heart doesn’t break with sorrow, something is wrong with either our perception or our heart. If we read about the resurrection and our heart doesn’t soar with anticipation and hope, then we know something is hindering our grasp of God’s truth. If we read about the exodus when God parted the sea and gave freedom to His people and we’re not thrilled that we, too, have been set free by God, then God’s message isn’t sinking deeply enough into our soul.

How does God want us to feel? He wants us to be fully alive, fully connected, emotionally engaged people who respond not only with our heads but also with our hearts. And it’s God’s word that is our trustworthy roadmap to reshape our emotions.

The third purpose of the Bible is to ***transform the way we act***. James tells us that the word of God changes our behavior as much as it changes our thinking and emotions. He wrote, “...*humbly accept the message God has planted in your hearts, for it is strong enough to save your souls. And remember, it is a message to obey, not just to listen to. If you don’t obey, you are only fooling yourself.*” (James 1:21-22)

MEET ME IN THE PAGES—PART I

As we read Scripture, and we have processed what God wants us to **KNOW** about His truth and about how we should **FEEL** about that truth, the next logical question is what God wants us to **DO** about that. If our minds and hearts are being transformed, it only follows that our actions, which are always driven by our thoughts and feelings (prayerfully in that order), will be transformed, too.

As we gain insights from the Bible, and those insights begin to shape and change, or even affirm, our thoughts and feelings, to stop short of applying those insights to our lives makes those thoughts and feelings powerless. The power comes when **we ask God what He would have us do** with that knowledge and passion...then we need to do it!

