

HEARING THE WORD



Introduction Course

NIGEL BARGE

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See slides 130, 131

Presenters, first read slides **125-9**

Hearing the Word Introduction Course

Presentation Slides, with Entire Leader's Guide text

Version 7, matching The Manual 4th edition, **31/1/2024** (Revised 7/5/24, **12/9/24**. V6 16/8/2022, 6/4/2023)

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Loch Fyne, Argyll, Scotland, UK

Website: hearingtheword.org.uk

For Copyright declaration, and to check focus if projecting, see slides 130,131.

Acknowledgements

I am very grateful to Phil and June Malloch, whose tireless editing, reviewing and pulling together of materials has enabled the 'Hearing the Word' resource to be shared with the wider church.

Nigel Barge, March 2017

Scripture Quotations taken from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION,

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Preface

*Presenters: Read your instructions on Slide 125 — 129. Skip slides 3,4 and 5.
(The Preface is also on the website.)
Start running Intro Course at slide 6.*

In the 16th century, one of the earliest 'reformers' of the church rediscovered that the Bible was for everyone.

This inspired William Tyndale to translate it into English and print it for mass circulation. As he said to a leading clergyman of his day,

"If God spare my life, e'er many years pass, I will cause a boy that driveth the plough shall know more of the Scriptures than thou dost."



Preface

Skip

continued

When we were first developing 'Hearing the Word', a friend in the city of Glasgow used it with his congregation. As they went through the course, he noted two facts:

- a) All kinds of folk benefited: Someone who had only recently believed in Jesus and come to church interacted comfortably in a group with a student at Bible college.
- b) The 'secret' of understanding the Bible was out:

A friend said to him later that he used to think what he did as a preacher on Sunday was clever, but now he knew how he did it!



Preface

continued

Skip

It was perhaps a little shocking at first but it made my heart soar. Notwithstanding God's treasured gift to the church of preachers and teachers, there was an echo of the promise of the New Covenant.

"I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God and they will be my people. No longer will a man teach his neighbour, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more."

(Jeremiah 31:33-34)



Nigel Barge, 2017

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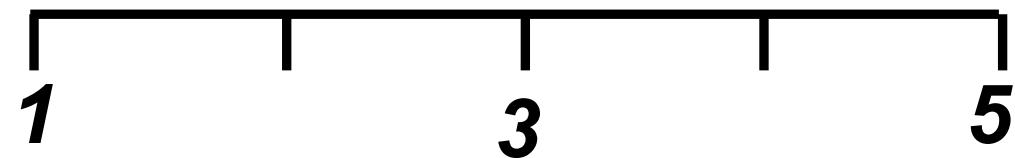
Introduction

Welcome to 'Hearing the Word'.

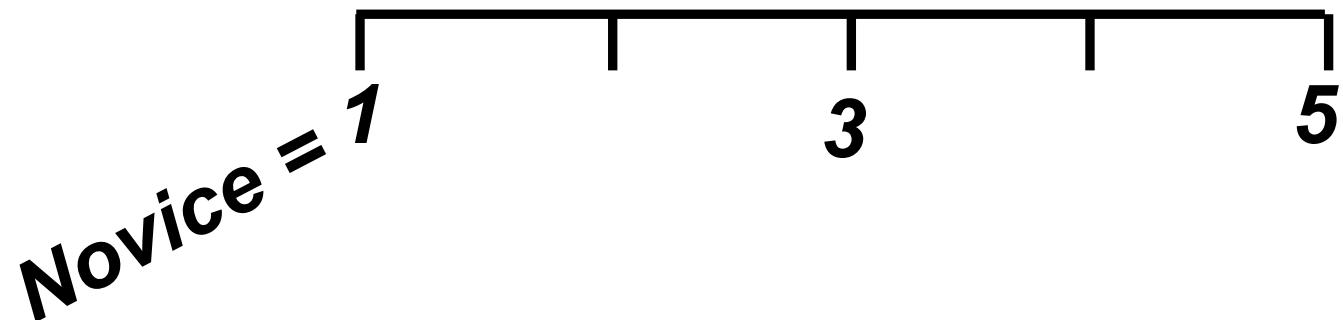
Hearing the Word is a model intended to help everyone to read the Bible and understand it for themselves. It is simple and basic. This makes it suitable for someone new to Bible reading. However it is also a reminder of good practice for a 'hardened' Bible Student.



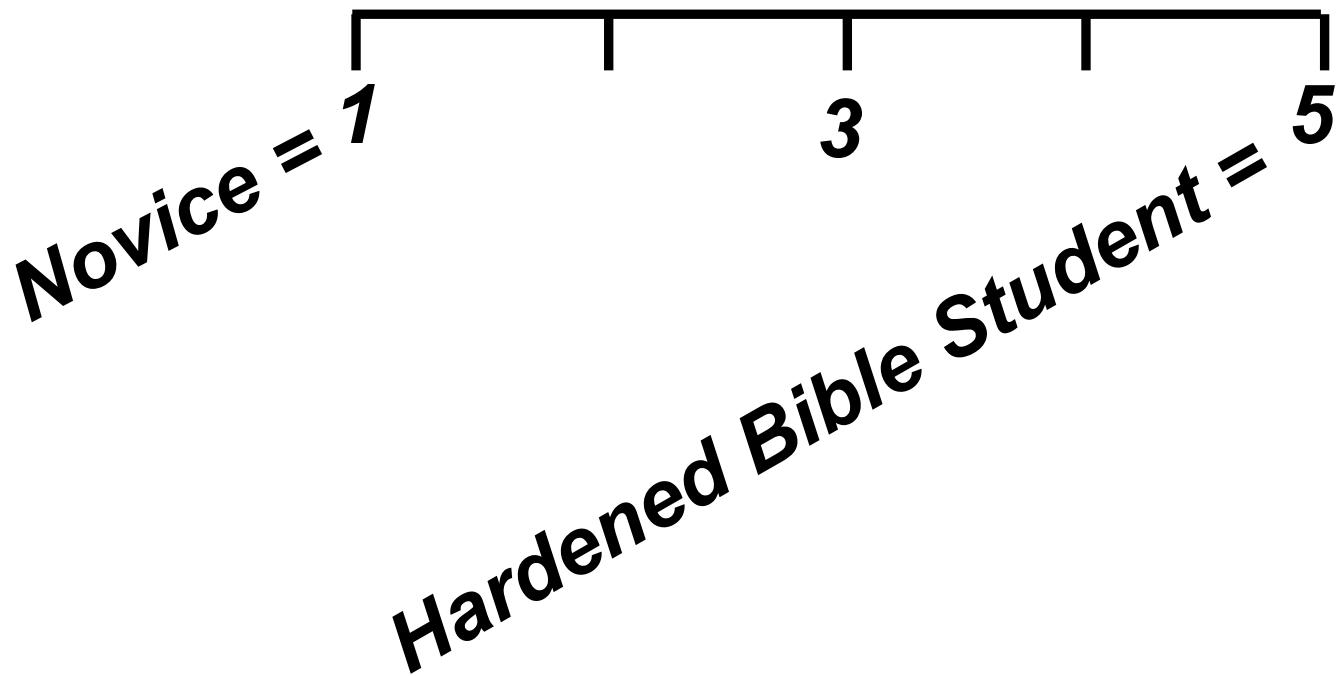
On a scale for Bible knowledge of between 1 and 5, where...



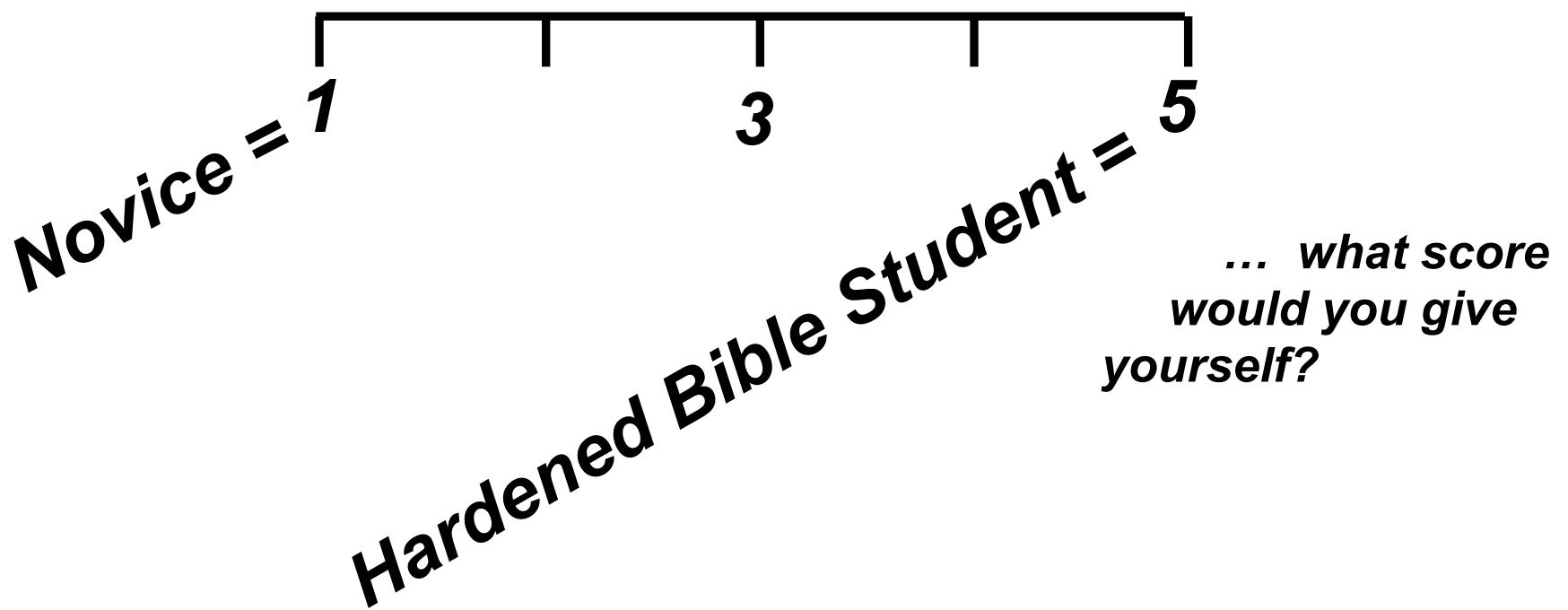
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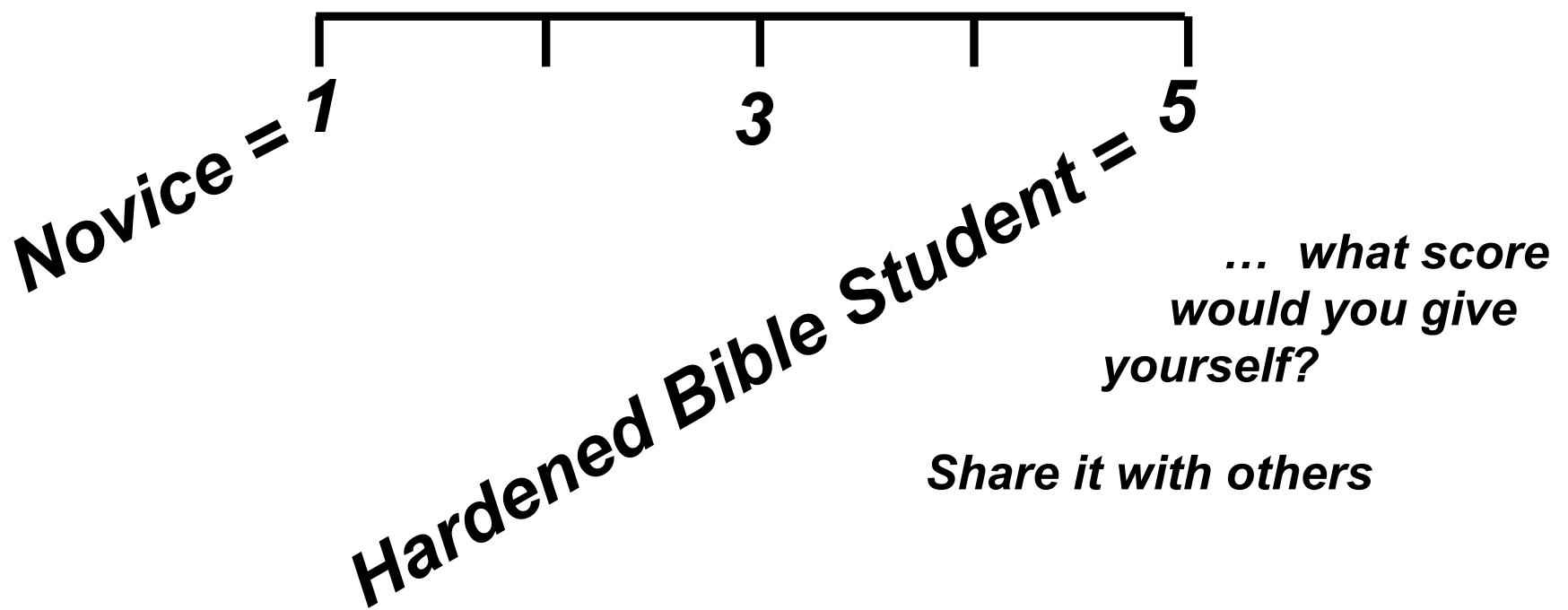
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On a scale for Bible knowledge of between 1 and 5, where...



On a scale for Bible knowledge of between 1 and 5, where...



Introduction cont

People use different methods when reading the Bible: - the...



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'Lucky dip' - a quick read from a calendar of texts



Introduction cont

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'Horoscope'

- a speculative look to the future



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- 'Crossword puzzle'* - an interesting brain teaser



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- a convenience to bounce from the text to a preferred platform



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'Starling chick'

- a resource where a preacher can find 'worms' to feed his congregation



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'Starling chick'

- a resource where a preacher can find 'worms' to feed his congregation

'Kingly audience'

- a way to read God's autobiography with Him



Introduction cont



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'Hearing the Word' assumes that The King is willing to speak with us through His Word and He expects us to 'handle the word correctly' (2 Tim 2:15). This is a skill, and as with all skills, we *all* need to learn the basic principles. e.g....



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Well, 'Hearing the Word' lays out key principles for reading the Bible. In this course, we will **teach** the principles, **try** them out on a Bible passage and then **talk** about our discoveries in small groups, before having some feedback from the Leader's Guide.



Introduction cont



Introduction cont

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Note well:

The goal of this *Hearing the Word* Course is to look at **method**, not to teach Bible **facts**. For the most part, no Bible knowledge is needed. Novice and expert can look at the principles in the same way.



***Introduction* cont**

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The goal of this *Hearing the Word* Course is to look at **method**, not to teach Bible **facts**. For the most part, no Bible knowledge is needed. Novice and expert can look at the principles in the same way.

So: Look with fresh eyes.

Listen to one another.

Avoid downloading sermons past!



The Approach

In seeking to hear God's Word we need to:

1 Be Prayerful



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The Bible says:

'For God, who said "Let light shine out of darkness," made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.' (2 Cor 4:6).



The Approach

In seeking to hear God's Word we need to:

1 Be Prayerful

The Bible says:

'For God, who said "Let light shine out of darkness," made His light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.' (2 Cor 4:6).

Thus, we depend on God to reveal Himself; so, as we approach God's Word, we ask God Himself to speak to us from it.



The Approach cont

In seeking to hear God's Word we need to:

1 Be Prayerful

2 Be Faithful

We must believe that God can and will speak to us.

"Anyone who comes to God must believe that He exists and rewards those who earnestly seek Him." (Hebrews 11:6) i.e. read expectantly.



The Approach cont

In seeking to hear God's Word we need to:

- 1 Be Prayerful**
- 2 Be Faithful**
- 3 Be Careful**

In reading, we utilise 'The Pomnneehal Pweor Of The Hmuan Mnid'.



The Approach cont

In seeking to hear God's Word we need to:

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In reading, we utilise 'The Pomnneehal Pweor Of The Hmuan Mnid'.

Would someone like to try reading this aloud?

Aoccdrnig to rseraech at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mttaer in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod ocucr; the olny iprmoatnt tihng is that the frist and lsat ltteer be in the rghit pclae. **Anyone else like to try?**

The rset can be a taotl mses and you stil raed it wouthit a porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe.



The Approach *cont*

So when reading the Bible, **beware!**



The Approach *cont*

So when reading the Bible, **beware!**

We may overlook much significant detail.

To avoid this we must notice three dangers:

ignorance, preconceptions and making careless assumptions.



The Approach *cont*

So when reading the Bible, **beware!**

We may overlook much significant detail.

To avoid this we must notice three dangers:

ignorance, preconceptions and making careless assumptions.

a) Beware of ignorance.

We may simply not recognise what is before us.



**Example 1 – How many times does
this statement use the letter ‘F’ ? :**



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***FINISHED FILES ARE THE RESULT
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Most people see only three



Example 1 – How many times does this statement use the letter ‘F’ ? :

**FINISHED FILES ARE THE RESULT
OF YEARS OF SCIENTIFIC
STUDY COMBINED WITH
THE EXPERIENCE OF YEARS**

***Most people see only three
and ignore the ‘of’s***

6



The Approach cont

a) Beware of ignorance.



The Approach cont

- a) Beware of ignorance.**
- b) Beware of preconceptions.**



The Approach *cont*

- a) Beware of ignorance.**
- b) Beware of preconceptions.**

We may not allow the text to say things that appear not to match what we *already believe*. Preconceptions can prevent us from learning new things.

For instance...



The Approach cont

Example 2 John White, 'The Fight', p 44

"Many years ago in Latin America, I was astonished to discover that the Roman Catholic students, who in those days had little or no exposure to Scripture, and Communist students were far better at group Bible Study than students from Evangelical Churches. The Communists and Catholics were quick to see what the passage actually said.



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Many evangelical students, on the other hand, had a mental block at this point. They seemed able to see only what the Bible was 'supposed' to say.

It was as though they screened Bible statements through a doctrinal filter, seeing what they had been trained to expect.

('It can't say that because the Bible doesn't teach that.'")



The Approach cont

- a) Beware of ignorance.**
- b) Beware of preconceptions.**



The Approach cont

- a) **Beware of ignorance.**
- b) **Beware of preconceptions.**
- c) **Beware of making careless assumptions**



The Approach cont

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The mind is by nature lazy, presumptuous and stubborn!



The Approach cont

- a) Beware of ignorance.**
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- c) Beware of making careless assumptions**

The mind is by nature lazy, presumptuous and stubborn!

It takes snap-shots rather than movies,
fills in the blanks for what it hasn't noticed,
and once it has decided something, it is reluctant to
change!



The Approach *cont*

Example 3 Carefully read the report of a police incident on the next screen. Then, *without making any assumptions*, decide if each of the ten statements is



The Approach cont

Example 3 Carefully read the report of a police incident on the next screen. Then, *without making any assumptions*, decide if each of the ten statements is

True (in which case circle the 'T' in the Workbook)

False (circle the 'F') or

Unable to tell (circle the question mark '?').



The Approach cont

Example 3 Carefully read the report of a police incident on the next screen. Then, *without making any assumptions*, decide if each of the ten statements is

True (in which case circle the 'T' in the Workbook)

False (circle the 'F') or

Unable to tell (circle the question mark '?').

(If you don't have a Workbook, printed or online, write your answers in a notebook, a mobile device - or even on a piece of paper!)



A businessman had just turned off the lights in the store when a man appeared and demanded money. The owner opened a cash register. The contents of the cash register were scooped up and the man sped away. A member of the police force was notified promptly.

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- 1) *A man appeared after the owner had turned off his store lights* **T F ?**
- 2) *The store owner's age was not revealed in the story* **T F ?**
- 3) *The robber was a man* **T F ?**
- 4) *The man who appeared did not demand money* **T F ?**
- 5) *The man who opened the cash register was the owner* **T F ?**
- 6) *The store owner scooped up the contents of the register* **T F ?**

A businessman had just turned off the lights in the store when a man appeared and demanded money. The owner opened a cash register. The contents of the cash register were scooped up and the man sped away. A member of the police force was notified promptly.

7) <i>Someone opened a cash register</i>	T F ?
8) <i>The man who demanded the money ran away</i>	T F ?
9) <i>The register contained an unspecified amount of cash</i>	T F ?
10) <i>The story concerns a series of events in which 3 persons are referred to:</i>	
1. <i>the owner of the store,</i> 2. <i>a man who demanded money,</i>	
<i>and 3. a member of the police force</i>	T F ?

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Are the 'owner' and the 'businessman' the same person?
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We don't know who scooped them up
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He 'sped' away; was it on foot, by bike, or in a car?

A businessman had just turned off the lights in the store when a man appeared and demanded money. The owner opened a cash register. The contents of the cash register were scooped up and the man sped away. A member of the police force was notified promptly.

- 9) *The register contained an unspecified amount of cash*
- 10) *The story refers to three people: the owner of the store, a man who demanded money, and a police officer.*

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10) *The story refers to three people: the owner of the store, a man who demanded money, and a police officer.* ?

A businessman had just turned off the lights in the store when a man appeared and demanded money. The owner opened a cash register. The contents of the cash register were scooped up and the man sped away. A member of the police force was notified promptly.

9) *The register contained an unspecified amount of cash* ?

It might have been cheques, money-off vouchers, IOU's!

10) *The story refers to three people: the owner of the store, a man who demanded money, and a police officer.*

If the businessman is the owner, True; if not, False. ?

A businessman had just turned off the lights in the store when a man appeared and demanded money. The owner opened a cash register. The contents of the cash register were scooped up and the man sped away. A member of the police force was notified promptly.

So **ONE statement is False:** **Number 4**

A businessman had just turned off the lights in the store when a man appeared and demanded money. The owner opened a cash register. The contents of the cash register were scooped up and the man sped away. A member of the police force was notified promptly.

So **ONE** statement is False:

Number 4

TWO are

True:

Numbers 2 & 7

A businessman had just turned off the lights in the store when a man appeared and demanded money. The owner opened a cash register. The contents of the cash register were scooped up and the man sped away. A member of the police force was notified promptly.

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TWO are True: **Numbers 2 & 7**
SEVEN are '?' = 'unable to tell' **Nos. 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10**

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So **ONE** statement is False: **Number 4**
TWO are True: **Numbers 2 & 7**
SEVEN are '?' = 'unable to tell' **Nos. 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10**

Unlike the Bible, this puzzle was designed to catch you out!

It makes one simple point:

The Approach cont

Conclusion

Our conscious minds are brilliant - but not to be trusted!

We often skim-read the Bible, ignore the detail and assume things.

We tend to give as little time to our daily Bible reading as we gave to first reading the police incident!

When we approach God's Word, we must give it our time and our full attention.



The Approach *cont*

Conclusion *continued*

To read the Bible prayerfully, with expectant faith and care, we need to guard against ignorance, preconceptions and careless assumptions.

If you remember nothing more than to read the Bible *carefully*, this course is worthwhile!



Overview

We are going to work on the passage **Mark 10:35-45** and practise the basics of handling the Word of God so we can learn to hear God speak. This will include: -



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LOOK



LEARN



LISTEN



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What does it say?



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LOOK

What does it say?



LEARN

What does it mean?



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LOOK

What does it say?



LEARN

What does it mean?



LISTEN

What is the message?



LIVE



Overview

We are going to work on the passage **Mark 10:35-45** and practise the basics of handling the Word of God so we can learn to hear God speak. This will include: -



LOOK

What does it say?



LEARN

What does it mean?



LISTEN

What is the message?



LIVE

How should I respond?





LOOK

The first task is to look carefully at the text itself before going on to look at its context in the rest of the Bible.

Read Mark 10:35-45

1) The Text

To explore the text, it is helpful to ask questions of it and then follow them through until we are satisfied with the answers. Ask the 'W' questions: **Who?** **What?** **When?** **Where?** **Why/Why not?** **hoW?!**





LOOK

Exploration 1: Mark 10 : 35-45 - **Questions Raised**

Read the passage carefully again. Use the examples given for verses 35 - 37 to guide you. Then, **write down a list of questions** raised in your mind by the words or phrases noted in vs. 38-42.

Note:

- a) The task at this stage is simply to **ask** questions; don't try to answer them yet.
- b) Write down questions even though you know the answer.
- c) No questions are too easy.

Here are six examples:



Exploration 1

Examples:

35 'Then'

'James and John'

'We want you'

36 'What do you want?'

37 'Sit on right and left'

'In your glory'

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



Exploration 1

Examples:

35 'Then'

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'We want you'

36 'What do you want?'

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Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



What were they doing before this?

Exploration 1

Examples:

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Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look

What were they doing before this?

Who were they?



Exploration 1

Examples:

35 'Then'

Mark 10.35-45

Questions raised

Look



What were they doing before this?

'James and John'

Who were they?

'We want you' *What does the manner of their approach suggest?*

36 'What do you want?'

37 'Sit on right and left'

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Exploration 1

Examples:

35 'Then'

Mark 10.35-45

Questions raised

Look



What were they doing before this?

'James and John'

Who were they?

'We want you' *What does the manner of their approach suggest?*

36 'What do you want?'

Why didn't Jesus dismiss their request?

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Exploration 1

Examples:

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Mark 10.35-45

Questions raised

Look



What were they doing before this?

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Why did they ask this?

'In your glory'

Exploration 1

Examples:

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Mark 10.35-45

Questions raised

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'In your glory' *What did they imagine was Jesus' way to glory?*

Exploration 1

Examples:

35 'Then'

Mark 10.35-45

Questions raised

Look



'James and John'

What were they doing before this?

'We want you' *What does the manner of their approach suggest?*

36 'What do you want?'

Why didn't Jesus dismiss their request?

37 'Sit on right and left'

Why did they ask this?

'In your glory' *What did they imagine was Jesus' way to glory?
What did Jesus know was His way to glory?*

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



Now try some by yourself for a couple of minutes:

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



Now try some by yourself for a couple of minutes:

38a 'You don't know'

38b Cup and Baptism

39 'You will drink'

40 Places 'not for me to grant.'

41 Ten 'indignant'

42 'Rulers of the Gentiles'

Are there any other questions raised in the passage?

What surprised you or caught your eye?

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



38a 'You don't know'

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



38a 'You don't know'

Why didn't they know what they were asking?

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



38a 'You don't know'

Why didn't they know what they were asking?

38b Cup and Baptism

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

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What did Jesus mean by these things?

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



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Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



38a 'You don't know'

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When and how would they share these things?

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

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Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
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40 Places 'not for me to grant'

Who would allocate them?

Who were they for?

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



41 Ten 'indignant'

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



41 Ten 'indignant'

Why were the others so annoyed?

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



41 *Ten 'indignant'*

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42 *'Rulers of the Gentiles'*

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



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Why were the others so annoyed?

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Why 'of the Gentiles', and not 'of the Jews' or 'of the world'?

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
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Mark 10.35-45
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Jesus didn't rebuke His disciples. Why not?

Exploration 1

Mark 10.35-45
Questions raised

Look



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Why 'of the Gentiles', and not 'of the Jews' or 'of the world'?

Are there any other questions raised in the passage?

What surprised you or caught your eye?

Jesus didn't rebuke His disciples. Why not?

The boldness and cheek of the disciples.



LOOK

Exploration 1: Mark 10 : 35-45 - **Questions Raised** cont.

The Bible is very selective about the detail it includes.

“Jesus did many other things as well. If every one of them were written down, I suppose that even the whole world would not have room for the books that would be written.” (John 21:25)

So, it is important to ask questions of the text:

- Why does it say *this*? Why *here*, and why *in this way*?





LOOK

2 Context

The questions raised help to open up the passage.

However, to answer these, and understand the meaning of the passage, *knowing the context is vital*.

For example, what does the Bible mean mean when it says...



The Bible says...

“... there is no God.”



The Bible says...

“... there is no God.”

Psalm 14:1

We say, ‘Really?.... Where?’



The Bible says...

“... there is no God.”

Psalm 14:1

We say, ‘Really?.... Where?!’ We look it up; the whole verse reads



‘The fool says in his heart,

“... there is no God.”

Psalm 14:1

We say, ‘Really?!.... Where?’ We look it up; the whole verse reads



‘The fool says in his heart,

“... there is no God.”

Psalm 14:1

We say, ‘Really?!.... Where?’ We look it up; the whole verse reads

*Seen in context, the Bible’s actual message
is the exact opposite of the partial quotation!*

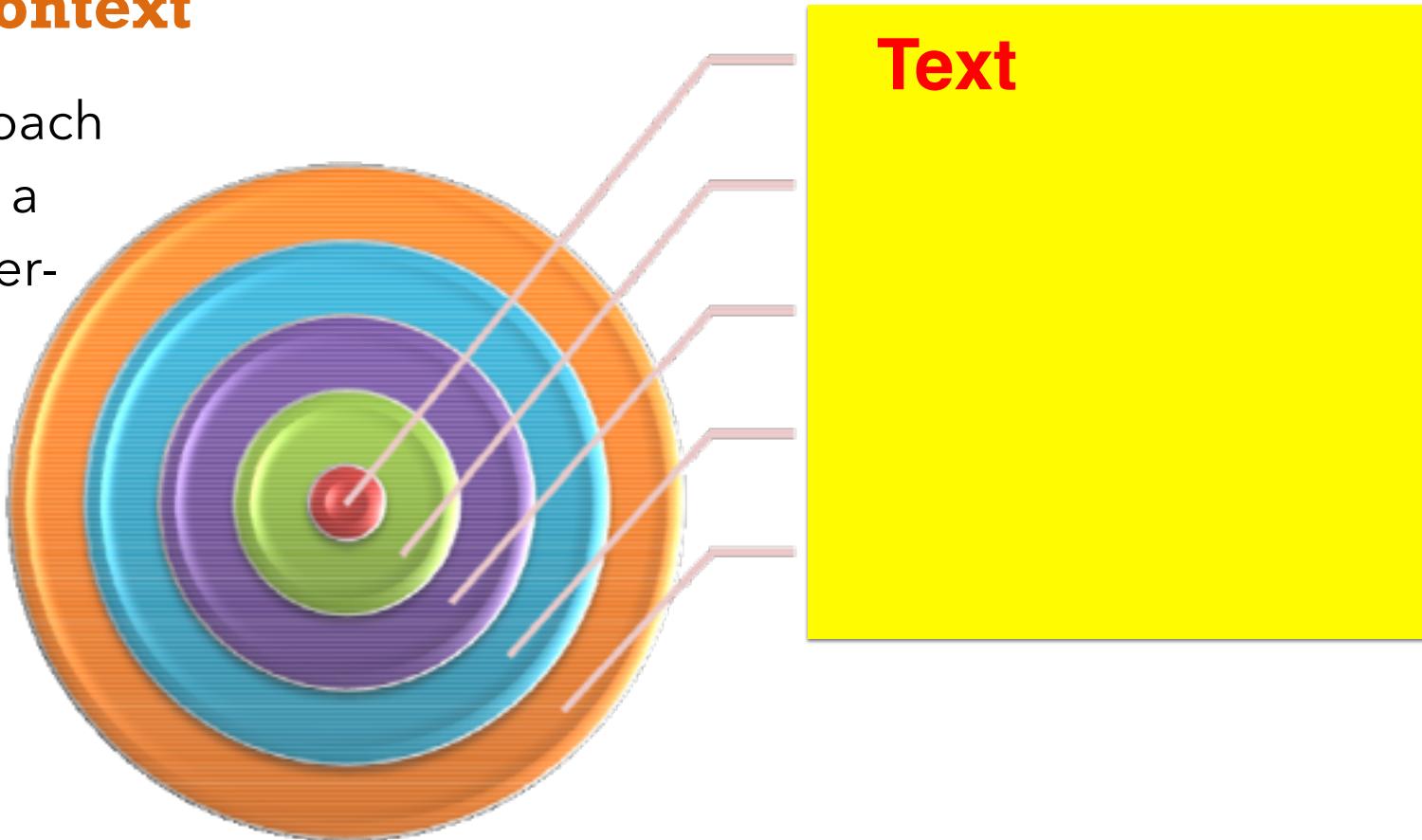




LOOK

2 Context

We may approach the context of a passage in ever-widening circles.





LOOK

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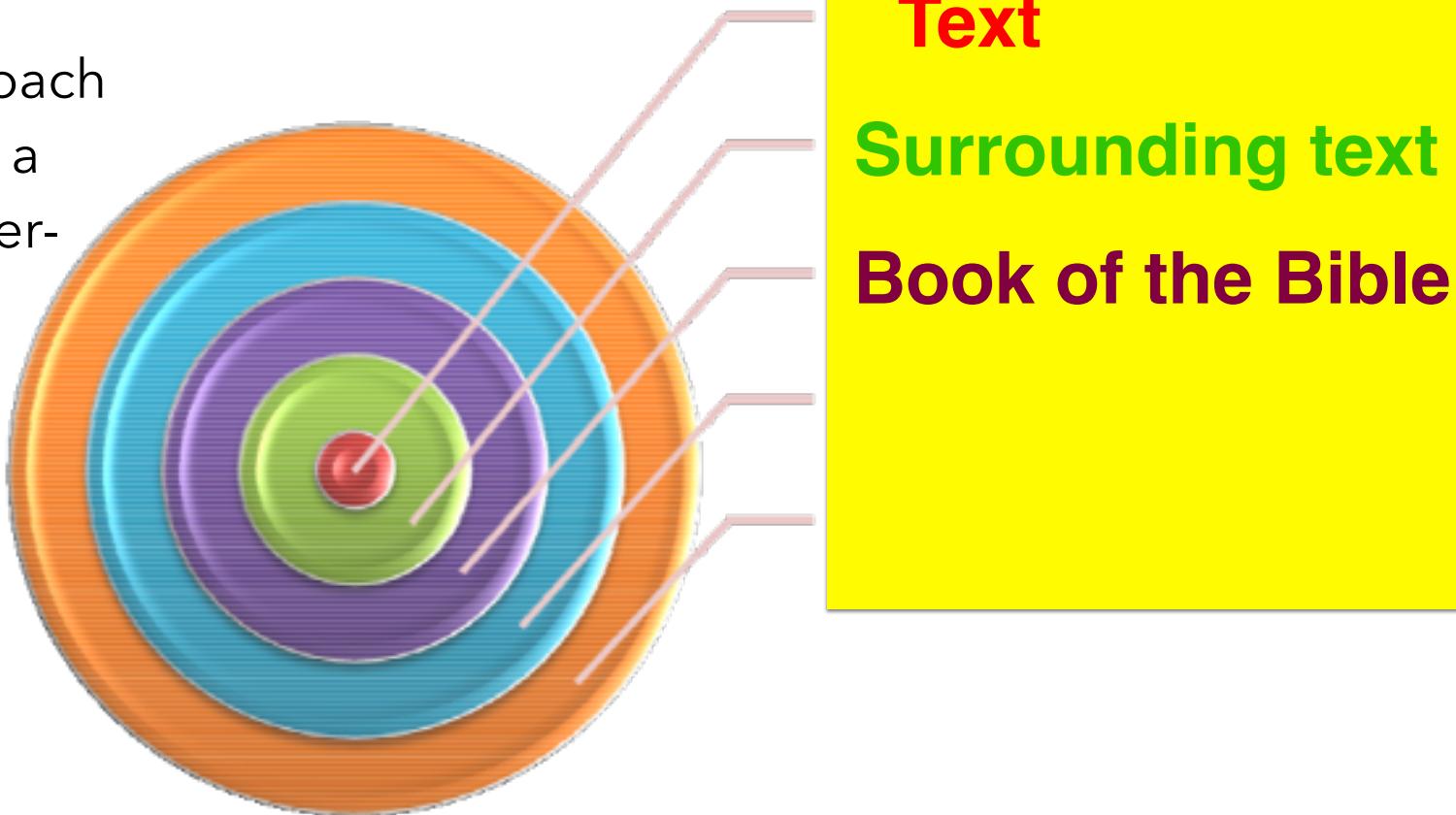




LOOK

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We may approach the context of a passage in ever-widening circles.

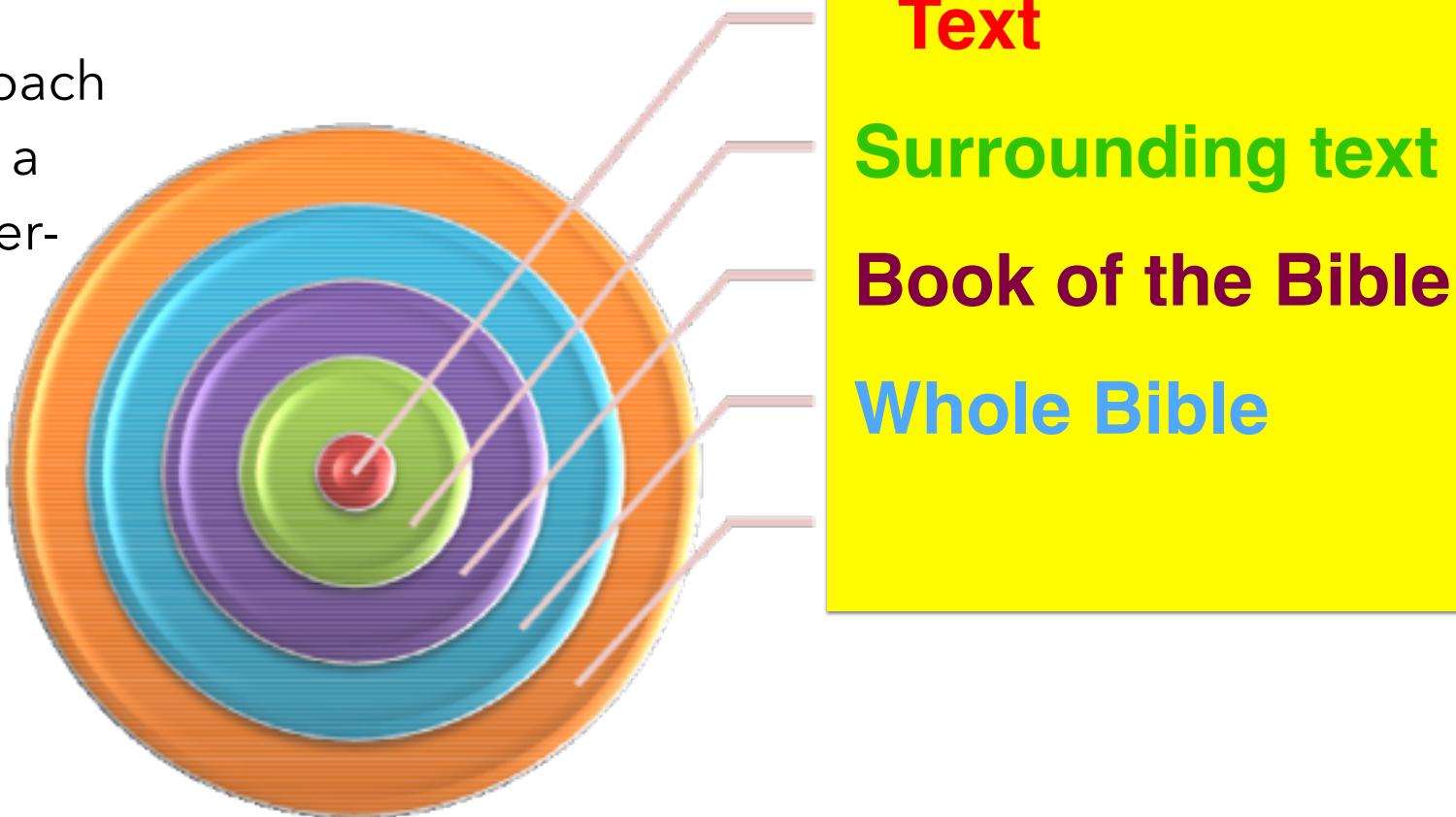




LOOK

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LOOK

2 Context

We may approach the context of a passage in ever-widening circles.





LOOK

2 The Context

a) The Surrounding Text

When invited to a wedding, it's always interesting to note who has been placed beside you for the meal. Much thought, blood, sweat and tears have been dedicated to the seating plan. E.g. Have you never said "Why have they put me next to great-aunt Agatha?!"





LOOK

2 The Context

a) The Surrounding Text

When invited to a wedding, it's always interesting to note who has been placed beside you for the meal. Much thought, blood, sweat and tears have been dedicated to the seating plan. E.g. Have you never said "Why have they put me next to great-aunt Agatha?!"

Now, under God, the Bible has been carefully constructed. Each word, verse and passage has been placed deliberately, and for a reason. So when we seek to understand a verse, we must look at passages around it.





LOOK

Exploration 2:

Text surrounding Mark 10:35-45

Glance through the passages before and after Mark 10:35-45
(i.e. Mark 9:1 to 11:11). (Yes, this time, *glance!* Save your close attention to detail for Mark 10:35-45.)

Write down anything that seems to be *relevant* to the questions raised in Exploration 1, Workbook (on Website) p. 8, **Slides 34 , 36, 37.**



Exploration 2

Mark 10.35-45
Surrounding Text

Look



Here are two examples for the surrounding text:

Exploration 2

Mark 10.35-45
Surrounding Text

Look



Here are two examples for the surrounding text:

- *James and John – (Mark 9:2ff)*
Disciples of Jesus, and part of the privileged inner three.
- *People expected Messiah to restore David's kingdom. (Mark 11:10)*

Exploration 2

Mark 10.35-45
Surrounding Text

Look



Here are two examples for the surrounding text:

- *James and John – (Mark 9:2ff)*
Disciples of Jesus, and part of the privileged inner three.
- *People expected Messiah to restore David's kingdom. (Mark 11:10)*

Now look for other relevant passages in Mark 9:1 - 11:11

Exploration 2

Mark 10.35-45
Surrounding Text

Look



Exploration 2

**Mark 10.35-45
Surrounding Text**

Look

- *The disciples had argued before about being the greatest. Jesus had told them that the greatest would be the servant of all and the last would be first.* **(Mark 9:33 - 37)**



Exploration 2

Mark 10.35-45
Surrounding Text

Look



- *The disciples had argued before about being the greatest. Jesus had told them that the greatest would be the servant of all and the last would be first.* **(Mark 9:33 - 37)**
- *John was “jealously protective” of the disciples’ status.* **(Mark 9:38)**

Exploration 2

Mark 10.35-45
Surrounding Text

Look



- *The disciples had argued before about being the greatest. Jesus had told them that the greatest would be the servant of all and the last would be first.* **(Mark 9:33 - 37)**
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- *After the rich man had left sadly, Jesus told the disciples that those who sacrificed things for His sake would be rewarded; the first would be last and the last would be first.* **(Mark 10:31)**

Exploration 2

Mark 10:35-45
Surrounding Text

Look



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Exploration 2

Mark 10:35-45
Surrounding Text

Look



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- *After the rich man had left sadly, Jesus told the disciples that those who sacrificed things for His sake would be rewarded; the first would be last and the last would be first.* **(Mark 10:31)**
- *Jesus is on His way to Jerusalem.* **(Mark 10:32)**
- *Jesus had just spoken of His death.* **(Mark 10:33,34)**

Exploration 2

Mark 10:35-45
Surrounding Text

Look



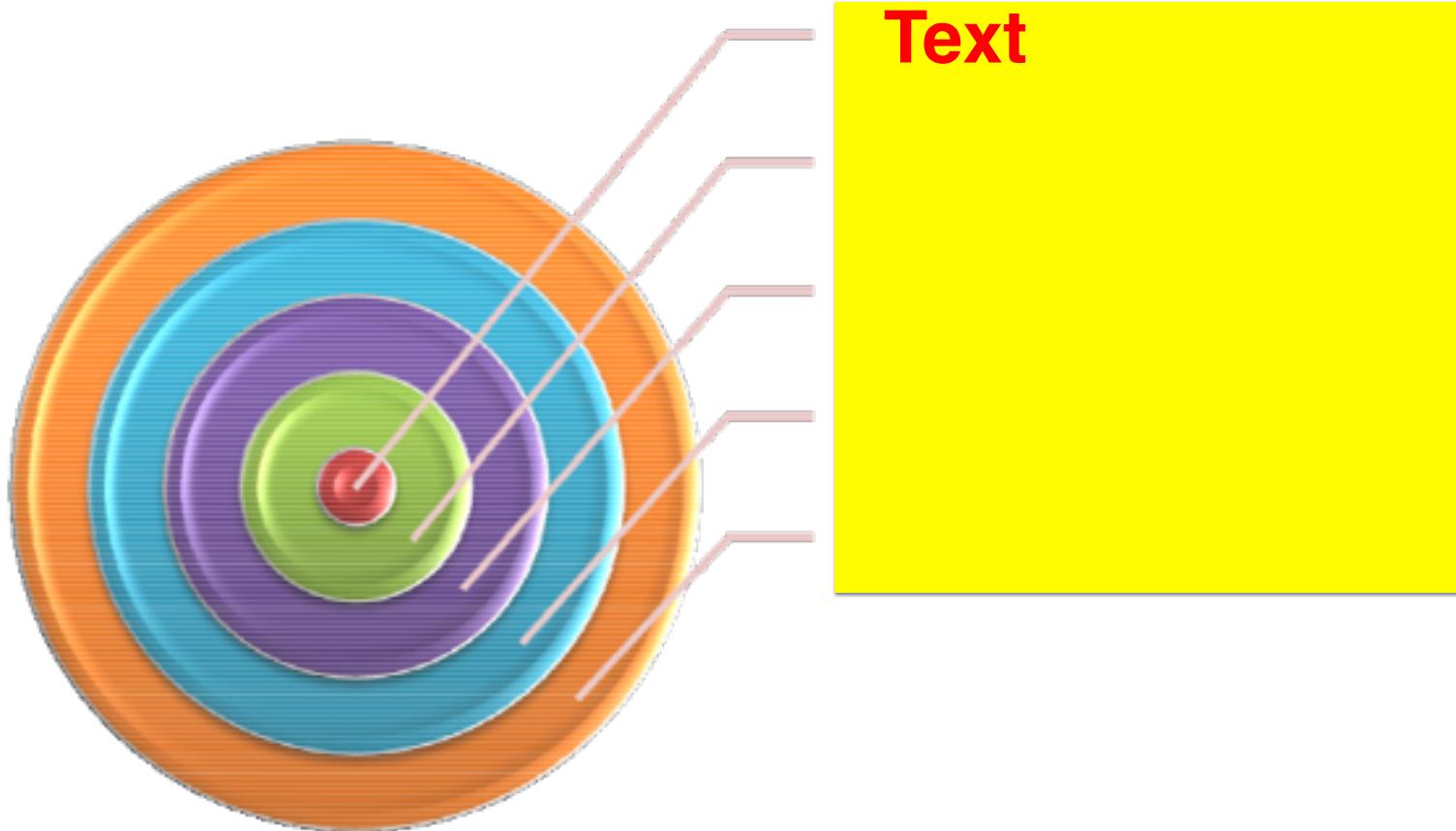
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- *Jesus is on His way to Jerusalem.* **(Mark 10:32)**
- *Jesus had just spoken of His death.* **(Mark 10:33,34)**

We've had Surrounding Text, now:



LOOK

2 The Context





LOOK

2 The Context





LOOK

2 The Context





LOOK

2 The Context

b) The Book of the Bible

There are 66 books in the Bible. Although God is the ultimate 'author', they've been written through a variety of people from many backgrounds over a period of around 1,500 years. As we read the Bible we need to take into account the context of each book.





LOOK

2 The Context

b) The Book of the Bible cont

So we need to ask: -





LOOK

2 The Context

b) The Book of the Bible cont

So we need to ask: -

- Who wrote this book of the Bible?





LOOK

2 The Context

b) The Book of the Bible cont

So we need to ask: -

- Who wrote this book of the Bible?
- What is its background?





LOOK

2 The Context

b) The Book of the Bible cont

So we need to ask: -

- Who wrote this book of the Bible?
- What is its background?
- When was it written?





LOOK

2 The Context

b) The Book of the Bible cont

So we need to ask: -

- Who wrote this book of the Bible?
- What is its background?
- When was it written?
- To whom was it written?





LOOK

2 The Context

b) The Book of the Bible cont

So we need to ask: -

- Who wrote this book of the Bible?
- What is its background?
- When was it written?
- To whom was it written?
- Why was it written?





LOOK

2 The Context

b) The Book of the Bible

Eg. Mark's Gospel is thought to have been written:-





LOOK

2 The Context

b) The Book of the Bible

Eg. Mark's Gospel is thought to have been written:-

- by John Mark, from Peter's preaching





LOOK

2 The Context

b) The Book of the Bible

Eg. Mark's Gospel is thought to have been written:-

- by John Mark, from Peter's preaching
- during the 60's AD





LOOK

2 The Context

b) The Book of the Bible

Eg. Mark's Gospel is thought to have been written:-

- by John Mark, from Peter's preaching
- during the 60's AD
- for the church in Rome





LOOK

2 The Context

b) The Book of the Bible

Eg. Mark's Gospel is thought to have been written:-

- by John Mark, from Peter's preaching
- during the 60's AD
- for the church in Rome
- and why? - it was under persecution

(see '*The New Bible Commentary*')





LOOK

2 The Context





LOOK

2 The Context





LOOK

2 The Context

c) The Whole Bible

God's unchanging truth about different subjects is revealed throughout the Bible. As this is drawn together, a unifying whole emerges i.e. what does the Bible say about sin, death, Jesus etc?

(The collecting together of Biblical material on a particular subject is referred to as "*Systematic Theology.*" Cf p15 slide 64)

The Bible interprets itself. As we seek to understand one passage, it is important to look for other parts of the Bible which relate to it.





LOOK

Exploration 3:

Context of Mark 10:35-45 in the Whole Bible

Here are some of the subjects unearthed when we asked questions of the passage. Jot down any other Bible passages you can remember which also address each topic and might shed some light on the meaning of this passage. If you can't remember chapter and verse, just give the gist.

Exploration 3: A few minutes alone then share your thoughts with others on your course.

(This bit is very hard for those unfamiliar with the Bible.)

(A Concordance is a useful tool in this exercise. You can even look some up online, eg www.blueletterbible.org)



Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45

Context in whole Bible

Look



Here are 4 examples

1) 'The importance of seating'

2) Greatness in the kingdom

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45

Context in whole Bible

Look



Here are 4 examples

1) 'The importance of seating' **A sign of honour**

2) Greatness in the kingdom

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45

Context in whole Bible

Look



Here are 4 examples

1) 'The importance of seating **A sign of honour**

a) On earth – (Jesus) “noted how the guests (Pharisees) picked the places of honour ”

(Luke 14:7)

2) Greatness in the kingdom

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45

Context in whole Bible

Look



Here are 4 examples

1) 'The importance of seating *A sign of honour*

- a) On earth – (Jesus) “noted how the guests (Pharisees) picked the places of honour ” (Luke 14:7)
- b) In heaven – Jesus is seated on God’s right (Colossians 3:1)
“Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.”

2) Greatness in the kingdom

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45

Context in whole Bible

Look



Here are 4 examples

1) *The importance of seating* *A sign of honour*

a) On earth – (Jesus) “noted how the guests (Pharisees) picked the places of honour” (Luke 14:7)

b) In heaven – Jesus is seated on God's right (Colossians 3:1)
"Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God."

2) *Greatness in the kingdom*

“Among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.” (Matthew 11:11)

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45
Context in whole Bible

Look



3) *Sharing in Jesus / with Jesus*

4) *Servant leader*

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45

Context in whole Bible

Look



3) Sharing in Jesus / with Jesus

“I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of His resurrection and participation in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death, and so somehow to attain the resurrection from the dead.” (Philippians 3:10)

4) Servant leader

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45
Context in whole Bible

Look



3) Sharing in Jesus / with Jesus

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4) Servant leader

“Moses was a very humble man, more humble than anyone else on the face of the earth.” (Numbers 12:3)

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45
Context in whole Bible

Look



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Now try some by yourself:

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45
Context in whole Bible

Look



5) Baptism

6) The Cup

7) Suffering

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45
Context in whole Bible

Look



5) Baptism

“He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.”

(Mark 1:8)

6) The Cup

7) Suffering

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45
Context in whole Bible

Look



5) Baptism

“He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.” (Mark 1:8)

“When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too.” (Luke 3:21)

6) The Cup

7) Suffering

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45 **Context in whole Bible**

Look



5) Baptism

“He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.” (Mark 1:8)

“When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too.” (Luke 3:21)

6) The Cup

“Take this cup (of suffering) from me... Yet not what I will, but Your will be done.” (Mark 14:36)

7) Suffering

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45 **Context in whole Bible**

Look



5) Baptism

“He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.” (Mark 1:8)

“When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too.” (Luke 3:21)

6) The Cup

“Take this cup (of suffering) from me... Yet not what I will, but Your will be done.” (Mark 14:36)

7) Suffering

“He (The Servant) was pierced for our transgressions.... He was crushed for our iniquities...” (Isaiah 53:5)

Exploration 3

Mark 10.35-45 **Context in whole Bible**

Look



5) Baptism

“He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.” (Mark 1:8)

“When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too.” (Luke 3:21)

6) The Cup

“Take this cup (of suffering) from me... Yet not what I will, but Your will be done.” (Mark 14:36)

7) Suffering

“He (The Servant) was pierced for our transgressions.... He was crushed for our iniquities...” (Isaiah 53:5)

N.B. In looking for cross references that may be relevant, we cast the net wide! However, what we ‘catch’ needs to be sifted. Some references will shed light on the passage before you, some will not!



LOOK

2 The Context





LOOK

2 The Context





LOOK

2 The Context

d) The Bible Story

The Bible tells a story.





LOOK

2 The Context

d) The Bible Story

The Bible tells a story.

From all eternity, God purposed a people for Himself who would bring Him glory. They were to be a bride for His son: He would love them and they would love Him. The Bible describes how this relationship came about, and so may be seen as a 'love story'.





LOOK

2 The Context

d) The Bible Story

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From all eternity, God purposed a people for Himself who would bring Him glory. They were to be a bride for His son: He would love them and they would love Him. The Bible describes how this relationship came about, and so may be seen as a 'love story'.

It begins in Genesis with God's creation of man, male and female, in His image, and their expression of it in human marriage. It concludes in Revelation with The Marriage in Heaven of Jesus and His people, 'The Church'.



Bible Story cont

The story of the Bible is in fact **the** Love story from which all the 'classic' love stories get their pattern - Jane Austen, Mills & Boone, Walt Disney and all! The plot development in these *human* love stories *mirrors* that of the one described in the Bible.



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- i) The introduction of the characters
- ii) The Problem – separation



Bible Story cont

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- i) The introduction of the characters
- ii) The Problem - separation
- iii) The Hope - rescue



Bible Story cont

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- i) The introduction of the characters
- ii) The Problem - separation
- iii) The Hope - rescue
- iv) The need - reconciliation



Bible Story cont

The story of the Bible is in fact **the** Love story from which all the 'classic' love stories get their pattern - Jane Austen, Mills & Boone, Walt Disney and all! The plot development in these *human* love stories *mirrors* that of the one described in the Bible.

- i) The introduction of the characters v) The emotions - extreme!
- ii) The Problem - separation
- iii) The Hope - rescue
- iv) The need - reconciliation



Bible Story cont

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- i) The introduction of the characters
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- v) The emotions - extreme!
- vi) The Attempts - thwarted



Bible Story cont

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- v) The emotions - extreme!
- vi) The Attempts - thwarted
- vii) The Solution - surprising



Bible Story cont

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- viii) The Resolution - effective



Bible Story cont

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- viii) The Resolution - effective
- ix) The Finish - marriage



Bible Story cont

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- viii) The Resolution - effective
- ix) The Finish - marriage

*See how the parallel stories
progress on p 14,15 / next 4 slides.*



Bible Story cont

i) The introduction of the characters

Human:

Bible:

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

i) The introduction of the characters

Human: The lovers are introduced. All is well. What can go wrong?

Bible:

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

i) The introduction of the characters

Human: The lovers are introduced. All is well. What can go wrong?

Bible: God created man (male and female) in His own image and they are happy together in the Garden of Eden. ***(Genesis 1,2)***

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

i) The introduction of the characters

Human: The lovers are introduced. All is well. What can go wrong?

Bible: God created man (male and female) in His own image and they are happy together in the Garden of Eden. **(Genesis 1,2)**

ii) The Problem - separation

Human: The path of true love seldom runs smooth! There's an obstacle: a 'baddy' threatens to separate the lovers forever.

Bible:



Bible Story cont

i) The introduction of the characters

Human: The lovers are introduced. All is well. What can go wrong?

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ii) The Problem - separation

Human: The path of true love seldom runs smooth! There's an obstacle: a 'baddy' threatens to separate the lovers forever.

Bible: *The Devil tempts man to sin. This sin is a barrier that separates mankind from God. Death results.* **(Genesis 3)**



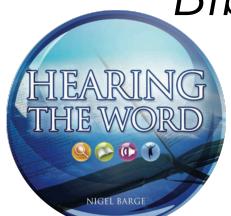
Bible Story cont

Human:

Bible:

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

iii) The Hope - rescue

Human: One day, somehow, someone will bring the lovers together.

Bible:

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

iii) The Hope - rescue

Human: One day, somehow, someone will bring the lovers together.

Bible: God calls an individual, promises and preserves a nation
(Abraham, Isaac et al.) from whom would come the rescuer.

(Genesis 12-50, Exodus, Joshua)

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

iii) The Hope - rescue

Human: One day, somehow, someone will bring the lovers together.

Bible: God calls an individual, promises and preserves a nation (Abraham, Isaac et al.) from whom would come the rescuer.

(Genesis 12-50, Exodus, Joshua)

iv) The Need - reconciliation

Human: A means is presented which could enable the lovers to come together again.

Bible:



Bible Story cont

iii) The Hope - rescue

Human: One day, somehow, someone will bring the lovers together.

Bible: *God calls an individual, promises and preserves a nation (Abraham, Isaac et al.) from whom would come the rescuer.*

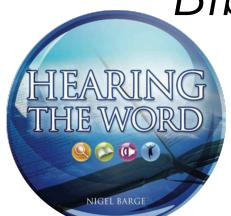
(Genesis 12-50, Exodus, Joshua)

iv) The Need - reconciliation

Human: A means is presented which could enable the lovers to come together again.

Bible: *The Law is given to Moses. Fulfilment of this will bring reconciliation and peace between God and mankind.*

(Leviticus, Deuteronomy)



Bible Story cont

Human:

Bible:

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

v) The Emotions - extreme!

Human: The passions of the lovers, their hearts and minds, are made known.

Bible:

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

v) The Emotions - extreme!

Human: The passions of the lovers, their hearts and minds, are made known.

Bible: The thoughts and feelings of God and man are expressed.

*(Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon = The **Wisdom Literature**)*

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

v) The Emotions - extreme!

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*(Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon = The **Wisdom Literature**)*

vi) The Attempts - thwarted

Human: Efforts to overcome the obstacle are thwarted. The love seems doomed.

Bible:



Bible Story cont

v) The Emotions - extreme!

Human: The passions of the lovers, their hearts and minds, are made known.

Bible: *The thoughts and feelings of God and man are expressed.*
(Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon = The Wisdom Literature)

vi) The Attempts - thwarted

Human: Efforts to overcome the obstacle are thwarted. The love seems doomed.

Bible: *God's people are unfaithful to Him; they do not / can not keep the Law.* *(Judges – 2 Kings, Isaiah – Malachi = The Prophets)*



Bible Story cont

Human:

Bible:

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

vii) The Solution - surprising

Human: The obstacle is overcome. The 'baddy' is defeated - As an expression of love, the lover makes a great sacrifice.

Bible:

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

vii) The Solution - surprising

Human: The obstacle is overcome. The 'baddy' is defeated - As an expression of love, the lover makes a great sacrifice.

Bible: Jesus fulfils the law and pays the price of sin for the church He loves, by dying on the cross. ***(The Gospels)***

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

vii) The Solution - surprising

Human: The obstacle is overcome. The 'baddy' is defeated - As an expression of love, the lover makes a great sacrifice.

Bible: Jesus fulfils the law and pays the price of sin for the church He loves, by dying on the cross. ***(The Gospels)***

(If it had ended here, it would be tragic, but the Bible is no tragedy!)

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

vii) The Solution - surprising

Human: The obstacle is overcome. The 'baddy' is defeated - As an expression of love, the lover makes a great sacrifice.

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(If it had ended here, it would be tragic, but the Bible is no tragedy!)

viii) The Resolution - effective

Human: The solution is effective, the obstacle removed and the lovers may marry. The Kiss is delivered and the proposal is made!

Bible:



Bible Story cont

vii) The Solution - surprising

Human: The obstacle is overcome. The 'baddy' is defeated - As an expression of love, the lover makes a great sacrifice.

Bible: Jesus fulfils the law and pays the price of sin for the church He loves, by dying on the cross. ***(The Gospels)***

(If it had ended here, it would be tragic, but the Bible is no tragedy!)

viii) The Resolution - effective

Human: The solution is effective, the obstacle removed and the lovers may marry. The Kiss is delivered and the proposal is made!

Bible: Jesus rises from the dead, demonstrating that the barrier has been removed. God's 'proposal' is given to all nations, who are invited to respond in faith to His love. ***(Acts, Letters)***



Bible Story cont

Human:

Bible:



Bible Story cont

ix) The finish – marriage

Human: The lovers marry and live happily ever after.

Bible:



Bible Story cont

ix) The finish – marriage

Human: The lovers marry and live happily ever after.

Bible: God and those who have received and believed in Him
are united for ever. (***Revelation***)



Bible Story cont

ix) The finish – marriage

Human: The lovers marry and live happily ever after.

Bible: God and those who have received and believed in Him are united for ever. **(Revelation)**

As a love story unfolds, more is revealed about the characters involved. In the same way, as God's story of the salvation of mankind progresses, he reveals more and more about himself.

The revelation of God is therefore *cumulative*, and so every text is relevant and may be looked at within its setting in the overall story.

(This approach is described as 'Biblical Theology'.

Cf Workbook (on Website) p.11 slide 52)



Bible Story cont

From this perspective as we approach a text we can ask:



Bible Story cont

From this perspective as we approach a text we can ask:

At what stage (i - ix) does this text occur? and



Bible Story cont

From this perspective as we approach a text we can ask:

At what stage (i - ix) does this text occur? and

What relevance does it have to the overall story?



Bible Story cont

From this perspective as we approach a text we can ask:

At what stage (i - ix) does this text occur? and

What relevance does it have to the overall story?

Now try Exploration 4, Slide 66. (*Printed Workbook, p 13*)

A few minutes by yourself, and a few minutes sharing,
before looking at the suggestions on slide 67.





LOOK

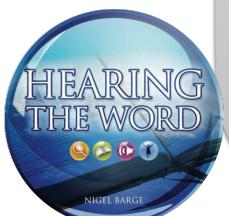
2 The Context Exploration 4:

Context of Mark 10:35-45 in the BIBLE STORY

1. ***In which section of the Bible story does this text occur?***

Select an answer from the categories (i) to (ix)

i) The Intro – Genesis 1,2	vi) The Attempts – Judges, Prophets
ii) The Problem – Genesis 3	vii) The Solution – Gospels
iii) The Hope – Gen. - Josh.	viii) The Resolution – Acts, Letters
iv) The Need – Lev. - Deut.	ix) The Finish – Revelation
v) The Emotions – Wisdom Lit.	





LOOK

2 The Context Exploration 4:

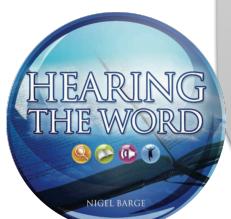
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v) The Emotions – Wisdom Lit.	

2. In 2 or 3 sentences, summarise the Bible story to this point



Exploration 4

Mark 10.35-45
Context in Bible Story

Look



In which section of the Bible story does this text occur?

Briefly summarise the Bible story to this point

Exploration 4

Mark 10.35-45
Context in Bible Story

Look



In which section of the Bible story does this text occur?
Just between sections **vi)** and **vii)** 'The attempts' and 'The solution'.

Briefly summarise the Bible story to this point

Exploration 4

Mark 10.35-45

Context in Bible Story

Look



In which section of the Bible story does this text occur?

Just between sections vi) and vii) 'The attempts' and 'The solution'.

Human: As an expression of his love, the lover is about to pay a great price to win his bride.

Briefly summarise the Bible story to this point

Exploration 4

Mark 10.35-45 **Context in Bible Story**

Look



In which section of the Bible story does this text occur?

Just between sections vi) and vii) 'The attempts' and 'The solution'.

Human: As an expression of his love, the lover is about to pay a great price to win his bride.

Bible: ***The Problem*** (separation) is about to be overcome. Jesus, because of His great love for the world, is about to defeat the Devil, fulfilling the law through dying on the cross.

Briefly summarise the Bible story to this point

Exploration 4

Mark 10.35-45 **Context in Bible Story**

Look



In which section of the Bible story does this text occur?

Just between sections vi) and vii) 'The attempts' and 'The solution'.

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Briefly summarise the Bible story to this point

Humanity and God have been separated by our sin. God's requirements — the Law — have not been met. God's solution is about to happen.

Exploration 4

Mark 10.35-45 **Context in Bible Story**

Look



In which section of the Bible story does this text occur?

Just between sections vi) and vii) 'The attempts' and 'The solution'.

Human: As an expression of his love, the lover is about to pay a great price to win his bride.

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Briefly summarise the Bible story to this point

Humanity and God have been separated by our sin. God's requirements — the Law — have not been met. God's solution is about to happen.

This is approaching the 'crux' of the story.

the command of the prophet Simeon in that same
year when Jesus had been born, and the last year
when Augustus Probus the Emperor
reigned in the world. — 10:46-47

“Every summer there were up to seven
hundred Jewish families that were... and
the day when the following summer arrived, Jesus
had taken the twelve under his head, and
said, “I am going up to Jerusalem. No Jew
believed in him, and the chief priests and teachers
of the law... They will consider him to be
a delinquent, and will hand him over to the
Gentiles, who will punch him and spit
on him, then bind and kill him. Then
darkness will fill the land.”

The Ransom of James and John
10:48-50

“Then James and John, the sons of
Zebedee, came to him. “Teacher,” they
said, “we want you to do for us what
ever we ask.”

“What do you want me to do for
you?” he asked.

“Let one of us sit at
your right and the other at your left in
your glory.”

“You don’t know what you are
asking,” Jesus said. “Can you drink the
cup I drink or be baptised with the
baptism I am baptised with?”

“We can,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “You will drink
the cup I drink and be baptised with the baptism
I am baptised with. What to all
at my right or left is not for me to grant.
These places belong to those for whom
they have been prepared.”

When the ten heard about this, they
became indignant with James and John.

Jesus called them together and said,

“You know that those who are regarded
as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over

them, and their high officials exercise
authority over them. Not so with you

instead, whoever wants to become
great among you must be your servant.”

Instead, whoever wants to become
great among you must be first must be
a slave of all, for even the Son of Man
did not come to be served, but to serve,
and to give his life as a ransom for

many.”

Blind Bartimaeus Receives His Sight
10:46-52pp — 10:26-34; 11:18-41

“Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus
and his disciples, together with a large

company of people, were passing through
the town, a blind man who had been born
blind was sitting by the roadside. He
had heard that Jesus had come, and he
called out, “Jesus, Son of David, have
mercy on me.”

“Go,” said Jesus,
“your sins are
healed.”

He sighted.

The Triumphal Entry
11:1-10 — 10:41-45; 11:1-10
11:11-14; 11:15-19

11 As they approached
Bethany, he sent two of his disci-
ples to get him a donkey tied
there, and just as you enter
the town, you will find it
not tied there, which was
hidden.” Under it and behind
it, Jesus said to them, “Why are
anyone asks you, ‘Why are
you tell him, ‘The Lord
will send it back to you.’ ”

“They went and found it

in the street, tied at a door.

“Some people
untied it,” some people
asked. “What are you
told them to, and when
they brought the
donkey, they told them
that could.” They answered
and showed them cloak over
it. “Many people spread the
cloak on the road, while others spread
it. “They had cut in the field
they had cut in the field
they went ahead and those
shouted,

“Hosanna!”
“Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord!”
11:1-10

11:1 A Hebrew expression meaning
“Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord!”

11:2-3 See also Matthew 21:1-11
11:4 See also Matthew 21:12-13
11:5 See also Matthew 21:14-15
11:6 See also Matthew 21:16-17
11:7 See also Matthew 21:18-19
11:8 See also Matthew 21:20-21
11:9 See also Matthew 21:22-23
11:10 See also Matthew 21:24-25

11:11-12 The people who had
gathered to see Jesus were
astonished at his teaching.
11:13-14 Jesus had
brought it to the town.
11:15-16 Jesus had
brought it to the town.
11:17-18 Jesus had
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11:15-16 Jesus had
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11:99-100 Jesus had
brought it to the town.

12:1-2 The Parable of the Vineyard
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12:18-21; 12:22-28

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12:1-2 The Parable of the Vineyard



LEARN

The next stage is to try to learn what the particular passage of the Bible means. To do this we need to:





LEARN

The next stage is to try to learn what the particular passage of the Bible *means*. To do this we need to:

- 1) Recognise the type of writing





LEARN

The next stage is to try to learn what the particular passage of the Bible means. To do this we need to:

- 1) Recognise the type of writing
- 2) Answer the questions the passage raises





LEARN

The next stage is to try to learn what the particular passage of the Bible means. To do this we need to:

- 1) Recognise the type of writing
- 2) Answer the questions the passage raises
- 3) Get an overview





LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing

God's word was given....





LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing

God's word was given....

- a) *through* a variety of writers – a shepherd, a king, prophets, a fisherman, a tax collector, a doctor, etc.





LEARN

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God's word was given....

- a) *through* a variety of writers – a shepherd, a king, prophets, a fisherman, a tax collector, a doctor, etc.
- b) *over* a period of 1,500 years.





LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing

God's word was given....

- a) *through* a variety of writers – a shepherd, a king, prophets, a fisherman, a tax collector, a doctor, etc.
- b) *over* a period of 1,500 years.
- c) *within* a variety of types of writing:
Law, Poetry, History, Wisdom,
Prophecy, Letter, Vision, Parable.





LEARN

1) **Recognise the type of writing** cont.

We usually approach different types of reading material in different ways: we don't read Shakespeare, a newspaper report, a car manual, a rule book, a poem and a 'txt msg' in the same way!

We take into account why each was written and how it uses words.





LEARN

1) **Recognise the type of writing** cont.

We usually approach different types of reading material in different ways: we don't read Shakespeare, a newspaper report, a car manual, a rule book, a poem and a 'txt msg' in the same way!

We take into account why each was written and how it uses words.

So it is with the Bible. We acknowledge the miracle of the Bible: it is all given by God, and all reveals His Truth. However, we need to take into account the *type of writing* in which His Word is given to be able to see *how* it is true and *what* we should do with it.





LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing cont.

*In Exploration 5,
ask yourself three useful questions:*





LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing cont.

*In Exploration 5,
ask yourself three useful questions:*

1. *What type of literature is this?*

Law, Poetry, History, Wisdom, Prophecy, Letter, Vision, Parable.





LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing cont.

*In Exploration 5,
ask yourself three useful questions:*

1. *What type of literature is this?
Law, Poetry, History, Wisdom, Prophecy, Letter, Vision, Parable.*
2. *In what way would you say this passage is true?*





LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing cont.

*In Exploration 5,
ask yourself three useful questions:*

1. *What type of literature is this?
Law, Poetry, History, Wisdom, Prophecy, Letter, Vision, Parable.*
2. *In what way would you say this passage is true?*
3. *How might God want us to respond to it?*





LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing cont.

*In Exploration 5,
ask yourself three useful questions:*

1. *What type of literature is this?
Law, Poetry, History, Wisdom, Prophecy, Letter, Vision, Parable.*
2. *In what way would you say this passage is true?*
3. *How might God want us to respond to it?*



The next slide gives two examples to start you off.

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



a) *“A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho.”*

(Luke 10:30)

Type?

True?

Response?

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



a) ***“A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho.”*** (Luke 10:30)

Type? *This is a parable. It is not history. There was no man.*

True?

Response?

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



a) ***“A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho.”*** (Luke 10:30)

Type? *This is a **parable**. It is not history. There was no man.*

True? *It illustrates a **truth** Jesus taught.*

Response?

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



a) ***“A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho.”*** (Luke 10:30)

Type? *This is a **parable**. It is not history. There was no man.*

True? *It illustrates a **truth** Jesus taught.*

Response? *Heed the point of the parable.*

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



a) “*A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho.*” (Luke 10:30)

Type? This is a **parable**. It is not history. There was no man.

True? It illustrates a **truth** Jesus taught.

Response? Heed the point of the parable.

b) “*Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the centre of the throne....*

He had seven horns and seven eyes.” (Revelation 5:6)

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



a) ***“A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho.”*** ***(Luke 10:30)***

Type? *This is a **parable**. It is not history. There was no man.*

True? *It illustrates a **truth** Jesus taught.*

Response? *Heed the point of the parable.*

b) ***“Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain,
standing at the centre of the throne....***

He had seven horns and seven eyes.” ***(Revelation 5:6)***

Type? *This is a **vision**.*

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



a) “*A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho.*” (Luke 10:30)

Type? This is a **parable**. It is not history. There was no man.

True? It illustrates a **truth** Jesus taught.

Response? Heed the point of the parable.

b) “*Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the centre of the throne....*

He had seven horns and seven eyes.” (Revelation 5:6)

Type? This is a **vision**.

True? It describes **truth** in the form of a picture.

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



a) ***“A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho.”*** **(Luke 10:30)**

Type? *This is a **parable**. It is not history. There was no man.*

True? *It illustrates a **truth** Jesus taught.*

Response? *Heed the point of the parable.*

b) ***“Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain,
standing at the centre of the throne....***

He had seven horns and seven eyes.” **(Revelation 5:6)**

Type? *This is a **vision**.*

True? *It describes **truth** in the form of a picture.*

Response? *Imagine it and interpret it.*

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



Now try some yourself Literature Type? / How is it true? / How respond?
(Law, Poetry, History, Wisdom, Prophecy, Letter, Vision, Parable.)

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



Now try some yourself Literature Type? / How is it true? / How respond?
(Law, Poetry, History, Wisdom, Prophecy, Letter, Vision, Parable.)

c) "The God of Jacob is our fortress."

(Psalm 46:7)

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



Now try some yourself Literature Type? / How is it true? / How respond?
(Law, Poetry, History, Wisdom, Prophecy, Letter, Vision, Parable.)

- c) "The God of Jacob is our fortress." **(Psalm 46:7)**
- d) "When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments." **(2 Timothy 4:13)**

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



Now try some yourself Literature Type? / How is it true? / How respond?
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- e) "You shall have no other gods before me." **(Deuteronomy 5:7)**

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

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- e) "You shall have no other gods before me." **(Deuteronomy 5:7)**
- f) "Afterwards, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy..." **(Joel 2:28)**

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

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Now try some yourself Literature Type? / How is it true? / How respond?
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- f) "Afterwards, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy..." **(Joel 2:28)**
- g) "Early on the 1st day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and found that the stone had been removed from the entrance." **(John 20:1)**

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



c) ***The God of Jacob is our fortress***

(Psalm 46:7)

Type?

True?

Response?

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



c) “*The God of Jacob is our fortress*”

(Psalm 46:7)

Type? *This is poetry.*

True?

Response?

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



c) “***The God of Jacob is our fortress***”

(Psalm 46:7)

Type? *This is poetry.*

True? *God is not made of stone etc; the metaphor points to the truth that God is our security.*

Response?

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



c) “***The God of Jacob is our fortress***”

(Psalm 46:7)

Type? *This is poetry.*

True? *God is not made of stone etc; the metaphor points to the truth that God is our security.*

Response? *Take refuge in God.*

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



c) ***“The God of Jacob is our fortress”***

(Psalm 46:7)

Type? *This is poetry.*

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d) ***“When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.”*** (2 Timothy 4:13)

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



c) ***“The God of Jacob is our fortress”***

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Type? *This is poetry.*

True? *God is not made of stone etc; the metaphor points to the truth that God is our security.*

Response? *Take refuge in God.*

d) ***“When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.”*** (2 Timothy 4:13)

Type? *This is a letter.*

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



c) ***“The God of Jacob is our fortress”***

(Psalm 46:7)

Type? *This is poetry.*

True? *God is not made of stone etc; the metaphor points to the truth that God is our security.*

Response? *Take refuge in God.*

d) ***“When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.” (2 Timothy 4:13)***

Type? *This is a letter.*

True? *It was a true instruction given to Timothy at one point in time.*

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



c) ***“The God of Jacob is our fortress”***

(Psalm 46:7)

Type? *This is poetry.*

True? *God is not made of stone etc; the metaphor points to the truth that God is our security.*

Response? *Take refuge in God.*

d) ***“When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, and my scrolls, especially the parchments.” (2 Timothy 4:13)***

Type? *This is a letter.*

True? *It was a **true** instruction given to Timothy at one point in time.*

Response? *Take no ‘direct’ action.*

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



e) ***You shall have no other God's before me'***

(Deuteronomy. 5:7)

Type?

True?

Response?

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



e) ***You shall have no other God's before me'***

(Deuteronomy. 5:7)

Type? *This is Law.*

True?

Response?

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



e) ***You shall have no other God's before me'***

(Deuteronomy. 5:7)

Type? *This is Law.*

True? *It is truly a command of God. (Obedience and disobedience have consequences.)*

Response?

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



e) ***You shall have no other God's before me'***

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True? *It is truly a command of God. (Obedience and disobedience have consequences.)*

Response? *Obey it!*

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



e) ***You shall have no other God's before me'***

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Type? *This is Law.*

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Response? *Obey it!*

f) ***“Afterwards, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy....”***

(Joel 2:28)

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



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(Deuteronomy. 5:7)

Type? *This is Law.*

True? *It is truly a command of God. (Obedience and disobedience have consequences.)*

Response? *Obey it!*

f) ***Afterwards, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy...."***

(Joel 2:28)

Type? *This is prophecy.*

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



e) ***You shall have no other God's before me'***

(Deuteronomy. 5:7)

Type? *This is Law.*

True? *It is truly a command of God. (Obedience and disobedience have consequences.)*

Response? *Obey it!*

f) ***Afterwards, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy...."***

(Joel 2:28)

Type? *This is prophecy.*

True? *Peter says this day has come (Acts 2:17). It is true today.*

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



e) ***You shall have no other God's before me'***

(Deuteronomy. 5:7)

Type? *This is Law.*

True? *It is truly a command of God. (Obedience and disobedience have consequences.)*

Response? *Obey it!*

f) ***“Afterwards, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy....”***

(Joel 2:28)

Type? *This is prophecy.*

True? *Peter says this day has come (Acts 2:17). It is true today.*

Response? *God expects us to believe the prophet and receive the Spirit.*

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



g) “Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and found that the stone had been removed from the entrance.”

(John 20:1)

Type?

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



g) “Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and found that the stone had been removed from the entrance.”

(John 20:1)

Type? *This is History*

True?

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



g) “*Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and found that the stone had been removed from the entrance.*” **(John 20:1)**

Type? *This is History*

True? *It is an historical truth. It gives an account of an actual event and expects us to believe it.* **(John 20:31)**

Response?

Exploration 5

Mark 10.35-45
Type of writing

Learn



g) ***“Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and found that the stone had been removed from the entrance.”*** ***(John 20:1)***

Type? *This is History*

True? *It is an historical truth. It gives an account of an actual event and expects us to believe it.* ***(John 20:31)***

Response? *Believe it!*



LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing cont.

Conclusion

Type?

True?

Response?





LEARN

1) **Recognise the type of writing** cont.

Conclusion

*Therefore in trying to find out **what** an author is saying, we must take into account **how** he is saying it.*

Type?

True?

Response?





LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing cont.

Conclusion

*Therefore in trying to find out **what** an author is saying, we must take into account **how** he is saying it.*

*In the passage in question (**Mark 10:35-45**),*

Type?

True?

Response?





LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing cont.

Conclusion

*Therefore in trying to find out **what** an author is saying, we must take into account **how** he is saying it.*

*In the passage in question (**Mark 10:35-45**),*

Type? Mark is reporting a **historical incident** in the life of Jesus.

True?

Response?





LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing cont.

Conclusion

*Therefore in trying to find out **what** an author is saying, we must take into account **how** he is saying it.*

*In the passage in question (**Mark 10:35-45**),*

Type? *Mark is reporting a **historical incident** in the life of Jesus.*

True? *It is a **true** record of an actual event – embarrassingly honest!*

Response?





LEARN

1) Recognise the type of writing cont.

Conclusion

*Therefore in trying to find out **what** an author is saying, we must take into account **how** he is saying it.*

*In the passage in question (**Mark 10:35-45**),*

Type? Mark is reporting a **historical incident** in the life of Jesus.

True? It is a **true** record of an actual event – embarrassingly honest!

Response? (More on this later!)





LEARN

2) Address the questions

Once we recognise the type of writing in our passage, we can use the information gathered from the context to address the questions that the passage raised.





LEARN

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Once we recognise the type of writing in our passage, we can use the information gathered from the context to address the questions that the passage raised.

Exploration 6 shows some of the 'W' questions (underlined) that might have been asked in Exploration 1 (slides 33-36, WB p8).

Try to answer them, first by yourself, drawing on what you now know of the wider context of the passage.

Examples are given for v35 - 37.



Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45
Questions Answered

Learn



Examples of answers to questions raised in Exploration 1 above vv 35-37

35 'Then': What were they doing before this?

Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45 **Questions Answered**

Learn



Examples of answers to questions raised in Exploration 1 above vv 35-37

35 'Then': What were they doing before this?

e.g. Jesus had just told them that He was going to be betrayed and killed but later He would rise.

Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45
Questions Answered

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Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45 Questions Answered

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e.g. They were privileged disciples of Jesus who had been at His transfiguration.

Exploration 6

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Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45 Questions Answered

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Exploration 6

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e.g. They were trying to trap Him into granting their request.

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'We want you': What does the manner of their approach suggest?

e.g. They were trying to trap Him into granting their request. They were at ease with Him.

Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45
Questions Answered

Learn



Examples of answers to questions raised in Exploration 1 above (cont.)

36 ‘What do you want?’: Why didn’t Jesus dismiss their request?

Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45
Questions Answered

Learn



Examples of answers to questions raised in Exploration 1 above (cont.)

36 ‘What do you want?’: Why didn’t Jesus dismiss their request?

Jesus was patient, determined that they should learn.

Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45
Questions Answered

Learn



Examples of answers to questions raised in Exploration 1 above (cont.)

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Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45
Questions Answered

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Exploration 6

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Exploration 6

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Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45

Questions Answered

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‘Glory’ to them meant Jesus being enthroned as king in Jerusalem.

What did Jesus know was His way to glory?

Jesus knew that this meant crucifixion. (John 17:1; 19:19)

Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45 **Questions Answered**

Learn



Now try some yourself

38a 'You don't know'

Why didn't they know what they were asking?

38b 'Cup and Baptism'

What is the significance of these things?

39 'You will drink'

When and how would they share these?

40 'Places not for you'

Who would allocate them? Who were they for?

41 'Ten indignant'

Why were the others so annoyed?

42 'Rulers of Gentiles'

Why of the Gentiles, not of the Jews, or of the World?

Were there other questions raised? (See your own notes on page 8.)

How resolve surprises?

Jesus didn't rebuke His disciples – why not?

Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45

Questions Answered

Learn



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Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45 **Questions Answered**

Learn



38a 'You don't know' Why didn't they know what they were asking?
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Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45 **Questions Answered**

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Exploration 6

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Exploration 6

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After the Holy Spirit came, they would share the power of the resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings.

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At the crucifixion — which was Jesus' way to glory, John 17:1 — Pilate / the soldiers put robbers on each side. (Mark 15:9)

Exploration 6

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Pilate / the soldiers put robbers on each side. (Mark 15:9)

In heaven, the Father places Jesus on His right ! (Colossians 3:1)

Exploration 6

41 ‘Ten indignant’

Mark 10:35-45

Questions Answered

Why were the others so annoyed?

Learn



Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45

Questions Answered

Learn



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Why were the others so annoyed?

They had all been jockeying for position and prestige.

Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45

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Exploration 6

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Questions Answered

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Peter especially might have felt left out (Mark 9:2 - Transfiguration).

Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45

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Exploration 6

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Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45

Questions Answered

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Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45

Questions Answered

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To want to be great in the Kingdom was not a sin.

He had to explain that being great involved sacrificial service.

Exploration 6

Mark 10:35-45

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He had to explain that being great involved sacrificial service.

The boldness and cheek of the disciples!

They felt completely safe and accepted in His company.



LEARN

3) Gain an Overview

Now that we have taken the passage to 'bits', we need to put it together again and take an overview.

We do this by trying to summarise it in a few sentences.

(In English lessons this is known as 'making a *précis*'.)



Exploration 7

An Overall Picture of Mark 10.35-45

Learn



Take a minute to summarise the passage as briefly as you can

Exploration 7

An Overall Picture of Mark 10.35-45

Learn



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James and John sneakily asked for places of honour in Jesus' glory.

Exploration 7

An Overall Picture of Mark 10.35-45

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James and John sneakily asked for places of honour in Jesus' glory.

He promised they could share all that was His ...

Exploration 7

An Overall Picture of Mark 10.35-45

Learn



Take a minute to summarise the passage as briefly as you can

James and John sneakily asked for places of honour in Jesus' glory.

He promised they could share all that was His ...

... if they followed His self-sacrificial example.



LISTEN

1) **The Main Point**

Any unit of written communication (sentence, paragraph, chapter, book) has a central, unifying theme. It's the same with the Bible. Although we might learn *many* things from a passage, there will be a main point that the author is trying to communicate.





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1) **The Main Point**

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To miss this is to 'miss the point'. Indeed, the tradition of calling a reading of the Bible, "**The** Lesson", points to this fact.





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To miss this is to 'miss the point'. Indeed, the tradition of calling a reading of the Bible, "**The** Lesson", points to this fact.

NB The main point / lesson is a *statement of fact*, not a command requiring action. Our *reaction* to it comes in the last section, **LIVE**.





LISTEN

2) A Key Verse

At school, English teachers encourage us to look for a 'topical sentence' in a paragraph or passage. This is a sentence that sums up its theme. The exercise of looking for this may help us to crystallise in our minds what the main point of a passage is.





LISTEN

2) A Key Verse

At school, English teachers encourage us to look for a 'topical sentence' in a paragraph or passage. This is a sentence that sums up its theme. The exercise of looking for this may help us to crystallise in our minds what the main point of a passage is.

The same is true of reading the Bible. Indeed, the key verse is sometimes used by preachers as a "text" when they start to preach, to give a window into the meaning of the passage.





LISTEN

Notes

Trying to spot such a verse (if there is one) can be a helpful discipline - *but it's not a guaranteed formula!*





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Sometimes it is easier to spot the Key Verse *first*, which may make the Main Point clearer.





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Try Exploration 8 by yourself for a few minutes, then share your thoughts with the others on your course.

It asks 3 questions:



Exploration 8

The message of Mark 10:35-45

Listen



- 1 What do you consider to be the 'lesson' or the main point of the passage?**

- 2 Which verse best sums up the message of this passage?**

- 3 What are the reasons for your choice?**

Exploration 8

The message of Mark 10:35-45

Listen



1 What do you consider to be the 'lesson' or the main point of the passage?

Being 'first' in following Jesus involves, like Him, total, gracious, self-sacrifice for others.

2 Which verse best sums up the message of this passage?

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Exploration 8

The message of Mark 10:35-45

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2 Which verse best sums up the message of this passage?

Vv 44b, 45: “... Whoever wants to be first must be the slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many. ”

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Exploration 8

The message of Mark 10:35-45

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James' and John's goal was not wrong - Jesus did not rebuke them.

However, they misunderstood 'greatness'.

Exploration 8

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However, they misunderstood 'greatness'.

*He told them they could share His greatness,
by sharing His example and becoming servants of all.*

the common people. But when Jesus saw that the teachers of the law were coming, he left. But when the teachers of the law saw that Jesus had left, they took the boy and held him. Jesus was angry. He told the teachers of the law, "Leave the boy alone. He is not worthy of your anger. He is God's son."

The Ransom of James and John
10:46-47 — [10:46-47](#)

"Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to him. 'Teacher,' they said, 'we want you to do for us what ever we ask.'

"What do you want me to do for you?' he asked.

"Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory.'

"You don't know what you are asking," Jesus said. "Can you drink the cup I drink or be baptised with the baptism I am baptised with?"

"We can," they answered.

Jesus said to them, "Then will drink the cup I drink and be baptised with the baptism I am baptised with. What to all at my right or left is not for me to grant. These places belong to those for whom they have been prepared."

When the ten heard about this, they became indignant with James and John. Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant. Hand whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Blind Bartimaeus Receives His Sight
10:46-52 — [10:46-52](#)

"Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large

company of people, were going up to Jericho, the chief priests and the teachers of the law who followed were shouting, "Get out! Get out! This man is a heretic, and he is going up to Jerusalem to break the law."

"Leave the boy alone," Jesus said.

"He is not worthy of your anger. He is God's son."

The Triumphal Entry
11:1-10 — [11:1-10](#)

11 As they approached Bethany, he sent two of his disciples to them. "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will see a donkey tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord will send it back to me.'

"They went and found it in the street, tied at a door. They untied it. Some people asked, "What are you doing?"

"They answered that they had told them to, and when they heard this, they left.

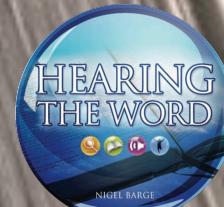
"When they left, they saw a man

shouting,

"Hosanna!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

¶ A Hebrew expression meaning "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" became an exclamation of praise. See Psalms 108:25, 26.





LIVE

Once we have discovered the theme or main point in a passage, we must then decide how to **respond**. The Word of God is meant to change how we *live*.





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Once we have discovered the theme or main point in a passage, we must then decide how to **respond**. The Word of God is meant to change how we *live*.

In doing this, however, we need to keep in mind that the subject of the Bible is God, not people ! The Bible is God's Word. It is His 'autobiography' in history. It describes how God worked out His unfolding plan of salvation for humanity. It is written by God 'with' human authors, just as many sports 'autobiographies' are written by others listening to the words of a famous athlete. Everything written is *about* God and *inspired* by God.





LIVE

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God's purpose in His Word is to reveal Himself to us, so that we might glorify Him and become like Him. When we apply the Word of God to our lives, we should always ask,





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first, 'What does this passage **show** us about **God**?' and only





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God's purpose in His Word is to reveal Himself to us, so that we might glorify Him and become like Him. When we apply the Word of God to our lives, we should always ask,

first, 'What does this passage **show** us about **God**?' and only secondly, 'What should **I** then **do**?'





LIVE

1) What does it show about God?

We are looking for **truths** about:





LIVE

1) What does it show about God?

We are looking for **truths** about:

a) God's nature and character





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1) What does it show about God? We are looking for **truths** about:

a) God's nature and character

God is always the same, though the extent to which He reveals Himself progresses through the Bible. True, the supreme, complete revelation came when the eternal word, Jesus, was made flesh and lived among us (John 1:1,14).

But God shows us what He is like throughout the *whole* Bible, Old and New Testaments.





LIVE

- 1) What does it show about God? cont**
- b) God's grace to mankind?**





LIVE

1) What does it show about God? cont

b) God's grace to mankind?

God's supreme act of grace (giving to the undeserving) was the gift of His son. (John 3:16) This was the full revelation of His 'grace and truth.' (John 1:17)





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God's supreme act of grace (giving to the undeserving) was the gift of His son. (John 3:16) This was the full revelation of His 'grace and truth.' (John 1:17)

However, God has *always* been gracious and has shown His grace in all His dealings with His people. *E.g.* God brought His people out of Egypt *before* He gave them a Law to keep!





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However, God has *always* been gracious and has shown His grace in all His dealings with His people. *E.g.* God brought His people out of Egypt *before* He gave them a Law to keep!

It is therefore good to ask of every text -

'What do I see here that reminds me of God's grace:
He does not treat us as we deserve, but gives to us freely?'





LIVE

1) What does it show about God? cont

c) His revelation in Jesus?





LIVE

1) What does it show about God? cont

c) His revelation in Jesus?

God revealed Himself gradually to the people of Israel, but in Jesus we saw '*the radiance of God's glory, the exact representation of His being.*' (Hebrews 1:3)





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God revealed Himself gradually to the people of Israel, but in Jesus we saw '*the radiance of God's glory, the exact representation of His being.*' (Hebrews 1:3)

Jesus is the subject of the autobiography. It is all about Him! As with all autobiographies, every part of it can be connected to its author.





LIVE

1) What does it show about God? cont

c) His revelation in Jesus? cont

E.g., if page 127 line 7 of an autobiography says...





LIVE

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E.g., if page 127 line 7 of an autobiography says...

'Mrs Daniels led her class through the reading drill.'

... it must have something to do with the subject.





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1) What does it show about God? cont

c) His revelation in Jesus? cont

E.g., if page 127 line 7 of an autobiography says...

'Mrs Daniels led her class through the reading drill.'

... it must have something to do with the subject.

(This is from the autobiography of the former US President George W Bush, describing his visit to Booker school, Florida on Sept 11, 2001, when he was told of the second aircraft hitting the Twin Towers in New York.)





LIVE

1) **What does it show about God?** cont

c) **His revelation in Jesus?** cont

In the same way everything in the Bible revolves round and is connected to Jesus. This is why he told the Pharisees:





LIVE

1) What does it show about God? cont

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In the same way everything in the Bible revolves round and is connected to Jesus. This is why he told the Pharisees:

“You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me...

“... Moses ... wrote about me.” (John 5:39-46).



***What do
you see?***



***What do
you see?***

*Is it a couple by
the shore?*



***What do
you see?***

*Is it a couple by
the shore?*



There's another way of looking.

**What do
you see?**

*Is it a couple by
the shore?*



There's another way of looking.

Can you see 'a baby in a tree'?



101

101-1



101

101-2



101

101-3



LIVE

1) What does it show about God? cont

c) His revelation in Jesus? cont

Once you see the baby, you will never be able to miss it again. In the same way, once you start to recognise Jesus in the whole Bible, you will see Him everywhere you look! There are a few, rare places where Jesus specifically identifies Himself in the Old Testament:





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John 3:14 “Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up.” - cf Numbers 21:6-9

Matthew 12:40 “...for as Jonah was three days and nights in the belly of a huge fish so the son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.” - cf Jonah 1:17





LIVE

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Luke 4:15-21 “*The Spirit of the Lord is on me’... Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.*” cf Isaiah 61:2





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Luke 4:15-21 *“The Spirit of the Lord is on me’... Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”* cf Isaiah 61:2

Many other OT verses allude to Jesus indirectly, as Cleopas and his friend discovered on the day of His resurrection. *“Beginning with Moses and the prophets, He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself.”* (Luke 24:27, 32)





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Many other OT verses allude to Jesus *indirectly*, as Cleopas and his friend discovered on the day of His resurrection. “*Beginning with Moses and the prophets, He explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning Himself.*” (Luke 24:27, 32)

The Bible is not a patchwork of stories and bits and pieces, but a seamless garment made of one cloth. At any given point, this unfolding Bible either **anticipates**, or **reveals** or **explains** Jesus!





LIVE

1) What does it show about God? cont

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The Bible reveals that the crucifixion was the central event of His life and of world history. Jesus was the





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The Bible reveals that the crucifixion was the central event of His life and of world history. Jesus was the

'Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.' (John 1:29)

He came to give His life as a *'ransom for many.'* (Mark 10:45)





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'Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.' (John 1:29)

He came to give His life as a *'ransom for many.'* (Mark 10:45)

Therefore, as we read any part of the Word of God, it is right to ask how it relates to Jesus and His work of saving humanity from sin through His death on the cross.





LIVE

1) **What does it show about God?** cont

c) **His revelation in Jesus?** cont

A way of acknowledging this is to write a sentence about the passage using the word, 'Jesus'. E.g





LIVE

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Like **Jesus**...





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Like **Jesus**,...

Unlike **Jesus**,...





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... pointing to **Jesus**





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... as fulfilled by **Jesus** on the cross.

Now try Exploration 9, Responding to what Mark 10:35-45 shows about God. Take a few minutes then share your thoughts with others on your course. Here's one example to start you off:



Exploration 9

What does Mark 10.35-45 show us of God?

Live



1. *What does the passage show about God (Father, Son or Holy Spirit)?*

(Looking for statements about God)

a) *His nature and character?*

b) *His grace?*

c) *Jesus / His salvation on the Cross?*

Exploration 9

What does Mark 10.35-45 show us of God?

Live



1. *What does the passage show about God (Father, Son or Holy Spirit)?*
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e.g. 35 God (Jesus) is approachable.

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Exploration 9

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**Now try
some by
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Exploration 9

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1. What does the passage show about God (Father, Son or Holy Spirit)?

Live



Exploration 9

What does Mark 10.35-45 show us of God?

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Exploration 9

What does Mark 10.35-45 show us of God?

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1. What does the passage show about God (Father, Son or Holy Spirit)?

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What does Mark 10.35-45 show us of God?

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Mark's Main Point?*

36 **God is patient with His dim disciples.** *Underline it.*

40 **God the Father is in sole charge of the seating plan in Glory.**

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Exploration 9

**What does Mark 10.35-45
show us of God?**

Live



NB

Exploration 9

What does Mark 10.35-45 show us of God?

Live



NB After every reading of the Bible it is possible and desirable to ***stop and praise God*** for all He has revealed about Himself in that passage.

Let's do so, now!



LIVE

2) What should I do?

This time we are looking for **commands**





LIVE

2) What should I do?

This time we are looking for **commands**

*“Do not merely **listen** to the word, and so deceive yourselves. **Do** what it says.”*
(James 1:22-25)

The Bible’s purpose is not only to change our attitude to God; it is also meant to change how we *live*.





LIVE

2) What should I do?

In seeking how God would have us do this, it is good to try and discern, from all we have learned about the context in which the Word was initially given, how we think God wanted those who first received it to respond in their day.





LIVE

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Dick Lucas, an influential minister in 20th century London, used to teach that in order to apply the letters to the Corinthians, you had to “Go to Corinth”! This means that, discerning how God might have wanted the first readers to apply the letter in *their* situation gives us a steer as to how God would expect us to apply it in *our* lives today.





LIVE

2) What should I do? *continued*

So, we ask how God expected the original hearers of this Word to respond to it, **before** asking what we should do now.





LIVE

2) What should I do? *continued*

So, we ask how God expected the original hearers of this Word to respond to it, **before** asking what we should do now.

Then, as we seek to apply the Word of God to our lives, we ask,

What would God have me do to change my actions?

To hear this, we let the Holy Spirit scan our lives and highlight the areas for action. After that it is up to us to act!





LIVE

2) **What should I do?** *continued*

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In Exploration 10, 'What should I do?' take a few minutes by yourself to write down your thoughts. Here are a couple of examples first:



Exploration 10

2. *What should I do?*

35

37

**Responding to
Mark 10.35-45**

Live



Exploration 10

Responding to Mark 10.35-45

Live



2. *What should I do?*

35 *Don't try and 'get around' God.*

37

Exploration 10

Responding to Mark 10.35-45

Live



2. *What should I do?*

35 *Don't try and 'get around' God.*

37 *Look for the benefit of others before yourself.*

Exploration 10

Responding to Mark 10.35-45

Live



2. *What should I do?*

35 *Don't try and 'get around' God.*

37 *Look for the benefit of others before yourself.*

Now try some by yourself

Exploration 10

Responding to Mark 10.35-45

Live



2. *What should I do?*

35 *Don't try and 'get around' God.*

37 *Look for the benefit of others before yourself.*

Now try some by yourself

39 *Be prepared to receive Jesus' Baptism (His Spirit) as well as His Cup (His sufferings).*

Exploration 10

Responding to Mark 10.35-45

Live



2. What should I do?

- 35 *Don't try and 'get around' God.*
- 37 *Look for the benefit of others before yourself.*

Now try some by yourself

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- 40 *Respect God's sovereign choices.*

Exploration 10

Responding to Mark 10.35-45

Live



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Exploration 10

Responding to Mark 10.35-45

Live



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- 43 *Don't lord it over other people.*

Exploration 10

Responding to Mark 10.35-45

Live



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- 43 *Don't lord it over other people.*
- 44 *Work at excelling in serving others.*

Exploration 10

Responding to Mark 10.35-45

Live



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Exploration 10

Responding to Mark 10.35-45

Live



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*Which one
applies Mark's
Main Point?
Underline it.*

Exploration 10

Responding to Mark 10.35-45

Live



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Underline it.*



LIVE

Conclusion

As we read the Word, we may think that God wants us to act on it in some specific way.

How can we be sure that it is God's 'voice',
and what should we do when we hear it?





LIVE

Conclusion

1) Is it God?

Ways in which we may test this are by referring to:





LIVE

Conclusion

1) Is it God?

Ways in which we may test this are by referring to:

a) *The rest of the Word*

If it is God, it will always be in line with the general teaching of the Bible - God doesn't contradict Himself!





LIVE

Conclusion

1) Is it God?

Ways in which we may test this are by referring to:

- a) *The rest of the Word***
- b) *Other believers***





LIVE

Conclusion

1) Is it God?

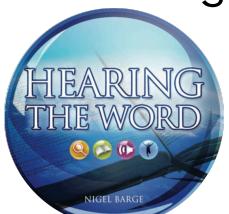
Ways in which we may test this are by referring to:

a) *The rest of the Word*

b) *Other believers*

We might usually expect other believers to confirm this is what the passage means. The 'witness of the Spirit' means that the same God who inspired the writers can today help readers who are genuinely 'seeking God's will, in God's Word, so as to join in doing God's work.'

(Mark Greene)





LIVE

Conclusion

1) Is it God?

Ways in which we may test this are by referring to:

- a) *The rest of the Word*
- b) *Other believers*
- c) *Experience*





LIVE

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- b) *Other believers***
- c) *Experience***

God's is a '*still, small voice*' (1 Kings 19:12 AV), but it is one that is '*known by His sheep*'. (John 10:27) The more we listen for and obediently live out the Word of God, the more familiar we will be with God's voice.





LIVE

Conclusion

2) What should I do?

Have faith in God! This is not an inward feeling or an outward proof. It is the action that follows the belief that God may be speaking to you. You will not see till you do!





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Conclusion

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Have faith in God! This is not an inward feeling or an outward proof. It is the action that follows the belief that God may be speaking to you. You will not see till you do!

*“Faith is being sure of what we hope for
and certain of what we do not see”.*

(Hebrews 11:1)



HEARING THE WORD



NIGEL BARGE

*Continue for Summary (p31)
and The Next Step? (p32)*

Summary



LOOK



LEARN



LISTEN



LIVE



Summary



LOOK

What does it say?

Text

Context



LEARN



LISTEN



LIVE



Summary



LOOK

What does it say?

Text

Context



LEARN

What does it mean?

Writing Type?

Answer questions.



LISTEN



LIVE



Summary



LOOK

What does it say?

Text

Context



LEARN

What does it mean?

Writing Type?

Answer questions.



LISTEN

What is God's message?

Main Point?

Key Verse?



LIVE



Summary



LOOK

What does it say?

Text

Context



LEARN

What does it mean?

Writing Type?

Answer questions.



LISTEN

What is God's message?

Main Point?

Key Verse?



LIVE

How should we respond?

What does it show about God?

What should I do?



The Next Step?

Immediate Practice is essential to cement the principles learned.

The Follow On material (pages 33-64 of the printed Workbook) contains 6 studies covering Mark 10:45 - 12:17, the passages immediately after the one studied already.



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Completing these studies provides a good way for those who have learned the principles to try them out by themselves on passages whose contexts they already know.



The Next Step? *continued*

If, thereafter, there is an opportunity for people to gather (online or in person) to talk about their findings, then receive some feed back, it will re-create the 'Teach, Try, Talk' learning method of the Introduction.



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Bible Study material



The Next Step? *continued*

If, thereafter, there is an opportunity for people to gather (online or in person) to talk about their findings, then receive some feed back, it will re-create the 'Teach, Try, Talk' learning method of the Introduction.

Bible Study material

The model, once established in our minds, can be applied to any passage. A series of studies is available for use by individuals or groups that cover different books in the Bible. The booklets give guidance about reading the particular type of literature in the context of social, historical, geographical and religious information that was familiar to those who first received the Word.



The Next Step? *continued*

For whom?

Hearing the Word can be used alone, with one other person, or in a group. It works in person or online. 'Experts' and beginners can learn together if participants concentrate on the passage and not past knowledge. Even the complete novice can feel comfortable at the start when everyone lists questions, whether they know the answer to them or not!



The Next Step? *continued*

For whom?

Hearing the Word can be used alone, with one other person, or in a group. It works in person or online. 'Experts' and beginners can learn together if participants concentrate on the passage and not past knowledge. Even the complete novice can feel comfortable at the start when everyone lists questions, whether they know the answer to them or not!

Completing the Loop

If the studies happen *prior to* a sermon on the passage, the benefit may be great - the preacher then speaks into a context where his hearers have thought and talked about the text beforehand.



HEARING THE WORD

Introduction

NIGEL BARGE

*Thank you
for watching*

For Presenters (1/5)

Hearing the Word is simple to use if you:

1) **Trust the material**

Read it out, word for word; participants follow on your shared screen.

Paraphrasing makes it harder for others to follow. However, a few added comments or illustrations may be helpful.

2) **Do not teach**

Teaching Bible facts is great in other settings; here, however, the goal is not to impart Bible knowledge but to demonstrate principles that will help people think for themselves. If you adopt the position of Bible teacher, they will sit back and let you do the thinking!

3) **Encourage participation**

Continually stress the need to learn together with one another in groups. If you give people time to think for themselves and write down answers, they will all have something to say during the sharing time.

For Presenters (2/5)

If meeting in person

Ensure that participants are identified – for a large group of strangers, provide name labels; in a small group, facilitate personal introductions.

Ask participants to organise themselves into groups of 3 to 4 persons.

If possible, ensure newcomers are in a group with someone they know.

Ensure all have Bibles and the means to write answers to the Explorations.

It is easier to write if the seats are around small tables. Some groups find it helpful to have Mark chapters 9 – 12 printed very legibly on A4 sheets, available separately (see website).

Ensure everyone can see the screen. If projecting to a large screen, use the focus slide (No 131) beforehand to check screen ratio. Show Slide 6 (Bible, logo and title) as people arrive.

NB In the print version, boxes and double “quotation marks” give the presenter extra words to say; italics merely convey advice to the presenter.

For Presenters (3/5)

If 'Meeting' Online

Arrange a date and time for the beginning of the Course. It may take seven sessions of 40 minutes.

Send participants the text of the Workbook by email.

Choose an app. that allows for several people to be online together (e.g. Zoom or Microsoft Teams). Send them log-in details in advance.

Start the (Zoom/Teams) meeting, then on the same computer run the slide set of the Introduction Course Leader's Guide, then 'share your screen', revealing text as required. (View this script on a second device.)

Participants write down their answers either on paper, or in their copy of the online Workbook, viewed on a second device. After this Course, send participants the text of the Follow On Workbook

For Presenters (4/5)

PRACTICALITIES

1) Numbers?

It is best to have one person per screen. The host must be in control of anyone speaking. Avoid a second device with 'audio on' in the same room; it causes echo and feedback.

2) Materials

All need a copy of Bible passages in Mark, pen/pencil, Workbook or paper, screen and internet connection. The presenter runs the 123-slide set, and shares his/her screen. (Participants are sent a copy of the Work Book text for reference at the start)

3) Start at slide 7. Participants read the Preface (slides 3 – 5) of Workbook when preparing.

For Presenters (5/5) – Timing

Be disciplined. Encourage contributions to be brief. Set a limit of group time and try to stick to it. With a big group, a regular start time, e.g. 6pm on Fridays, is easier for folk to organise. A small group may meet more often.

The free version of Zoom is limited to 40 minutes, unless you restart; try

<i>Session</i>	<i>Slides</i>	<i>Start</i>	<i>Homework</i>
1	6 – 31	Introduction	– read Mk 10:35-45
2	32 – 45	LOOK	– exploration 2
3	46 – 67	Exploration 2 answers	– exploration 4
4	67 – 82	exp 4 answers	– exploration 6
5	83 – 91	exp 6 answers	– exploration 8
6	91 – 106	exp 8 answers	– exploration 9
7	107 – 123	exp 9 answers	– End

Hearing the Word Introduction Course

Presentation Slides, with Entire Leader's Guide text

Version 7, matching The Manual 4th edition, **31/1/2024** (Revised 7/5/24, **12/9/24**. V6 16/8/2022, 6/4/2023)

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Loch Fyne, Argyll, Scotland, UK

Website: hearingtheword.org.uk

For Copyright declaration, and to check focus if projecting, see slide 130,131.

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Nigel Barge, March 2017

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If projecting on a large screen, use this final slide first.
But go to Slide 6 before an audience arrives — or joins online.

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Version 7
123 main slides
12 Sept, 2024

