# INTERMEDIATE SUNDAY SCHOOL STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

11 February 2024

Text: Matthew 16 Subject: "Little faith"

## **INTRODUCTION**

<sup>5</sup> Now when His disciples had come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread.

<sup>6</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees."

<sup>7</sup> And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "It is because we have taken no bread."

<sup>8</sup> But Jesus, being aware of it, said to them, "O you of little faith, why do you reason among yourselves because you have brought no bread?

<sup>9</sup> Do you not yet understand, or remember the five loaves of the five thousand and how many baskets you took up?

<sup>10</sup> Nor the seven loaves of the four thousand and how many large baskets you took up?

<sup>11</sup> How is it you do not understand that I did not speak to you concerning bread?—but to beware of the <sup>[e]</sup>leaven of the Pharisees and Sadducees."

<sup>12</sup> Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees.

Matthew 16:5-12

# THE PROBLEM OF LAPSES

- 1. Memory Lapses
  - a) Common
  - b) All are affected at one point or another
- 2. Spiritual Lapses
  - a) This is more serious
  - b) This needs attention

# MISTAKEN UNDERSTANDING OF THE LORD'S TEACHING

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<sup>7</sup> And they reasoned among themselves, saying, "It is because we have taken no bread."

#### Matthew 16:5-7

- 1. Forgotten to take bread
- 2. "The leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees"
- 3. Misunderstanding occurred
  - a) Failure to comprehend
  - b) Focus was on the wrong thing

## THE REBUKE OF THE LORD JESUS

<sup>8</sup> But Jesus, being aware of it, said to them, "O you of little faith, why do you reason among yourselves because you have brought no bread?

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## Matthew 16:8-12

- 1. The problem of "little faith"
- 2. Wrong reasoning
- 3. Poor understanding

## **CHALLENGES**

1. To deepen faith

- 2. To comprehend better
- 3. To master the lessons the Lord Jesus wants us to learn