Pray together to enter the study
Read text aloud (2-3 verses per person)

FRAME *2 min to read aloud*

Written by Matthew, this is an account of Jesus' life.

Isaiah lived ~400 years before and foretold Jesus' coming.

The oldest son was responsible for burying his father. Leaving would look like he was dishonoring his father.

OBSERVE

5 min to reflect alone, 5 min to all share

Imagine yourself in the story. What do you see, hear, and smell?

Look for repeated words, comparisons, contrasts, and cause and effect.

Note characters, relationships, locations, time, actions, and reactions.

INTERPRET

3 min to gather q's, 12 min to discuss

Develop some questions based on your observations. What stirs your curiosity?

Imagine the perspective of the people in the scene.

Answer your questions from the text and context.

SUMMARIZE & SPOTLIGHT

1 min to read the summary aloud

Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law as foretold. He tells an eager disciple that to follow Him he must put Jesus before burying his father. Then, Jesus controls the wind and waves, showing He is God.

3 min to individually write a main point
2 min for all to share, end with leader

WEEK 9: PRIORITIZING JESUS

Matthew 8:14 – 22 (NIV)

14 When Jesus came into Peter's house, he saw Peter's mother-in-law lying in
bed with a fever. 15 He touched her hand and the fever left her, and she got
up and began to wait on him.
16 When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to
him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. 17 This
was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

"He took up our infirmities and bore our diseases."

18 When Jesus saw the crowd around him, he gave orders to cross to the
other side of the lake. 19 Then a teacher of the law came to him and said,
"Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."
20 Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of
Man has no place to lay his head."
21 Another disciple said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."
22 But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

23 Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. 24 Suddenly a
furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat.
But Jesus was sleeping. 25 The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Lord,
save us! We're going to drown!"
26 He replied, "You of little faith, why are you so afraid?" Then he got up and
rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.
27 The men were amazed and asked, "What kind of man is this? Even the
winds and the waves obey him!"

INVITATION

5 min for individual reflection, 5 min to share as a group

Jesus showed through many miracles He is God. Jesus also said that to follow Him, He must come before everything else. What keeps you from putting faith in Jesus above all else? Consider prayerfully committing, here in community, to put Jesus first, whether it is your first time or there is something else you are prioritizing. Write your commitment here:

CONCLUDE

5 min to pray for each other and your applications

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