

MATTHEW



STUDY GUIDE

Introduction:

One of the ideas we have been focusing on for a number of months in our preaching is the interconnectedness between the Old Testament and the New Testament.

- What are some of the ways you have seen the importance of understanding this interconnectedness?
- Or are there any ways you think you would like to understand it more clearly and fully?

Study: Matthew 3:1-16

We are kicking off a new sermon series, preaching through the whole gospel of Matthew. Let's start with a little simple background.

- What do you know about the gospel of Matthew? Encourage everyone to share something, no need for this to be complex or profound, just share some basic things you know.
- What is the meaning of the word, "Gospel"? And why are Matthew, Mark, Luke and John called "Gospels"? (We didn't talk about this specifically during the sermon, so this is, again, just background to see what people already know about).

During the sermon, the interconnectedness between the OT and the NT was explored specifically in the opening chapters of Matthew's gospel.

- What stood out to you about John the Baptists quotation from Isaiah Chapter 40?
- What thoughts or ideas came to mind when you saw that God speaking to Jesus at the end of the chapter three was the first instance of the direct voice of God in Matthew's gospel?

YOUR MOVE

At the end of the sermon, three challenges were given:

1. Confess, Repent, and Be Baptized.
 2. Commit to go where God leads.
 3. Pay attention to Jesus.
- Which of these do you believe God wants you to take action on this week?
 - How can you community pray for you as you seek to pay attention to Jesus and share the load with him in every part of your life?