

Open your Bible to Matthew...

Go ahead and open your Bible to the book of **Matthew**.

Let me give you a quick heads-up—

I'm going to reference a lot of Scripture today, but I'll quote most of it for you.

So you don't have to turn everywhere—just write down the references and study them later.

This series is a little different than what we normally do.

Usually, I go line-by-line through one passage.

But for this series, my goal is to zoom out—

To give you a **big-picture view of God's glorious plan of redemption**.

Matthew - John: The promised Messiah fulfilled.

Let's start with the Gospels.

The New Testament opens with the book of **Matthew**.

And right away—you get a genealogy.

"Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham."

Now let's be real.

Most people hit that list of names and think,

"Why are we starting the New Testament like this?"

But this isn't random filler.

It's **foundational**.

Matthew is showing us—

Jesus is the promised seed.

He's the rightful King.

He's the fulfillment of the promises God made to David and to Abraham.

That list proves His **legal right** to the throne.

And don't miss this—Jesus didn't just float out of heaven.

He was born into a real family, at a real time, in a real place.

He's not a made-up figure.

He's the Messiah. Fully God. Fully man.

In all there are four Gospel and each writer has a purpose:

- **Matthew** writes to the Jews—*"Jesus is your Messiah."*
- **Mark** writes to the Romans—fast-paced, action-heavy.
- **Luke** writes to the Greeks—orderly, detailed, historical.
- **John** writes to the world—*"Jesus is the Son of God. Believe and live."*

Every miracle...

Every parable...

Every confrontation with religious leaders...

It all points to one thing:

Jesus is who He says He is—

Messiah. Son of God. God in the flesh.

You've probably heard this before—and it's true:

"The Old Testament is the New Testament concealed.

The New Testament is the Old Testament revealed."

The Bible isn't just a collection of spiritual writings.
It's **one book with one story**: the redemption of mankind through Jesus Christ.

Let me show you how remarkable this is:

- 66 books
- 40+ authors
- Written over 1,500 years
- In three different languages
- Across three continents
- Written by Kings, prophets, fishermen, shepherds, a doctor, a tax collector...

And yet—it all fits.
No contradictions. No plot holes.
Just one unfolding story from beginning to end.

This isn't just an old book.
It's the **Living Word of God**.
And my prayer today is this:

That you would fall more in love with the Word...
That you'd see Jesus more clearly...
And that your heart would be stirred to follow Him more fully.

To help you grow deeper in your understanding, we're launching a
Old Testament Survey class this fall—Sundays at 8:30 AM.

It'll be a seminary-style class, walking through the entire Bible—
Starting with the Old Testament—
So you can see how every part fits into the story of redemption.

What I'd like to do next is discuss with you five ways that Jesus fulfills the OT, and then we'll talk about what all this means for us.
Beginning with...

1. Jesus is the seed of Abraham ([Galatians 3:16](#))

Paul says in ([Galatians 3:16](#))... “the promises were spoken to Abraham and to his seed. He does not say “and to seeds.” as though referring to many, but referring to one, and to your seed, who is Christ.”

So what's Paul saying?
The seed is **singular**—one person.
And that person is **Jesus**.

He's the fulfillment of the promise first made way back in [Genesis 3:15](#)—That a Deliverer would come and **crush the serpent's head**.

And He did.

Listen to [Colossians 2:15](#):

“He disarmed the rulers and authorities and disgraced them publicly; He triumphed over them in Him.”

Jesus defeated Satan.
He defeated the evil powers of this world.
He crushed sin and death under His feet.

Jesus is the victor.
And if you are in Him, **you walk in victory too.**

But hear me—**don't get comfortable.**

Even a headless snake can still do you harm.

Satan is defeated—but he's still dangerous.

His time is short—so he lashes out in desperation.

Stay alert.

And whatever you do—**don't go poking the serpent.**

no.2

2. Jesus is the King of Israel. ([Luke 1:32](#))

During Christmas, we can move through the story so quickly that we miss on the magnitude of the moment.

[Luke 1:32](#) says... "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David"

That's not just a beautiful phrase.

That's a **prophecy fulfilled.**

Gabriel is connecting this back to [2 Samuel 7](#)—Where God promised David that one of his descendants would sit on his throne **forever.**

So Gabriel is saying:

"Mary, **your Son is that King.**

The One Israel has been waiting for.

The rightful heir to David's throne.

The King whose rule will never end."

That's who Jesus is—**Israel's King.**

But not just theirs... **ours too.**

He's the King who leads us into eternal life.

He's the King who conquers death.

Jesus is the King.

And He reigns forever.

Jesus is the victorious king and he's also our savior, that's the 3rd way Jesus fulfills the OT.

3. Jesus is the savior. ([1 Corinthians 5:7-13](#))

Paul says in [1 Corinthians 5](#): "Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us."

That takes us back to Exodus.

That takes us all the way back to **Exodus.**

God told His people:

"Kill a lamb. Put its blood on your doorposts. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you."

That blood marked them.

It said: *"This house is covered. This family will not be judged."*

Now picture this—

A little boy, standing next to his father, watching the blood being spread on the door.

And he says, "Dad... what good is blood on a door?"

And the father answers:

"Son, I don't understand it all. But I trust what God said.

When He sees the blood—He will pass over us."

Listen to me—

It didn't matter if that child had been rebellious that day.

It wasn't about how *good* he was.

What mattered was the blood.

And the same is true for us.

Some of you—if we sat down in private—you'd say:

"Pastor, if you only knew what I've done..."

And I'd say:

"I don't need to know. God already does. And He still made a way for you."

There's no sin, no shame, no addiction, no failure—

That the blood of Jesus can't cover.

God says:

"When I see the blood of My Son... I will pass over you."

Jesus is the victorious King who came to save all who would believe in Him.

No. 4

4. Jesus is the true Temple. ([John 1:14](#))

One day, Jesus was standing near the great Temple in Jerusalem—

The one Herod spent decades expanding.

And He said something that shocked everyone:

"Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ([John 2:19-21](#))

The religious leaders were stunned.

"They replied it has taken 46 years it took to build this thing—and you'll raise it in three days?!"

But John tells us—

Jesus wasn't talking about a building.

He was talking about His body.

Jesus was declaring something deeper:

He is the true Temple.

[John 1:14](#) says:

"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us."

That word *dwelt* means *tabernacled*.

In other words, Jesus became the **meeting place between God and man. Whatever do don't miss that - Jesus is our meeting place with God.**

That's what the Old Testament temple was all about—

A holy God saying to sinful people:

"I want to dwell with you—but sin must be dealt with first."

That's why there were sacrifices.

That's why there was a high priest standing in the gap.

But Jesus came—and changed everything.

He didn't just come as our High Priest—

He came as the sacrifice.

In the Old Testament, the priest would offer a lamb.

In the New Testament, **Jesus is the Lamb.**

He offered **Himself.**

That's why—here at Bridge Fellowship—

We don't talk much about "*coming to the altar.*"

Because the altar was a place of sacrifice.

A place where blood was shed to deal with sin.

But we don't need that anymore.

Jesus already made the final sacrifice.

The cross was His altar.

[Hebrews 10:14](#) says:

"By one offering, He has perfected forever those who are being sanctified."

Jesus is the true temple, our meeting place between us and God.

That's number 4... the 5th way Jesus fulfills the OT is by fulfilling the law.

5. Jesus fulfills the law. ([Romans 10:4](#))

Paul says, "4 **For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes...**"

This is no small thing.

Paul is saying that Jesus brought the entire Old Testament system—moral, ceremonial, and civil laws—to its fulfillment.

Every law.

Every sacrifice.

Every ritual.

All of it was pointing to Jesus.

And when He came, He did what none of us ever could—He completed it.

The Israelites tried. Over and over they said, "**All that the Lord has spoken, we will do.**"

But almost immediately—they failed.

They broke the covenant.

They rebelled.

They turned away.

The truth is—they were incapable of keeping the Law.

And neither can we.

Because the Law was never meant to save us.

It was meant to show us just how much we need a Savior.

Paul says the law is like a schoolmaster—a teacher.

It exposes our sin.

It shows us our failure.

And it drives us straight to Christ.

So Jesus didn't come to *scrap* the Law.

He came to *fulfill* it.

He kept it perfectly.

Then at the cross, He took the curse that the Law demands.

The Bible says, "**Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree.**"

Jesus hung there—for us.
So the curse would fall on Him, not on us.

And now?
You are no longer under the Law.
You're under Christ.

Not lawless—but under a *new* law.
The law of Christ.
The law of love.

Let me paint a mental picture for us.

Living under the Law is like being on probation.
You're constantly checking boxes.
Walking on eggshells.
Afraid one mistake might send you back to condemnation.

But being under Christ?
It's like being adopted.

Your record is cleared—not because you earned it,
But because Jesus paid it.

Now you don't live to earn love.
You live because you already have it.

You're not under rules.
You're under a relationship.
And now, you delight in serving Jesus—not out of fear,
But out of love.

So the invitation isn't "*try harder*." It's "*trust Jesus more and more*."

That's who Jesus is—He's the promised seed of Abraham, the true King of Israel, our Savior, the living Temple, and the one who brought the Law to completion.

So how do the Gospels end?

They don't end with a wrap-up.
They don't end with a "happily ever after."
They end with a *mission*.

Jesus tells His disciples,
"**Go into all the world and preach the Gospel.**"

That's not just a word for *them*.
That's a word for *us too*.

That's why our mission here at Bridge Fellowship
is to bridge people back to God—
through the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

That's why we're part of the GCC—
a network committed to planting Gospel-preaching churches.

That's why we send support to missionaries both domestic and international.

That's why we engage our community through outreach.

That's why we pray.
That's why we give.
That's why we evangelize.

Because the mission didn't end in John's Gospel.

The mission *continues*.

And we get to be a part of it.

Amen....

The next section we come to is...

Acts: When the Gospel went global

Now, when we open up to the **book of Acts**, we see something powerful.

The mission takes off.

The Gospel begins spreading like wildfire—

First in **Jerusalem**, then out to **Judea and Samaria**,

And eventually to the **ends of the Roman Empire**.

Acts isn't just a history book.

It's a record of how the **Gospel advanced**.

You'll notice on your timeline charts—

About **80% of all New Testament events** happen during the book of Acts.

Either they take place *in* Acts or they're written *about* during that time.

So what caused this Gospel explosion?

It all goes back to [Acts 7](#)—the **martyrdom of Stephen**.

That one moment—one man's death—

Becomes the spark that sends believers out of Jerusalem.

And as they scatter, they don't go silent.

They **evangelize**. They **make disciples**.

The church multiplies.

And from that point forward, Acts starts zooming in—

On one man named **Saul**...

Who becomes **Paul**.

Now—we don't have time to dig into all the details of his story today.

But I'll say this:

Paul is not the guy any of us would have picked.

In fact, if he showed up at our church before his conversion, we would have barred him from entering - after all he was known for hunting Christians.

But Jesus had other plans.

Paul literally gets **blinded by the Gospel**,

He surrenders to Jesus,

And becomes one of the most impactful voices in church history.

God uses Paul to:

- Preach the Gospel to the Gentiles
- Plant churches
- Train up pastors
- And write **13 books** in the New Testament
- Including deeply personal letters like **Timothy**, **Titus**, and **Philemon**.

Now, there is some debate regarding who wrote **Hebrews**.

We don't know for sure—but we do know this:

It belongs in the Bible.

Hebrews takes all the pieces from **Leviticus**—

The priests, the sacrifices, the tabernacle—

And shows how **all of it points to Jesus**.

And we don't stop with Paul.

We've got other key voices—

James, the brother of Jesus...

Peter, the bold apostle...

Jude...

And **John**, who gives us three short letters

And one powerful final book name **Revelation**.

Which if we're being honest, it be difficult to understand?

Are some parts mysterious? Yes!

But hear me when I say this...

There's a blessing in it.

The book itself says, "**Blessed are those who read, hear, and keep what is written in it.**"

And because of how deep and rich Revelation is—

We're going to spend an entire message just walking through it.

So as promised—

That was your **30,000-foot overview of the New Testament**.

I did my best to keep it moving and clear.

Hopefully, you were able to follow along—maybe even see it all come together.

Application:

Now, here's how I want to spend the rest of our time together.

I want to give you 6 instructions to live by—straight from God's Word.

We're going to move through them quickly, so if you miss something,
you can always grab a copy of the manuscript or rewatch this part online later.

Let's dive in.

1. Don't scroll through the Bible for the parts you want—let it shape you book-by-book chapter-by-chapter.

Let it shape you—book by book, chapter by chapter.

We live in a culture that cherry-picks truth.

Grabbing verses that feel good...

Skiping the ones that confront us.

But hear me—

God didn't give us a highlight reel.

He gave us a whole Book.

And **every part of it matters**.

The Bible isn't a buffet.

You don't get to walk through and say, *"I'll take some peace, a little strength... but no conviction today."*

It's not a buffet.

It's a full meal.

You don't decide which parts are relevant.

God already did.

But too many believers treat Scripture like social media—Scrolling... skimming... stopping only when something feels inspiring.

But the Bible wasn't written to entertain you.

It was written to transform you. ([Rom 12](#))

So here's the call:

👉 Slow down.

👉 Read it book by book.

👉 Let the hard parts teach you.

👉 Let the confusing parts humble you.

👉 Let the whole story shape you into someone who looks more like Jesus.

2. Surrender the version of Jesus you've built—and bow to the One who actually reigns.

We love the parts of Jesus that affirm us...

That comforts us...

That heals our wounds...

That placates us....

But do we bow to the **Jesus who commands us?**

The Gospels weren't written to give us warm feelings.

They were written to convince us that **Jesus is King**.

You don't get to customize the Christ of Scripture.

You don't get to build your own version of Jesus—

One who always agrees with you.

One who never corrects you.

One who conforms to your lifestyle instead of calling you to surrender it.

👉 Worship the Jesus who **rules the nations**—

Not the one who just makes you feel good about yourself.

3. Refuse to play games with a defeated enemy—he still bites.

Satan's already crushed.

But he's still **cunning**.

He doesn't have to destroy you outright—

He just has to **distract** you,

Make you question God.

He is **defeated**—

But not harmless.

His time is short,

And he strikes hardest when he's desperate.

Let me tell you something...

That sin you're downplaying.

That bitterness you're holding onto.

That secret you've convinced yourself *"isn't that big of a deal"*.

That's **satan attacking you**.

Now here's something you might not know:
The maximum distance a snake can strike is **half its body length**.
That means—you **have to get close** to be bitten.

And that's what some of us are doing.

We're letting Satan get too close.
We're living within range of his lies, his deceit, and his temptations.

👉 Don't mess around with what **Jesus died to free you from**.

When you see the serpent.
When you hear his lies.
When you feel tempted.

Run... Get out out there... Call out Jesus for help.
Let him deal with satan... Less you get bit.

4. Come out from behind shame-and step into the covering of Christ.

Some of you are worn out...
Not because you're not forgiven—
But because you're still **pretending you're okay**.

You've confessed your sin to God...
But you're walking around like you're on **spiritual probation**.
Like you've been let back in the house, but you have to walk around on eggshells.

Let me tell you something:

Jesus doesn't cover you halfway.
He didn't die so you could live in guilt management mode.
He died to make you **fully clean**.

👉 So step out of the shadows.
👉 Let the blood of Christ cover you **completely**.

You've been **forgiven**.
You've been **redeemed**.
You've been made **right with God**.

So walk in that truth.

Lift your head high—
You belong to God.
And your name is **Child of the Most High**,
Not whatever sin you committed most recently.

Number 5...

5. Live like you're already loved - don't act like you have to earn what's already been gifted to you.

Stop acting like you have to earn what God has already given.

Religion says: *"Get your act together."*
The Gospel says: *"Jesus has already done the necessary work for you."*

You're not performing to earn God's approval—
You're living from the security of His adoption.

You don't serve to stay in.
You serve because **He brought you in.**

- 👉 So let go of the guilt.
- 👉 Let go of the shame.
- 👉 And walk in the freedom of being **fully known and fully loved.**

You're not fighting to be accepted—you already are.

You belong to Him.
So live like it.

Lastly...

6. Get in the game. Stop watching the mission and start living it.

Jesus never said, *"Go to church and be good."*
He said, **"Go make disciples."**

But let's be real—
Too many Christians are in the stands watching
While a handful are actually playing the game.

The Great Commission wasn't handed to professional Christians, if there is such a thing.
It was handed to the **willing.**

You don't need a title.
You don't need a microphone.
You don't need a platform.
You just need **eyes to see** and a **heart that cares**. Like Jesus did in ([Matt 9:36-37](#)) when he was moved by the peoples spiritual plight.

👉 Someone in your life is one conversation away
from surrendering their life to Jesus.

Go to them and tell all about the Jesus who saved you and what He promises to do for them. Invite them to believe.

Conclusion

So there you have it—
Six instructions to live by.
Not just for today...
But for the days ahead.

And I don't want you to just **hear** them.
I want you to **live** them.

Communion

Speaking of living it out—
One of the ways we do that is by **remembering and giving thanks** for the new life we have in Jesus.
And we do that through **Communion.**

Let me take a moment to explain who this is for and why we do it.

Communion is for **believers—**
For those who have placed all their hope in Jesus Christ—
In His death, His resurrection, and His promise to return.

If you've **not yet trusted in Jesus** as your Lord and Savior,
We kindly ask that you **refrain** from taking Communion today—

Not out of shame or exclusion,
But because this moment is a declaration of faith in Christ alone.

And for those of you who are believers—
The Bible calls us to **examine our hearts**
So that we can partake in a **worthy manner**.

If you need to pause...
Confess sin...
Get your heart right with God...

Take the time.

Better to wait and honor Christ
Than to rush and dishonor what this meal means.

As the bread and cup are passed,
Please hold onto them—
So we can partake **together** as one body.

PRAYER BEFORE COMMUNION

Let's pray.

Heavenly Father,

We bow our heads before You now,
Because Jesus bowed His head at the cross and gave up His Spirit for us.

We bow in **submission**,
In **awe**,
In **adoration**,
For what Jesus did on our behalf.

Fill us afresh with Your Holy Spirit—
So that even in this moment of remembering,
Our worship brings You glory.

In Jesus' name we pray—**Amen.**

Taking communion...

Closing prayer

May the **grace of the Lord Jesus Christ**,
And the **love of God**,
And the **fellowship of the Holy Spirit**
Be with us all—now and always.

Amen.

Closing

Q/Prayer, CC, Church in park, Moms day (gift), LGLHP