

Session 3: Treasuring the Word

Approaching the Bible:

Know that It's a Book About the Lord but He Wants to Talk to You About You Also:

In answering the question "Who is the I AM?" I find out who I am. As we seek Him, He reveals Himself to us and in that revelation of who He is, He talks to us about ourselves.

- Matthew 16: 13-20 In receiving a revelation of Jesus, Peter is told by Jesus who He is.

Come with Desperation:

Just like we would be desperate for our physical urgent basic needs of food, drink, sleep and shelter to be met. We should see our spiritual hunger and thirst as critical needs that can only be met by God's word. The bible is meant to be a feast - Do we approach it that way?

- Psalm 119: 20 "My soul is consumed with longing for your rules at all times.
- Psalm 119: 131 " I open my mouth and pant, because I long for your commandments
- Jeremiah 15:16 " Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts.

Come to the Word with Delight and When You Don't Have Delight

It's clear that we are to delight in God's word. There are numerous places using the word delight in regards to God's word. It is something we are meant to take pleasure in. God wants it to give us pleasure and to enjoy it because we're enjoying Him. He can develop a delight in us when we don't delight in the word.

- Psalm 1: "Blessed is the man who delights in the law of the Lord.."
- Psalm 19: " More to be desired are they than much fine gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the drippings of the honeycomb."
- Psalm 119: - "Your testimonies are my delight, they are my counselors."

Come to the Word with Anticipation:

The Word of God is alive and active and we can come with the expectation that it will change us, light our path, make us like Jesus, strengthen our faith.

- Romans 10:17 “So faith comes by hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”
- Psalm 19: 7-8 “The Law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes.”

Come to the Word with Patience:

Our culture caters to our fleshly desire for instant gratification. Don't be discouraged if you don't come away with a “spiritual nugget” every time you read scripture. Have patience with the process of bible study. Sometimes digging for treasure takes time! Give space and time for the Holy Spirit to speak to you.

Every time you read and study you are putting in another deposit and all of those deposits overtime will compound!

Read the Bible Widely:

Read both the Old and New Testament. Read Historical Narrative, Prophecy, Wisdom Literature, Gospels, Epistles, etc. Get the full benefit and nourishment from the Word that God intends for you to have!

- Luke 24:27 “And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself.”
- 2 Timothy 3:16 “All scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.
- Figuratively speaking, we may be getting a lot of “vitamin A” but God also wants us to get “vitamins B, C, and D”.

Jeremiah 15:16 " Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts.

Grand Metanarrative of Scripture: One Big Story

Creation



Fall



Redemption



Restoration

Tree of Life Genesis 2:9 - Creation, the Garden of Eden, the Tree of Life

Serpant Genesis 3:9 - Satan deceives mankind

Call Genesis 12: 1-3 - The Lord calls Abraham

Lamb Exodus 12:13 - The first Passover

Community Exodus 19: 5-6 - Israel shall be God's "treasured possession among all peoples".

Kingdom 2 Samuel 5:12 - The Lord establishes David King over Israel

Temple 1 Kings 5:18 - King Solomon builds the temple

Broken Covenant 2 Chronicles 36: 15-16 Israel taken into captivity in Babylon

Temple Ezra 6: 15 The temple is rebuilt

Kingdom Matthew 4:17 Jesus arrives on the scene and preaches and teaches the Kingdom.

Community Matthew 5: 13 Jesus calls a people who will be the "salt of the earth".

Lamb Matthew 26: 28 The perfect and final Passover Lamb

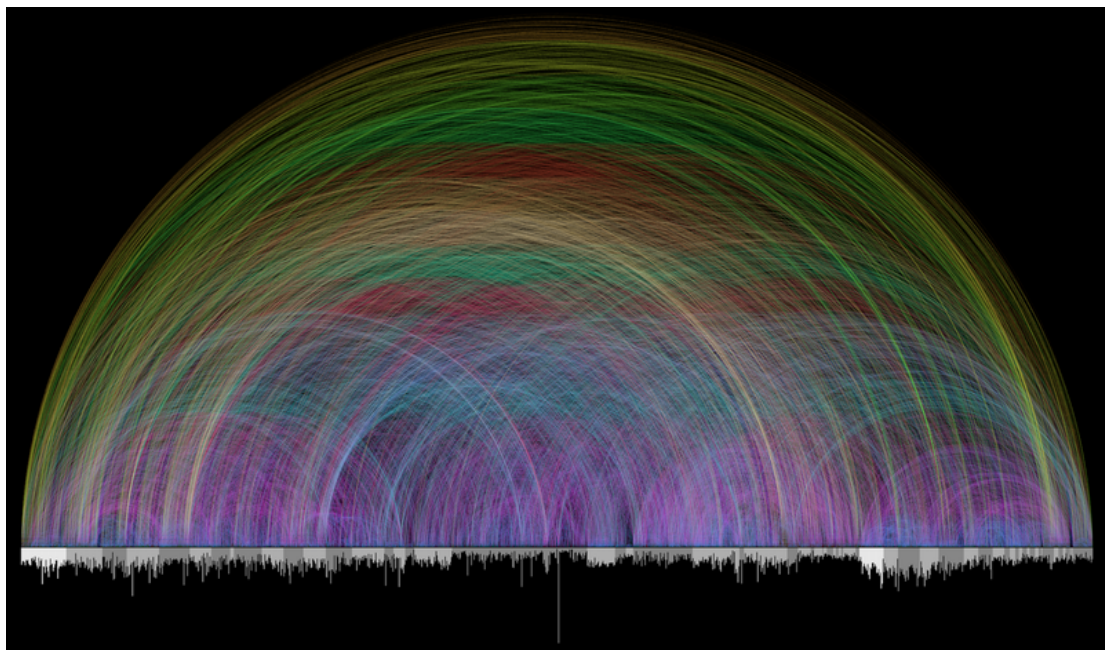
Call Matthew 28: 18-20 The Great Commission

Serpant Revelation 12:17

Tree of Life Revelation 22:2 Restoration, New Creation, the Tree of Life Reinstated

*Real Life Theology Series : Grand Meta Narrative pg. 51

Great Cohesion and Connectedness!



Each cross reference is depicted by an arc shape.

63,779 cross references

The coloring corresponds to the distance between chapters.

Group Discussion Questions:

What books of the Bible do you usually gravitate to? Are there any books that you steer away from or that intimidate you and why?

Read Luke 24:27 and Matthew 13:52. What do these verses say to us about taking in all of scripture and reading the Bible widely?

How can understanding the Biblical Metanarrative help us accurately interpret scripture? Can you give an example?

How does understanding the Biblical Metanarrative answer very important questions about our lives? What's our role in the Biblical Metanarrative?

Consider how there are different genres in the Bible (Historical Narrative, Poetry, Wisdom Literature, Prophecy, Epistles, etc.) How does understanding that help you in your studying of the Bible?