

## **100 Questions on The Gospel According to Matthew (Mt)**

- The level is meant for secondary school students; selected questions could be used for lower ages.
- The answers are accompanied by citation of verses wherever applicable. In quiz competitions, to make the exercise more challenging it would be interesting to require citations.
- The quotations are from RSV.

1. **How are the readings during Sunday liturgy arranged in the Catholic Church?** The readings are arranged in three-year cycle: Year A – The Gospel of Matthew, Year B - Gospel of Mark, Year C - Gospel of Luke.
2. **How do you determine on a given year which cycle of readings to use on a Sunday?** Divide the year by 3 and pay attention to the remainder (ex. 2014/3, the remainder will be 1). If the remainder is 1, we follow the readings of Year A; if the remainder is 2, we follow the readings of Year B; and if the remainder is 0, we follow the readings of Year C.
3. **Mention the four gospels found in the New Testament:** Gospel of Matthew, Gospel of Mark, Gospel of Luke, and Gospel of John.
4. **Which are gospels that are referred to as ‘Synoptic Gospels’?** Gospel of Matthew, Gospel of Mark, and Gospel of Luke.
5. **Which are the gospels that have the Infancy Narrative (stories about the birth and childhood) of Jesus?** Gospel of Matthew and Gospel of Luke.
6. **In what language was the Gospel of Matthew originally written?** Aramaic or Hebrew (according to St Jerome).
7. **Who are the probable audience of the Gospel of Matthew?** Judeo-Christians.
8. **List at least three evidences to suggest that Mt was written for the Jewish Christian community?** Mt uses quotations from the Hebrew Scriptures; Mt presents Jesus as the new Moses (Mt 5:1); Mt attempts to balance between the importance of the Law while also including the new interpretation of Jesus (Mt 5:17).
9. **What does Mt 5:1-2 state?** “Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them.”
10. **Totally how many chapters and verses are there in the Gospel of Matthew?** Chapters: 28, Verses: 1068.
11. **Matthew collects the teachings of Jesus and arranges them in five sections. Mention them.** 1. Sermon on the Mount (Mt chapters 5 to 7); 2. Instruction to the 12 Apostles (Mt 10); 3. Parables of the Kingdom (Mt 13:1-53); 4. Teachings on the Church (Mt 18); and, 5. Teachings on the End-times on Mt Olivet (Mt 24).
12. **Mention at least three major differences between the genealogy of Jesus according to Matthew (Mt 1:1-17) and Luke (3:23-38)?** Mt traces the ancestry of Jesus to Abraham while Lk traces the ancestry to Adam; Mt begins with Abraham and comes down to Jesus, whereas Lk begins with Jesus and goes back to Adam; the names of ancestors between David and Jesus are totally different in the two lists, except for Shealtiel and Zerubbabel.

13. **In Mt's genealogy of Jesus - who is called the Christ – four women are mentioned. Is there a special reason for it?** The four women (Tamar, Rahab, Ruth and Uriah) had their child through an irregular relationship, or were non-Jews. It shows that in the plan of salvation even non-Jews were included, and that God could work his plan despite human errors.
14. **Who is the fifth woman mentioned in the genealogy?** Mary (Mt 1:16).
15. **Of whom was Jesus born?** Mary (Mt 1:16).
16. **What is the meaning of Emmanuel?** God with us (Mt 1:23).
17. **What is the meaning of 'Jesus'?** One who saves (Mt 1:21).
18. **What is the meaning of 'Christ'?** It is Greek for Messiah, which in Hebrew means 'the anointed one'.
19. **From where did the wise men come from to see the newborn King in Bethlehem?** From the East (Mt 2:1).
20. **How many wise men were there who came from the East?** The number is not mentioned (Mt 2:1).
21. **What did the wise men offer to Jesus?** Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh (Mt 2:11).
22. **Where did Joseph take Jesus and Mary after the visit of the wise men?** To Egypt.
23. **How long did they live in Egypt?** Till the death of Herod.
24. **After the death of Herod, where did the parents of Jesus go to live with him?** Nazareth (Mt 2:23).
25. **How did Jesus get the name Nazarene?** Since he lived in Nazareth (Mt 2:23).
26. **Who ruled Judea after Herod?** Archelaus (Mt 2:22).
27. **What was the food of John the Baptist?** Locusts and wild honey (Mt 3:4).
28. **What was the message of John the Baptist?** "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Mt 3:2).
29. **What were the three signs that accompanied the Baptism of Jesus?** The heavens were opened; he saw the Spirit of God descending; and a voice was heard (Mt 3:16-17).
30. **When Jesus was baptized, how did the Holy Spirit come upon him?** In the form of Dove (Mt 3:16).
31. **Contrast the voice heard during the Baptism of Jesus according to Mt and Mk?** In Mt, the voice was addressed to the people (Mt 3:17); and in Mk, it is addressed to Jesus himself (Mk1:11). Lk too follows the style of Mk (Lk 3:22).
32. **How long did Jesus fast before being tempted by the Devil?** 40 days and nights (Mt 4:2).
33. **Where did Jesus go to live after John the Baptist was arrested?** Capernaum (Mt 4:13).
34. **What was the first message proclaimed by Jesus according to Mt?** "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Mt 4:17).
35. **According to Mt, who are the first two disciples whom Jesus called?** Peter and Andrew (Mt 4:18).
36. **Who was the brother of Simon Peter?** Andrew.
37. **Who were the sons of Zebedee?** James and John.

38. **What is the first part of the Sermon on the Mount referred to as (Mt 5:1-12)?** The "Beatitudes"
39. **How many Beatitudes are there in Mt?** Nine (Mt 5:3-10).
40. **What kind of perfection does Jesus demand in his Sermon on the Mount?** Be you perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect (Mt 5:48).
41. **In which gospels do you find the prayer 'the Our Father'?** Mt 6:9-15 and Lk 11:2-4.
42. **Compare the two occasions of calming the sea.** In Mt 8:23-27, Jesus is in the boat with the disciples; in Mt 14:22-33, Jesus comes walking on the water towards the boat.
43. **Mention two cures explicitly administered to non-Jews by Jesus?** To the centurion's servant (Mt 8:5-13) and to the daughter of the Canaanite woman (Mt 15:21-28).
44. **Name the twelve apostles, as listed in Mt.** "The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him" (Mt 10:2-4).
45. **Who was in the belly of a fish for three days and three nights?** Jonah the prophet (Mt 12:40).
46. **What is Jesus comparing the stay of Jonah's three days in the belly of the fish to?** To his own being buried in the heart of the earth – before his resurrection (Mt 12:40).
47. **Who is 'the prince of demons'?** Beelzebul (Mt 12:24).
48. **Where do you find most of the parables of Jesus?** 13<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew.
49. **How many parables did Jesus say, in all?** About 70.
50. **What was the name of the wife of Philip, whom Herod had married?** Herodias (Mt 14:3).
51. **If the loaves and the fish that the disciples had with them, prior to the multiplication of loaves, were put together what do they total up to?** Five loaves + two fish = Seven (Mt 14:17).
52. **How many baskets of bread were gathered after the miracle of feeding 5000 with five loaves?** 12 baskets (Mt 14:20).
53. **What could the numbers mentioned in the miracle of the loaves signify?** Seven – perfection in creation; 12 – twelve tribes of Israel; 5 – number of books in the Torah; 5000 – countless number of Jews.
54. **Mention the two occasions in Mt where Jesus fed the multitude.** In Mt 14:13-21 and Mt 15:32-38.
55. **Compare and contrast the two occasions when Jesus multiplies bread.** In the first, Jesus feeds 5000 men from five loaves and two fish, in the second he feeds 4000 men from seven loaves; after the first feeding 12 baskets are filled of the leftover, and in the second feeding seven baskets are filled.
56. **Name the place where (in Mt and Mk) Jesus asked his disciples, 'Who do you say I am'?** Caesarea Philippi (Mt 16:13).
57. **What was special about Caesarea Philippi where Jesus asked his disciples, 'Who do you say I am'?** It was in a mountainous area and outside the Jewish territory.

58. **When Jesus was transfigured, which apostles were with Jesus?** Peter, James and John (Mt 17:1).
59. **Who were the two figures of the Old Testament speaking to Jesus during transfiguration?** Moses and Elijah (Mt 17:3).
60. **Why did Peter want to build three tents?** He wanted all of them to be there forever.
61. **What was the name of the coin used by the Jews (for the temple tax) during the time of Jesus?** Shekel (Mt 17:24).
62. **What was a denarius?** It was a Roman currency equivalent of a day's wage (Mt 20:2).
63. **What was the answer of Jesus when Peter asked about forgiving others?** You must forgive not seven times but seventy times seven (Mt 18:22).
64. **According to Jesus, why did Moses allow divorce?** Because of the hard-heartedness of the Jews (Mt 19:8).
65. **In Mt, who requested Jesus that her two sons should sit on his either side?** The mother of Zebedee's son (Mt 20:20).
66. **Contrast the scene of request for the two sons to be seated on Jesus' either side as narrated by Mt and Mk?** In Mt, it is the mother of the sons of Zebedee who makes the request, whereas in Mk (10:35-45) the request is made by the sons themselves.
67. **Who is the Old Testament prophet who had prophesied about the entry of the messiah on the back of a colt?** Prophet Zachariah (Zec 9:9).
68. **After the incident of driving out merchants from the temple, where did Jesus spend the night?** In Bethany (Mt 21:17).
69. **What was the official title for the emperor of Rome?** Caesar (Mt 22:21).
70. **Which was the group of Jewish religious leaders who did not believe in the resurrection of the dead?** Sadducees (Mt 22:23).
71. **How many 'woes' does Jesus express towards the scribes and Pharisees?** Seven (Mt 23:13-36).
72. **What was the concluding warning of Jesus after the parable of the ten virgins?** "Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour" (Mt 25:13).
73. **In the parable of talents, what did the man who received the five talents do?** He had gained another five more (Mt. 25:20).
74. **How many talents did the man who had been initially given five talents possess at the end of the parable?** Eleven. He had made five more, and the one talent taken away from the lazy servant was also given to him (Mt 25:28).
75. **What was a talent?** It was a currency coming down from the time of Alexander the Great, equivalent of 3000 shekels (Mt 25:18).
76. **Mention at least four parables that are found only in Mt?** The parable of the unmerciful servant (Mt 18:23-35); the parable of the laborers in the vineyard (Mt 20:1-16); the parable of the two sons (Mt 21:28-31); the parable of the ten virgins (Mt 25:1-12).
77. **Where did Jesus go after the Last Supper?** To the Mount of Olives (Mt 26:30).
78. **Who were the three disciples that Jesus took with him to the place called Gethsemane?** Peter and the two sons of Zebedee – John and James (Mt 26:37).
79. **How did Judas betray Jesus?** With a Kiss (Mt 26:49).

80. **According to Mt, at Gethsemane, who was the disciple who drew the sword and cut off the ear of one of the slaves of the High Priest?** One of the disciples – not named (Mt 26:51). Only John names him as Peter (Jn 18:10).
81. **Who accused Peter that he was a follower of Jesus?** A servant of the High Priest.
82. **Who was the high priest at the time of the trial of Jesus?** Caiaphas (Mt 26:57).
83. **Who was Pilate?** Roman Governor of Judea at the time of Jesus (Mt 27:2).
84. **What did Judas say to the chief priests when he returned the money?** "I have sinned in betraying innocent blood" (Mt 27:4).
85. **What is the name of the plot that was bought with the 30 pieces of silver that Judas had returned to the chief priests and elders?** Field of blood (Mt 27:8).
86. **On the way to Golgotha, who was forced to help Jesus carry his cross?** Simon of Cyrene (Mt 27:32).
87. **What country is Cyrene in today's geography?** Libya.
88. **According to Mt, Jesus was crucified in Golgotha. What does this place name mean?** Place of a skull (Mt 27:33).
89. **When Christ was crucified there was darkness all over the world from the sixth to the ninth hour. What time was it in terms of Western timings?** From 12 noon to 3 in the afternoon (Mt 27:45).
90. **What is the meaning of Eli, Eli, lama sabachtahani?** My God, My God why have you forsaken me (Mt 27:46).
91. **What was Jesus doing when he said on the cross, "My God, My God why have you forsaken me"?** He was praying Psalm 22.
92. **What was the charge written over the crucified Jesus?** "This is Jesus the King of the Jews" (Mt 27:37)
93. **What do the letters I.N.R.I. seen on crosses stand for?** *Jesus Nazarenus Rex Iudeorum*.
94. **According to Mt at what time Jesus "yielded up his spirit"?** At the ninth hour, that is, about 3 O' Clock (Mt 27: 46-50).
95. **What did the Centurion say when Jesus died?** "Truly this was the Son of God!" (Mt 27:54).
96. **Who gave the tomb for the burial of Jesus?** Joseph of Arimathea (Mt 27:57).
97. **After the burial of Jesus all the people went away except two women. Who were they?** Mary of Magdala and the other Mary (Mt 27:61), the mother of James and Joseph (Mt 27:56). These were also the first witnesses of the signs of the Resurrection (Mt 28:1).
98. **Mention the occasions when 'the mother of the sons of Zebedee' appears in Mt?** When requesting Jesus to offer the place on right and left to her sons (Mt 20:20), and the foot of the cross (Mt 27:56).
99. **What did Jesus tell the apostles on the mountain at Galilee as a parting message?** "Go therefore, teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Mt 28:19).
100. **What is the final sentence of the Gospel of Matthew?** "And lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age" (Mt 28:20).

