

Lesson #5- Matthew Chapter 4 Questions for Discussion:

Moving from his introduction of Jesus as the promised Messiah in the first three chapters, Matthew now enters the core section of this gospel, and we see Jesus beginning to declare that the kingdom of heaven is at hand and to call out a new people, his disciples, that will believe and obey His commandments.

1. Verses 1 through 11 gives the account of Jesus in the wilderness, where He fasts forty days, and is then tempted of Satan. Based on these 11 verses, here are a few questions.
 - a. Why did Jesus go out into the wilderness and what do you think is important about that?
 - b. Do you think Satan timed his attack, or was it just random?
 - c. What was one shocking thing that Satan used as the basis of his attack and what frightening truth should this alert us to?
 - d. What was the weapon of Jesus' defense and what should we learn from that?

2. As Jesus began to preach in Galilee, His message was about “repent” and “gospel” and “kingdom” (verses 17 and 23).
 - a. What did Jesus mean that “the kingdom of heaven is at hand”?
 - b. Why is Jesus’ preaching described as “the gospel of the kingdom”?

3. In verse 21 Jesus begins calling men to follow Him. Discuss how Jesus went about doing this and the response from those He called. What are some things we can learn from this text?