

Matthew
Gail Arterburn –2026

Monday, 9:30 – 11:00 am
To be discussed –05/18/26

Matthew - Lesson 19
Matthew 13:53-14:33

1. Read Matthew 13:53-58. What was the initial reaction to Jesus' teaching in Nazareth? (vv. 53-54) Rather than believing in him, why did they take offense at him? What limited his ministry in Nazareth? (v. 58)

2. Why is the hardest place to witness often our family and friends? Is it possible for someone to hinder God's work in his/her life or miss out on a miracle because of one's lack of faith? Any examples?

3. Read Matthew 14:1-12. *Who* did Herod believe Jesus to be? (vv. 1-2) Why had Herod imprisoned John? Why had he been reluctant to kill him?

4. Why did he have John beheaded? How would you sum up Herod's character? Why did he believe Jesus was "John the Baptist risen from the dead"?

5. Read Matthew 14:13-21. How did Jesus respond to the unexpected crowds? Do you see needy people as interruptions, opportunities and/or responsibilities?

6. As it grew later in the day, what problem presented itself? What was the solution proposed by the disciples?

7. Why did Jesus tell them to feed the crowd when he knew it was impossible for them to do so? (see also John 6:5-9) What did they (we) need to learn from all that happened that day?

8. Read Matthew 14:22-33, John 6:14-15. Why did Jesus *immediately* send his disciples to the other side of the lake and not go with them? When he walked out to them on the lake, what was their response? How did he reassure them?

9. How did Peter respond to what Jesus said? What happened? Why? What was the ultimate climax of the story? (vv. 32-33)