

Encountering Christ in the Gospel of Matthew

Feb. 18-24 - Week 8, Matthew 22-28

- (Matthew 22:1-14) Who are those today who are refusing the invitation to the wedding banquet?

What are today's excuses for not attending?

Who are those today who are accepting the invitation?

Who are you in this parable? Who is Slackwood?

- Matthew's Gospel portrays Jesus as extremely harsh and confrontational with the Pharisees. What is it about them that upsets Jesus so much?

Despite the harsh words, do you think Jesus loves the Pharisees? Why or why not?

- Which is your favorite parable of these chapters (22-28)?

Which parable is the most confusing?

- (Matthew 25:31-46) Do you have a problem that God is the judge over all humankind?

From God's perspective, what determines the sheep from the goats?

- (Matthew 26:1-35) When have you felt betrayed? How did you deal with it?

- (Matthew 26:36-46) What are the various emotions Jesus must have felt in Gethsemane?

What model for our prayers does Jesus give us in these verses?

- (Matthew 26:31-27:10) Both Peter and Judas make multiple major mistakes. Why do you think their ultimate outcomes were so drastically different?
- In reading the entire account of Jesus' arrest, trial, and crucifixion, what stood out to you? What questions do you have?
- How has the Gospel of Matthew impacted your views of Jesus? Has it impacted your life in any way?