



## HIGH SCHOOL UNDERCLASSEMEN SUMMER READING—BIBLE

All CCHS students are required to complete both Bible (below) and literature (next page) summer reading assignments.

### **Bible Selection for 2023: Gospel of Matthew**

Rising Freshmen and Sophomores: Please read the Gospel of Matthew and respond to the questions below in a Word document, using 12 font, double-spacing, standard margins, and complete sentences. Bring your completed work to Bible class during the first week of school.

Step 1: Using [www.biblegateway.com](http://www.biblegateway.com), [www.blueletterbible.com](http://www.blueletterbible.com), or another online Bible source, find and read a brief commentary on the Gospel According to Matthew (People's New Testament is an appropriate commentary.)

Step 2: Read Matthew 1-4:16 and answer the following questions.

1. Some scholars believe that this first part of Matthew is a proclamation of the "Person" of Jesus. How would these verses speak of Jesus' relation to earth, Heaven, and Hell?
2. According to the theme of Matthew, why would he start his gospel with this section?

Step 3: Read Matthew 4:17-16:20 and answer the following questions.

1. What proofs does Matthew offer that Jesus is the Messiah (or Christ)?
2. How does Matthew 4:17 serve as the theme verse for this section of the gospel?
3. How would our world react today if Jesus got on a news station on television and stated Matthew 5:1-12?
4. What is the main point of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7)?
5. Give one example in these chapters (4-16) where Jesus would have provided a different answer if He was trying to attract as many followers as He could?
6. Why do you think that Jesus was not more persuasive when answering questions that people asked Him?

Step 4: Read Matthew 16:21-28:20. Answer the following questions.

1. What is the connection between Matthew 16:20 and 16:21?
2. What is the fulfillment of Matthew 16:28?
3. List three places where we see the disciples misunderstanding Jesus and His teachings. What insights can you see from these places that happens to believers today?
4. How would athletes and politicians today respond to Jesus' teaching about what it means to be great?
5. What insights can we learn from Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane?
6. What do you think is different about the remorse of Peter who denied Jesus and that of Judas who betrayed Him?
7. Less than two months after Jesus' resurrection, the Jewish priests and leaders wanted to get rid of Christianity. What would be the easiest way for them to have proven Jesus to be a false Messiah? Why didn't they do it?
8. In Matthew 28:17, why would some people doubt Jesus? How does that shed light on people's response to the gospel today?
9. Who is responsible for taking the message of the Gospel to all nations?
10. How does Matthew 28:16-20 establish a mandate or mission for churches to follow?





## HIGH SCHOOL UNDERCLASSMEN SUMMER READING—LITERATURE

Rising Freshmen and Sophomores: Over the summer, choose and read one book from the list below that you have not previously read. During the first week of school in English class, you will be asked to write reflectively about your summer reading, providing support from the text, so have it available and/or take notes. In addition to noting basic facts about author, historical context, setting, plot, characters, and overall message or theme, be prepared to answer the following questions:

- What would you say is the fundamental worldview of the author?
- How does the worldview of the book compare or contrast with biblical Christianity?
- Is this book ultimately redemptive? A redemptive story is one in which the main character triumphs over adversity, develops positive character qualities, or is saved from sin/evil.

### CLASSIC FICTION

*Things Fall Apart* by Chinua Achebe  
*Sense and Sensibility* by Jane Austen  
*Fahrenheit 451* by Ray Bradbury  
*Ender's Game* by Orson Scott Card  
*My Antonia* by Willa Cather  
*Last of the Mohicans* by James Fenimore Cooper  
*Robinson Crusoe* by Daniel Defoe  
*The Hound of the Baskervilles* by Arthur Conan Doyle  
*Lord of the Flies* by William Golding  
*The Princess Bride* by William Goldman  
*The Fault In Our Stars* by John Green  
*Riders of the Purple Sage* by Zane Grey  
*Far from the Maddening Crowd* by Thomas Hardy  
*The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway  
*The Outsiders* by S. E. Hinton  
*The Bean Trees* by Barbara Kingsolver  
*A Separate Peace* by John Knowles  
*The Spy Who Came in from the Cold* by John Le Carré  
Any novel by Madeleine L'Engle  
*The Giver Quartet (except for The Giver)* by Lois Lowry  
*Christy* by Catherine Marshall  
Any novel by L.M. Montgomery  
*Everything Sad Is Untrue* by Daniel Nayeri

*The Astonishing Color of After* by Emily S. R. Pan  
*The Chosen* by Chaim Potuck  
*The Killer Angels* by Michael Shaara  
*The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer  
*Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli  
*Gulliver's Travels* by Jonathan Swift  
*The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas  
*Ben Hur: A Tale of Christ* by Lew Wallace  
*The Once and Future King* by T.H. White  
*The Book Thief* by Marcus Zasad

### CLASSIC NONFICTION

*Undaunted: Daring to Do What God Calls You to Do (Student Edition)* by Christine Caine  
*Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass* by Frederick Douglass  
*Through Gates of Splendor* by Elizabeth Elliot  
*The Diary of Anne Frank* by Anne Frank  
*Seabiscuit or Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand  
*Into Thin Air* by John Krakauer  
*Wheels of Change: How Women Rode the Bicycle to Freedom* by Sue Macy  
Any biography/collection by Eric Metaxas  
*The Hiding Place* by Corrie Ten Boom

Please note: We make every effort to offer a collection of honoring, redemptive, high-quality, engaging, and diverse texts. Nevertheless, not every book included here is appropriate for every student. Parents should use their judgement in helping students select the best text.

