

The following document is a copy of Pastor Wayne's notes from his sermon
"And Just Before I Go..." Sunday May 6th, 2018

We are completing a series called “Encountering the Risen Jesus.”

Primary purpose of this series:

Between the resurrection day and ascension day – Jesus made several appearances and had interactions with various people.

These “encounters with Jesus” were life changing and are full of inspiration/encouragement.

Secondary purpose in series:

To share some Bible Study Methods – to encourage us to become better students of the Bible!

Today: “And Just Before I Go...”

Focus: The Great Commission * The final key instructions Jesus gave his followers.

Two Bible Study Tools and Methods:

1. “Cross-Reference” Bible Study.

- Verses are cross-referenced with other verses to compare words, themes and ideas.
- Follow the line of reference from verse to verse.
- Broaden our understanding of a Bible theme or truth.

For example:

We know that whoever is born of God does not sin; but he who has been born of God keeps himself, and the wicked one does not touch him. 1st John 5:18

Having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever. 1st Pet. 1:23

For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. 1st Thess. 2:13

A great example is the 4 gospels recording of the Great Commission.

Cross Referencing

What common words and themes are present?

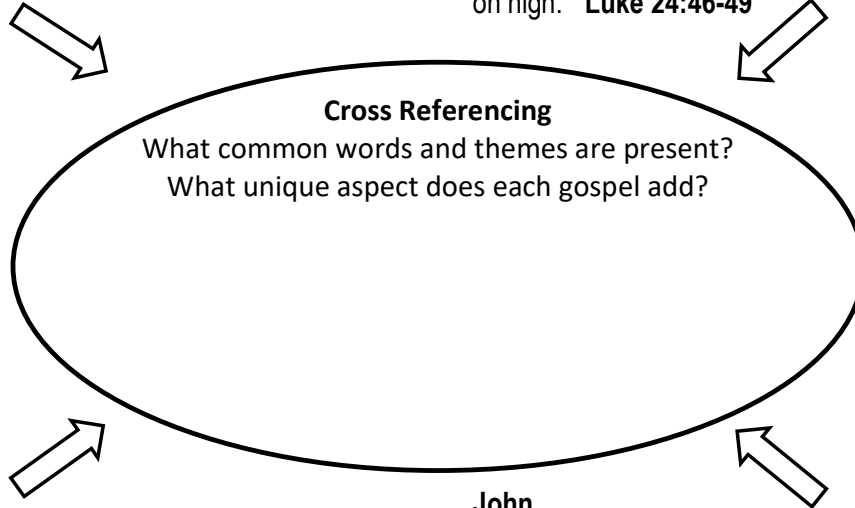
What unique aspect does each gospel add?

Matthew...

18 And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. 19 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. **Matt. 28:18-20**

Luke...

46 Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 And you are witnesses of these things. 49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." **Luke 24:46-49**



Mark...

15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. **Mark 16:15,16**

John...

21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." **John 20:21-23**

**Go therefore... Go into...I also send you...Make disciples...Preach...Teach...
 To all nations...Go into all the world...Believe...Baptize...Repentance...Remission of sin...**

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2. "Word by Word" Bible Study.

- Start with a verse and read it over and over again.
- Each time you read the verse, emphasize a different word.
- Each time you emphasize a different word, you get a different perspective.
- It's the simplest way to start unlocking Scripture.

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Go...

The onus is on us to go, not just on others to come.

We are "sent." We are on a "mission."

Every day is an opportunity to make a difference by presenting Jesus to the World.

Put this in the right context...

For some, being sent may mean to other places geographically. Not so!!!

That is not the only meaning of "go" or "being sent."

Put this in the right perspective...

It is unfair to expect that everyone can be a gifted evangelist.

But we can engage the world of those who do not know Jesus – with intentionality.

Therefore...

When we see a "therefore" we ask what is it there for?

The preceding statement is: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."

This answers the "why."

We must have the right motivation!

This is saying that it all rises and sets on Jesus!

When all is said and done – our relationship with Christ is what matters.

We will be answerable to Him above all!

Make Disciples...

A disciple is a follower and a student of Jesus.

We are "making" disciples.

This is a process. It is not instant.

There may be aspects of making disciples that are instant, but this is also a process in which we engage the person in day to day discovery and application of God's truth to their life.

In making disciples, here is what is important...

Embracing the question is as important as giving an answer.

Listen, don't judge, thank people for their input. Gently steer the conversation toward truth. Listening and empathizing will get you much further with post-moderns.

Being open is more effective than being certain.

Our faith does stand on a sure and certain ground.

Talking to post-moderns...coming across as certain - less effective than coming across as open. Being perpetually certain makes you appear anti-intellectual, closed and a bit arrogant.

If you're open to people and their views, they'll be more open to you.

Even if underneath all that, you're certain.

Arrogance, smugness and superiority are dead.

Christian apologetics...a tone of arrogance, smugness and superiority?

Is arrogance so ingrained in Christian culture that we don't even see it or hear it anymore?

Humility is what makes Jesus so much more attractive to people.

Humbly love God, love your community, and love the people who don't know him. God does.

The timeline is longer.

Ever notice that people who come to faith when pressured often leave it after a few years? Jesus said he would draw all people to himself, and he will.

It took the disciples 3 years to figure out who Jesus was.

We can't lose our sense of urgency in the mission.

Give people space and give the Holy Spirit space to do His work.

Of all the nations...

This use to mean us going to another nation. Now the nations are coming to us!

Baptizing them ...

Making disciples includes calling people to a decisive moment and a visible act of faith!

Repentance and baptism! A precedent was set. Acts 2....they did not say..."go and get your issues fixed first."

Are you going to follow Jesus? Turn from your sin and turn to Jesus. Get in the water!

Teaching...

Again, we come back to process.

We teach with our words, we teach with our lives! We teach when we care.

Answering questions is a form of teaching.

Questions arise when others see something in your life that is intriguing and exemplary.

But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect. 1st Peter 3:15

Observe all things that I have commanded you...

At the heart of our faith is Jesus...He is the Saviour, our Lord. He is our example and teacher!

We must not echo the philosophies of pop culture! We preach and teach and point to Jesus!

I am with you always...

Isn't it just like Jesus to not only send us, but to also go with us!!