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The Mission
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Lesson 14

So last week we learned how to use a chart to organize the material which we observe when we study scripture. And we do that because of the mere volume of material. And if we were just to write down everything we observed with no organization, it would just be confusing. It would just be a bunch of random observations that would be hard to make sense of.

So placing them in a chart form will help you if you'll take the time to do it.

But now that you've got all that information in there; how do you use it?

Miracle	Realm	People	Means	Results	Faith
Stilling the storm	Physical	Disciples, Jesus	Speaks	A great calm	No faith/only fear
Demoniac	Mental	Jesus, Demoniac, Townspeople	Speaks	Normalcy sitting calmly, clothed, right mind	Recognition ' Desire to follow
Woman with an issue of blood	Physical/ Emotional	Jesus, disciples, woman	Touch	Immediate healing	Her faith healed her
Raising Jairus' Daughter	Physical, Emotional, Spiritual	Jesus, Jairus, Daughter, mother, Disciples, Mourners	Touch Speaks	Stands, walks, eats, lives	Great faith

Well, there are two ways we can study a chart. First, we can study it compositely; that is by moving across it from left to right. For instance, in

the chart we made last week, we can take each one of the miracles and we can evaluate them in terms of the realm, in terms of the people, in terms of the means, in terms of the result, and or in terms of the element of faith.

Or we can study the chart comparatively; that is by moving from top to bottom. For instance: What kind of faith did the disciples have? What kind of faith did the demoniac have? What kind of faith did the woman have? And then lastly, what kind of faith did Jairus have?

Well, I hope that helps. I know if you'll try it, it'll pay you back dividends that you wouldn't receive otherwise. Not only that but if you save those charts, then every time you come back to that particular passage, you can pull out your chart and more easily see and remember what that section of scripture was all about. You won't have to start from scratch every time and more importantly you won't have to rely on your memory.

Now, before we move on, let me give you few more few suggestions on how you can get the most out of a section of Scripture.

1. First, always read the entire section completely. In fact, it's good to read it two or three times, and in several different translations if you can.
2. Secondly you need to identify the paragraphs, and then put a label or title on each paragraph. Now, remember what a paragraph is. It's not just a set of sentences from indentation to indentation. It's a set of sentences that make up a particular thought or theme. For instance last week, each miracle was a paragraph.

Remember we labeled the four miracles down the left-hand column of the chart. And it's always important to do that; to grasp the main idea or theme of each paragraph, and then state that theme in a word or two.

3. And then number three we need to evaluate each paragraph in light of the other paragraphs. In our grid chart last week, we compared and contrasted each of the four miracles according to the realm, the people, the means, the result, and the element of faith.

4. And then fourthly we need to evaluate how the section as a whole relates to the rest of the book. And we do that by using the principles we learned a few weeks ago (things that are emphasized, things that are repeated, things are related, things are alike and unlike, and things that are true to life?

5. Then fifthly, try to state the main point of the section. In other words, see if you can boil it down to one word or a short phrase that summarizes the content. For instance, we could call Mark chapters 4–5 **“the lectures and the laboratory of faith.” Or “the teaching and life put to the test.”**

6. Number six, keep a list of all your observations on the particular section you’re studying, using brief, descriptive words.

7. Number 7, study the persons and places mentioned. See what you can learn about them that throws light on the section at hand.

8. Number 8, keep a list of your unanswered questions and unresolved problems. Those can become avenues for further investigation later on.

9. Number nine ask yourself: What have I seen in this section that challenges the way I live? What practical issues of life does this passage address? And what change do I need to consider in light of this study? What prayer do I need to pray as a result of what I’ve seen?

Because when it's all said and done, the goal of Bible study is life change. The goal of Bible study is not just to make a chart. That's just a means to the end. The end is to produce a change in your life.

10. And then when it does, after you've examined your life and made things right with God, then you'll do well to share the results of your study with someone else.

Soils	Description	Growth	Hindrances	Results
Wayside/Beside the road	Beaten down & hard/no understanding	None	Birds/Wicked one	Devoured/Snatches away what was sown v19 No salvation
Stony places	Not much earth/no root	Endures for a while	No earth/hot sun/tribulation/persecution	Withered away/stumbles v21 No salvation
Thorny Ground	Full of leftover weeds and thorns	Unfruitful	Weeds, thorns/cares of this world/deceitfulness of wickedness	Choked the word, become unfruitful, v22 No salvation
Good ground	Good fertile soil	Good, better, very good	None	Hears the word/understands it/bears fruit/produces/some 100, 60, 30. V23 Salvation

Matthew 7:16, You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?

John 15:8, By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

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