

Week 1 Reading Plan Post

The Burn — Gospel of Matthew

Week 1: Matthew 1:1–17

Jesus, Son of David, Son of Abraham

This week we begin The Burn by slowing down and starting where Matthew starts—not with a miracle, but with a genealogy.

Why?

Because before Matthew introduces Jesus as teacher, healer, or Savior, he wants us to understand who Jesus is and why His coming matters.

Matthew opens by grounding Jesus in two unbreakable promises:

- God's covenant with Abraham
- God's covenant with David

These covenants are not just about the past.

They are the foundation of our hope for a real, physical, redeemed, resurrected Kingdom—with Jesus as King.

As we read this week, our prayer is that we would see how faithfully God keeps His promises, and how our own stories are being drawn into His much larger story.

Weekly Big Idea

Jesus is the promised Messiah whose life fulfills God's covenant promises and guarantees a future Kingdom that will never end.

Key Question

How does seeing God's faithfulness across generations shape how I trust Him today?



Weekly Reading Plan:

Monday — The Covenant with Abraham

Texts: Matthew 1:1–5; Genesis 12:1–3; Genesis 15:1–6

1. **Text & Context:**

Why do you think Matthew begins his genealogy by connecting Jesus to Abraham?
What would this signal to a first-century Jewish reader?

2. **God's Faithfulness:**

How do God's promises to Abraham—made generations earlier—find their fulfillment in Jesus?

3. **Life Application:**

Where is God asking you to trust His promises even when you cannot yet see the outcome?

Tuesday — The Covenant with David

Texts: Matthew 1:6–11; 2 Samuel 7:12–16; Psalm 132:11–12

1. **Text & Context:**

What does God promise David about his throne and kingdom, and why would this covenant matter so deeply to Israel?

2. **God's Faithfulness:**

How does Matthew's genealogy demonstrate that God remained faithful to His promise to David—even through failure, exile, and waiting?

3. **Life Application:**

If Jesus is the rightful King, what part of your life still resists His authority or leadership?

Wednesday — God Redeems Broken Stories

Texts: Matthew 1:1–6; Genesis 38; Joshua 2; Ruth 1; 2 Samuel 11–12

1. **Text & Context:**

Why do you think Matthew intentionally includes Tamar, Rahab, Ruth, and Bathsheba in

Jesus' genealogy, even though this was unusual?

2. **God's Faithfulness:**

What do these stories reveal about God's ability to redeem brokenness and work through imperfect people?

3. **Life Application:**

How does seeing God's grace in these stories change how you view your own past or present struggles?

Thursday — The Hope of the Prophets

Texts: Matthew 1:12–17; Isaiah 9:6–7; Isaiah 11:1–5; Jeremiah 23:5–6

1. **Text & Context:**

What kind of King do the prophets describe, and how does this shape our understanding of who the Messiah would be?

2. **God's Faithfulness:**

How do these prophetic promises show that God was actively guiding history toward redemption, even during seasons of waiting?

3. **Life Application:**

How does the promise of a righteous, eternal King affect how you live, hope, and make decisions today?

Friday — God Keeps His Covenant

Texts: Psalm 89:3–4, 29–37; Matthew 1:1–17

1. **Text & Context:**

According to Psalm 89, how does God describe His covenant with David, and what does this reveal about His character?

2. **God's Faithfulness:**

How does Jesus' genealogy demonstrate that God keeps His promises—even when human leaders fail?

3. **Life Application:**

Where in your life do you need to remember that God's faithfulness does not depend on your performance?

Weekend — Slow Reflection & Prayer

Text: Re-Read Matthew 1:1–17

1. **Text & Context:**

What details in the genealogy stand out to you now that you've read it slowly and thoughtfully this week?

2. **God's Faithfulness:**

How does tracing God's work across generations strengthen your confidence in His plans?

3. **Life Application:**

As you walk with Jesus, what is one area of your life you sense God inviting you to surrender more fully to His Kingdom?

Prayer Focus This Week

Thank God for His faithfulness across generations. Ask Him to help you trust His promises and surrender your life more fully to Jesus as King.

Weekly Challenge

Each day this week, intentionally surrender **one area of your life** to Jesus' authority—your schedule, relationships, fears, or future plans.

Next week, we move into Matthew 1:18–25, where the promised King doesn't just arrive... God comes to dwell with us.

Let's keep walking with Jesus together—and may the Scriptures burn within us as He opens them to us.