

# Life of Jesus – four chronologies

Bible scholars do not agree on the details of these four chronologies. They are, however, one way of describing the life of Jesus in time order. Other Bible scholars have done so differently.

## 1. Jesus' childhood

- 7 or 6 BC      The promise of John the baptist (Luke 1:5–25).  
The birth of John the Baptist (Luke 1:57–80)
- 6 or 5 BC      Mary receives news about the birth of Jesus (Matt 1:18–24; Luke 1:26–38).  
Jesus is born in Bethlehem in Judea (Matt 1:25; Luke 2:1–7). Shepherds from the fields near Bethlehem come to see the newborn baby (Luke 2:8–20).  
Jesus is brought to the temple in Jerusalem and presented to the Lord (Luke 2:21–40).
- 5 or 4 BC      The wise men from the east visit Jesus in Bethlehem in order to worship him as the newborn king of the Jews (Matt 2:1–12). Jesus' family escapes to Egypt (Matt 2:13–18).
- 4 or 3 BC      Jesus family returns to Palestine from Egypt and settles in Nazareth in southern Galilee (Matt 2:19–23).
- AD 7 or 8      Jesus visits the Jerusalem temple at the age of twelve for the Feast of the Passover (Luke 2:41–50).
- AD 8 and later      Jesus grows into adulthood (Luke 2:51–52).

## 2. Jesus' ministry

- AD 26      Jesus is baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River (Matt 3:13–17; Mark 1:9–11; Luke 3:21–23; John 1:29–39).  
Jesus is tempted by Satan in the desert (Matt 4:1–11; Mark 1:12–13; Luke 4:1–13).  
Jesus' first followers at the Jordan River (John 1:35–42) and in Galilee (John 1:43–51)  
Jesus' first miracle (turning water into wine) at Cana in Galilee (John 2:1–11)
- AD 27      Jesus cleanses the Jerusalem temple for the first time at the Feast of the Passover (John 2:13–22)  
Jesus meets Nicodemus in Jerusalem (John 3:1–21).  
Jesus meets the Samaritan woman at Sychar in Samaria (John 4:5–22).  
Jesus heals the son of a royal officer at Cana in Galilee (John 4:46–54).  
The people of Nazareth, Jesus' hometown, try to kill Jesus (Luke 4:16–31).  
Four fishermen (the brothers Simon Peter and Andrew, and James and John, the sons of Zebedee) become Jesus' disciples at Capernaum on the Sea of Galilee (Matt 4:18–22; Mark 1:16–20; Luke 5:1–11).  
Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law in Capernaum (Matt 8:14–17; Mark 1:29–34; Luke 4:38–39).  
Jesus begins his first preaching tour through Galilee (Matt 4:23–25; Mark 1:35–39; Luke 4:42–44).  
Matthew the tax collector becomes Jesus' disciple (Matt 9:9–13; Mark 2:13–17; Luke 5:27–32).
- AD 28      Jesus appoints the twelve disciples (Matt 10:1–4; Mark 3:13–19; Luke 6:12–15).

Jesus teaches the “Sermon on the Mount” (Matt 5:1–7:29; Luke 6:20–49).

A sinful woman anoints Jesus in Capernaum (Luke 7:35–50).

Jesus travels again through Galilee (Luke 8:1–3).

Jesus teaches about the Kingdom of God with parables (Matt 13:1–52; Mark 4:35–41; Luke 8:22–25).

Jesus calms the storm on the Sea of Galilee (Matt 8:23–27; Mark 4:35–41; Luke 8:22–25).

Jesus brings back to life the daughter of Jairus, a ruler of the Capernaum synagogue (Matt 9:18–26; Mark 5:21–43; Luke 8:40–56).

Jesus sends out his twelve disciples with authority to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal the sick (Matt 9:35–11:1; Mark 6:6–13; Luke 9:1–9).

AD 28 or 29 John the Baptist is killed by king Herod (Matt 14:1–12; Mark 6:14–29; Luke 9:7–9).

AD 29 Jesus feeds five thousand people near Bethsaida in Galilee (Matt 14:13–21; Mark 6:30–44; Luke 9:10–17; John 6:1–14).

Jesus walks on water (Matt 14:22–33; Mark 6:45–52; John 6:16–21).

Jesus withdraws to Tyre and Sidon (Matt 15:21–28; Mark 7:24–30).

Jesus feeds four thousand people (Matt 15:32–39; Mark 8:1–9).

Peter says that Jesus is the Son of God (Matt 16:13–20; Mark 8:27–30; Luke 9:18–21).

Jesus tells his disciples at Caesarea Philippi that he is going to die soon (Matt 16:21–26; Mark 8:31–37; Luke 9:22–25).

Jesus is transfigured (Matt 17:1–13; Mark 9:2–13; Luke 9:28–36).

Jesus pays his temple taxes at Capernaum (Matt 17:24–27)

Jesus attends the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem (John 7:11–52) in October AD 29.

Jesus heals a man who was born blind in Jerusalem (John 9:1–41).

Jesus visits Mary and Martha at Bethany near Jerusalem (Luke 10:38–42).

Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead at Bethany (John 11:1–44).

AD 30 Jesus starts his final journey to Jerusalem (Luke 17:11).

Jesus blesses small children on the other side of the Jordan River (Matt 19:13–15; Mark 10:13–16; Luke 18:15–17).

Jesus talks to a rich young man on the other side of the Jordan River (Matt 19:16–30; Mark 10:17–31; Luke 18:18–30).

Near the Jordan River, Jesus again tells his disciples about his death and resurrection (Matt 20:17–19; Mark 10:32–34; Luke 18:31–34).

Jesus heals blind Bartimaeus near Jericho (Mark 10:46–52; Luke 18:35–43).

Jesus and the chief tax collector Zacchaeus in Jericho (Luke 19:1–10).

Jesus returns to Jerusalem and stays with his friends in Bethany (John 11:55–12:1).

Jesus’ death and resurrection in Jerusalem during the Feast of the Passover in AD 30 (see below)

Jesus shows himself during 40 days after his resurrection (see **Resurrection appearances** below).

Jesus gives his disciples the Great Commission at a mountain in Galilee (Matt 28:16–20)

Jesus’ ascension at Bethany on the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem (Mark 16:19; Luke 24:44–53).

### 3. The Passion week

Sunday	Jesus enters into Jerusalem in triumph (Matt 21:1–11; Mark 11:1–10; Luke 19:29–44; John 12:12–19). Some Greeks seek Jesus (John 12:20–36).
Monday	Jesus curses the fig tree (Matt 21:18–19; Mark 11:12–14). Jesus cleanses the temple for the second time (Matt 21:12–13; Mark 11:15–18).
Tuesday	The withered fig tree (Matt 21:20–22; Mark 11:20–21). The authority of Jesus is questioned (Matt 21:23–27; Mark 11:27–33; Luke 20:1–8). Jesus teaches in the temple (Matt 21:28–23:39; Mark 12:1–44; Luke 20:9–21:4). Jesus teaches on the Mount of Olives (Matt 24:1–25:46; Mark 13:1–37; Luke 21:5–36). Jesus is anointed in Bethany (Matt 26:6–13; Mark 14:3–9; John 12:2–11).
Wednesday	The plot against Jesus (Matt 26:14–16; Mark 14:10–11; Luke 22:3–6).
Thursday	Preparations for the Passover meal (Matt 26:17–19; Mark 14:12–16; Luke 22:7–13). The Last Supper (Matt 26:17–29; Mark 14:12–25; Luke 22:7–20; John 13:1–38). Jesus comforts his disciples (John 14:1–16:33).
Thursday night	Jesus prays in Gethsemane and is arrested (Matt 26:36–56; Mark 14:32–52; Luke 22:40–65; John 18:1–12).
Friday	Jesus' trial (Matt 26:57–27:26; Mark 14:53–15:15; Luke 22:66–23:25; John 18:13–19:16). Jesus' crucifixion and death (Matt 27:27–56; Mark 15:16–41; Luke 23:26–49; John 19:17–30). Jesus is buried (Matt 27:57–66; Mark 15:42–47; Luke 23:50–56; John 19:31–42).

### 4. Resurrection appearances

Sunday morning	The empty tomb (Matt 28:1–10; Mark 16:1–8; Luke 24:1–12; John 20:1–10). Mary Magdalene meets Jesus in the garden (John 20:11–18; Mark 16:9–11).
Sunday evening	Jesus appears to two disciples on their walk to Emmaus not far from Jerusalem (Luke 24:13–35; Mark 16:12–13). Jesus appears to a group of disciples in Jerusalem (Luke 24:36–43; John 20:19–25; Mark 16:14).
One week later	Jesus appears to the eleven disciples in Jerusalem (John 20:26–29).
Later	Jesus appears to some of his disciples by the Sea of Galilee (John 21:1–24).
Later	Jesus gives his disciples the Great Commission at a mountain in Galilee (Matt 28:16–20).
Later	Ten days before the Feast of Pentecost, Jesus ascends to his Father in Heaven. This happens at Bethany on the Mount of Olives near Jerusalem (Luke 24:44–53; Mark 16:19).