

Understanding what the Bible Really Says **40 Days in the Word, part 5**

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 10.14.12

Review: The basics of understanding a passage:

Then (what it meant to original hearers): Interpretation

Always (the timeless truths): Implication

Now (my personal application): Application

Principle: One interpretation but many applications

Appendix: Bible Study Resources

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance

Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Zondervan Illustrated Bible Dictionary Set

The Bible Exposition Commentary set by Warren Wiersbe; The MacArthur Bible Commentary by John MacArthur

The Complete Word Study Dictionary by Spiros Zodhiates

What the Bible is All About by Henrietta Mears

Study Bibles: ESV Study Bible; NIV Study Bible, Ryrie Study Bible, MacArthur

Study Bible, Life Application Study Bible

Devotional Bibles: Men's, Women's, Student, Children's, Recovery

Tablets/Smart Phones: YouVersion Bible App

Software: PC Study Bible, Logos

Online: BibleGateway.com, CrossWalk.com, BlueLetterBible.org,

BibleStudyTools.com

Jude 24-25 ESV 24 Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, 25 to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Basics Rules of Interpretation

Consider the historical context.

Who, what, when, where, to whom, why?

Check out the key words.

Use your Bible concordance, dictionary, or commentary

Interpret unclear verses with clear ones.

Use your cross references in your Bible.

Look for the most obvious meaning.

Don't hunt for a hidden meaning and miss the plain meaning.

Making Sense of a Bible Passage

40 Days in the Word, part 4

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 10.07.12

John 3:16-18 ESV

16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. 18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

The key to making sense of the Bible is to ask good questions:

1. Observation: What does it say?

2. Interpretation: What does it mean?

The basics of understanding a passage:

Then (what it meant to original hearers): Interpretation

Always (the timeless truths): Implication

Now (my personal application): Application

Principle: one interpretation but many applications

3. Correlation: What other verses explain it?

4. Application: What will I do about it?

Appendix: What Bible should I buy?

Study Bibles: ESV Study Bible; NIV Study Bible, Ryrie Study Bible, MacArthur Study Bible, Life Application Study Bible

Devotional Bibles: Men's, Women's, Student, Children's, Recovery

Tablets/Smart Phones: YouVersion Bible App

Software: PC Study Bible, Logos

Online: BibleGateway.com, CrossWalk.com, BlueLetterBible.org, BibleStudyTools.com

Which translation? 3 types:

Word for Word (Formal): English Standard Version, King James Version, New American Standard Version

Thought for Thought (Dynamic): Holman Christian Standard Version, New International Version, New Living Translation, Contemporary English Version

Paraphrase: The Message, The Living Bible

SEEING WHAT GOD WANTS ME TO SEE

40 Days in the Word – Part 3

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 09.30.12
Outline from 40 Days in the Word by Rick Warren

ILLUMINATION: Letting the Holy Spirit show me the meaning of God's Word and how it applies to my life

EPHESIANS 1:17-19 *"I ask the glorious Father and God of our Lord Jesus Christ to give you his Spirit. The Spirit will make you wise and let you understand what it means to know God. I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be ENLIGHTENED..."*

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN GOD OPENS MY EYES?

1. I SEE THE SOLUTION TO MY PROBLEM

STORY: Hagar and Ishmael Genesis 21:14-19

19 *"Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. So she went and filled the skin with water and gave the boy a drink."*

2. I SEE HOW I'M PART OF THE PROBLEM

STORY: A prophet named Balaam Numbers 22:22-31

31 *"Then the Lord opened Balaam's eyes, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road with his sword drawn. So he bowed low and fell facedown."*

3. I SEE HOW TO RESPOND WHEN ATTACKED

STORY: The Arameans attack Israel 2 Kings 6:10-23

17 *"Then Elisha prayed, 'O Lord, open his eyes so he may see.' Then the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha!"*

4. I SEE HOW GOD IS WALKING WITH ME!

STORY: The discouraged disciples Luke 24:15-31

31 *"Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him, and he disappeared from their sight"*

HOW CAN I SEE WHAT GOD WANTS ME TO SEE?

BEGIN A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

1 COR. 2:14 *"The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned."*

OPEN THE BIBLE EVERYDAY AND ASK!

PSALM 119:18 *"Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your Law!"*

MEMORY VERSE

JAMES 1:22 *"Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. DO what it says!"*

HOW THE BIBLE CHANGES US

40 Days in the Word – Part 2

**Outline from “40 Days in the Word,” by Rick Warren
Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, September 23, 2012**

HEBREWS 4:12 *“The word of God is LIVING and ACTIVE. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”*

HOW DOES GOD’S LIVING WORD CHANGE ME?

1. IT RECREATES MY LIFE

JAMES 1:18 *“He chose to give us birth through the word of truth...”*

2. IT ERADICATES MY GUILT

EPH. 5:25-26 *“...Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the Word.”*

3. IT ACTIVATES MY FAITH

ROM. 10:17 *“Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the Word of Christ.”*

4. IT ILLUMINATES MY MIND

Psalm 119:99 *“I have more insight than all my teachers, for I meditate on your statutes.”*

5. IT ELEVATES MY MOOD

Psalm 119:114 (Message) *‘You’re my place of quiet retreat; I wait for your Word to renew me.’*

HOW DO I GAIN THESE BENEFITS?

- 1. LEARN IT.** Mark 12:24
- 2. ACCEPT IT AS YOUR AUTHORITY.** 1 Thess. 2:13
- 3. ACT ON IT.** John 13:37

Memory Verse: *“Open my eyes that I may see wonderful things in your law!”* Psalm 119:18

WHY CAN I TRUST THE BIBLE?

2 Timothy 3:16-17

40 Days in the Word – Part 1

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 09.16.12

Sermon outline from 40 Days in the Word by Rick Warren

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17 *“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”*

PSALM 119:86 *“All of your commands can be trusted” NCV*

1. IT IS HISTORICALLY ACCURATE!

2. IT IS SCIENTIFICALLY ACCURATE!

It's not a science book, but the reason it's accurate is:
The laws of the universe are God's laws!

3. IT IS PROPHETICALLY ACCURATE!

4. IT IS THEMATICALLY UNIFIED

5. IT IS CONFIRMED BY JESUS

MATT. 5:18 *Jesus said, “I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter not the least stroke of a pen will disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished!”*

6. IT HAS SURVIVED ALL ATTACKS

1 PETER 1:24-25 *“The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever.”*

7. IT HAS TRANSFORMING POWER

JOHN 8:31-32 *Jesus said “If you continue in my Word, then you are truth, and the truth shall make you free!”* my disciples indeed; And you shall know the

MEM. VERSE: *“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.”* COL. 3:16

Christ's Church Series

Gather with Me

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 08.26.12

Matthew 18:18-20 ESV

18 "Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. 19 Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. 20 For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

Scripture indicates that there is a special power, presence, and authority when two or more people meet together in Jesus' name—something better than one person alone, no matter how devout.

Walking together is better.

1. It's safer.

Ecclesiastes 4:12 *"A person standing alone can be attacked and defeated but two can stand back to back and conquer. Three are even better for a triple braided cord is not easily broken."*

2. It's supportive. Old Zambian proverb: "When you run alone you run fast. But when you run together you run far." Life is not a 40-yard dash. It is a marathon.

3. It's smarter. Proverbs 28:26 says *"Only fools trust in what they alone think."*

Working together is better.

Ephesians 2:10 says this *"God made us to do good works which He planned in advance for us to live our lives doing."*

Ecclesiastes 4 *"Two people are better than one. Because they get more done by working together."*

Work (minister) in 3 directions:

1. to the Lord
2. to nonbelievers
3. to believers
 - Invest yourself (in a fellow follower).
 - Intercede (Pray for someone.)
 - Inspire others with your mess ups.

Application: So what now? What step do I need to take to "become better together?"

Christ's Church Series

Part 3: "Confess Me"

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 08.19.12

Introduction: How do you confess Christ?

Matthew 3:13-17 Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But John tried to deter him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"

Jesus replied, "Let it be so now; it is proper for us to do this to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

I. WHY SHOULD I BE BAPTIZED?

1. To follow the example set by Jesus.
2. Because Christ commanded it.
"Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." Matt. 28:19-20
3. It demonstrates that I really am a believer.
"...many of the [people] who heard Him believed and were baptized." Acts 18:8 "We know that we have come to know Him if we obey His commands." 1 John 2:3

II. WHAT IS THE MEANING OF BAPTISM?

1. It illustrates Christ's death and resurrection. 1 Cor. 15:3-4
2. It illustrates my new life as a Christian. Romans 6:4

III. WHY BE BAPTIZED BY IMMERSION?

1. Because Jesus was baptized that way.
2. Every baptism in the Bible was by immersion.
3. The New Testamen

Christ's Church: *Remember Me*

Steve Hicks, LifeSpring Church, 08.12.12

Matthew 26:26-29- ESV

“...Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹ I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom.”

The Lord's Supper is a call for the church to worship!

A meal ... to unite Christ's Church

A memorial... to remember Christ's life

A message to proclaim Christ's death

Our response should be: 3 priorities

Gather with the Church

Remember Him

Examine Ourselves

“The man that goes regularly and intelligently to the Lord's Table finds it increasingly hard to yield to sin and conform to the world.” ~J.C. Ryle

Christ's Church: *Belong to Me*

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 08.05.12

Matthew 16:18-19 ESV

"...on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

the church is the hope of the world!

the church *universal* (or general): the total group of all the redeemed of all times and from all nations

the church *local*: a group of baptized believers banded together to carry out the purposes of the church

4 pictures of the church:

the church is a *fellowship*.

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship..." Acts 2:42

the church is a *family*.

"...You are members of God's very own family...and you belong in God's household with every other Christian." Eph. 2:19 (LB)

the church is a *body*.

"*In Christ we who are many form one Body, and each member belongs to all the others.*"

Romans 12:5 (NIV)

- The people are the ministers.
- The pastors are the equipping leaders.

the church is a *flock*.

"To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder, a witness of Christ's sufferings and one who also will share in the glory to be revealed: Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers..." 1 Peter 5:1-2

faith stories series, part 4

Acts 9, “from religion to relationship”

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 07.29.12

Saul’s Story: the most radical change and greatest impact of any conversion in the history of the world. But it’s also a story of the danger of religious pride.

act one: Saul studies God’s law under Gamaliel

act two: Saul witnesses the stoning of Stephen

Acts 7:59 While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." 60 Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep. 8:1 And Saul was there, giving approval to his death.

act three: Saul attacks the church

Acts 8:2 On that day a great persecution broke out against the church at Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. 2 Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him. 3 But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off men and women and put them in prison.

The LORD detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished. Proverbs 16:5

Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall. Proverbs 16:18

the most prideful statement of all: “I don’t need Jesus.”

act four: Saul sees the light

Acts 9:1 Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might take them as prisoners to Jerusalem. 3 As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

5 "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.

"I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," he replied. 6 "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

From Demonized to Disciple

Faith Stories Series

Mark 5

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 07.22.12

Mark 5 NIV They went across the lake to the region of the Gerasenes. When Jesus got out of the boat, a man with an evil spirit came from the tombs to meet him....When he saw Jesus from a distance, he ran and fell on his knees in front of him. He shouted at the top of his voice, "What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? Swear to God that you won't torture me!" For Jesus had said to him, "Come out of this man, you evil spirit!"

Tough Questions...

Solid Answers...

There is no one so far from God that Jesus can't save.

There is no principality, power, or person that can overpower Jesus.

Colossians 2:15 And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a show of them openly, triumphing over them...

The solution is not to fix yourself but to bow before Jesus and confess him.

His identity: "Jesus, Son of the Most High God"

Compare Luke 4:31-37 and Luke 4:40-41

His authority: to save or send to hell *John 8:23-24*

Confess him; then confess him to others.

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Matt. 16:24

From Seeker to Apostle
Faith Stories Series
Steve Hicks, LifeSpring Church, 07.08.12
John: I saw His Glory!

Word

1 John 1:1-4
John 1:1-3, 14

Life *John 6*

Light *Matthew 17*

Grace *Mark 1, 10*
John 8, 19

Power *Luke 8*
John 11

Do you want to see
His glory?

Trust in Him for Life

Follow Him as your Light

Call on Him for Grace

Serve Him in His Power



***Seeker:** Someone who is seeking information about God and how to have a relationship with God because God has started drawing him/her to Himself.*

***Apostle:** Someone who was personally chosen by Christ and sent out by Him to accomplish a mission for God. Apostles are the foundation of the Church. Christ is the cornerstone.*

CHAIRS: a lasting father's day gift

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 06.17.12

supplemental resource: Love and Respect, by Emerson Eggerichs

ephesians 5:31-33 NIV

31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh." 32 This is a profound mystery — but I am talking about Christ and the church. 33 However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.

the crazy cycle: He doesn't demonstrate love, so she doesn't show respect—so he doesn't demonstrate love....

the solution: unconditional love and unconditional respect

how do you spell "respect?"

Conquest: Appreciating his desire to work and achieve

Hierarchy: Appreciating his desire to protect and provide

Authority: Appreciating his desire to serve and lead

Insight: Appreciating his desire to analyze and counsel

Relationship: Appreciating his desire for friendship

Sexuality: Appreciating his desire for sexual intimacy

"In the ultimate sense, your marriage has nothing to do with your spouse. It has everything to do with your relationship with Jesus Christ."

--Eggerichs

honoring our fathers

"I believe there is something in us--a law written on our hearts--that says, 'Honor your father and mother.' We must consciously attempt, first of all, to find the good in our fathers, no matter how badly they seemed to have fathered us. To put a spin on Marc Antony's cry: 'We have not come to bury our fathers under the dirt of our accusations; we've come to praise them for what we have discovered in them, and for what they have given us.' What our fathers did right is every bit as important as what they did wrong." Ken Hatfield



Inevitable Conflict

Steve Holdaway

LifeSpring Church, 05.13.12

Supplemental Resource: *Relationships: A Mess Worth Making*, by Timothy Land and Paul David Tripp

"It's inevitable. If you live with other sinners, you will have conflict." "Conflict with others is one of God's mysterious, counterintuitive ways of rescuing us from ourselves." Lane and Tripp

Romans 12:17-21 NIV

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. **18** If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. **19** Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. **20** On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." **21** Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Care what others think about you. (17)

Attempt to be a peacemaker. (18)

Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. James 1:19-20

Leave room for God's wrath. (19-20)

Overcome evil with good. (21) *A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.* Proverbs 15:1



careless communication

Steve Holdaway

LifeSpring Church, 05.06.12

Supplemental Resource: *Relationships: A Mess Worth Making*, by Timothy Land and Paul David Tripp

"Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits." Proverbs 18:21 *ESV*

"Words kill, words give life; they're either poison or fruit—you choose." (*The Message*)

words are holy. Language was created by God. Genesis 1

words are powerful. Words are able to bless or curse.

"Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones." Proverbs 16:24 *NIV*

James 3:9-10 *NIV* *"With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be."*

words reveal the heart. *"For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks."* Luke 6:45

words require careful use. ²⁹ *Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.*

³⁰ *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.* ³¹

Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² *Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*

Ephesians 4:29-32 *NIV*

- *focus on the purpose: to build others up.*
- *consider the person's needs.*
- *say no to negative talk.*
- *determine not to grieve the Holy Spirit.*



Relationship Killers

Steve Holdaway

LifeSpring Church, 04.29.12

Supplemental Resource: *Relationships: A Mess Worth Making*, by Timothy Lane and Paul David Tripp

James 4 ¹ What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you?

Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ² You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions...

⁶ "...God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." ⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹ Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

"Our biggest problem is inside us, and we can't fix it on our own." –Timothy Lane, *A Mess Worth Making*

relationship killers:

- self-centeredness
- self-rule
- self-sufficiency
- self-righteousness
- self-satisfaction
- self-instruction

the strategy to overcome self-centeredness: 7-10

Submit to God.

Repent of your pride and selfishness.

Practice humility on a daily basis.



directionless parenting
Steve Holdaway
LifeSpring Church, 04.22.12

Directional Parenting: The Biblical Practice

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 ESV

4 "Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. **5** You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. **6** And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. **7** You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. **8** You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. **9** You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Directional Parenting: The Biblical Principle

Proverbs 22:6 ESV "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it."

Proverbs 22:6 The Message "Point your kids in the right direction — when they're old they won't be lost."

SHT (My translation): "Take initiative to train up a child in God's way, according to his personality, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Take initiative.

To train up a child is to give them focused responsibility.

Determine the "path" by a biblical standard.

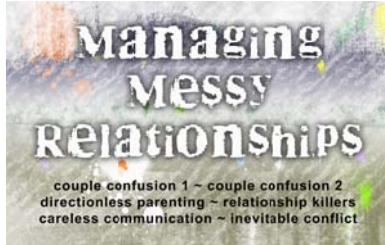
Parent each child according to his/her personality.

Don't stop praying!

Proverbs are principles, not guarantees..

The options:

Faulty parenting, fearful parenting, or faithful parenting



couple confusion, part 2

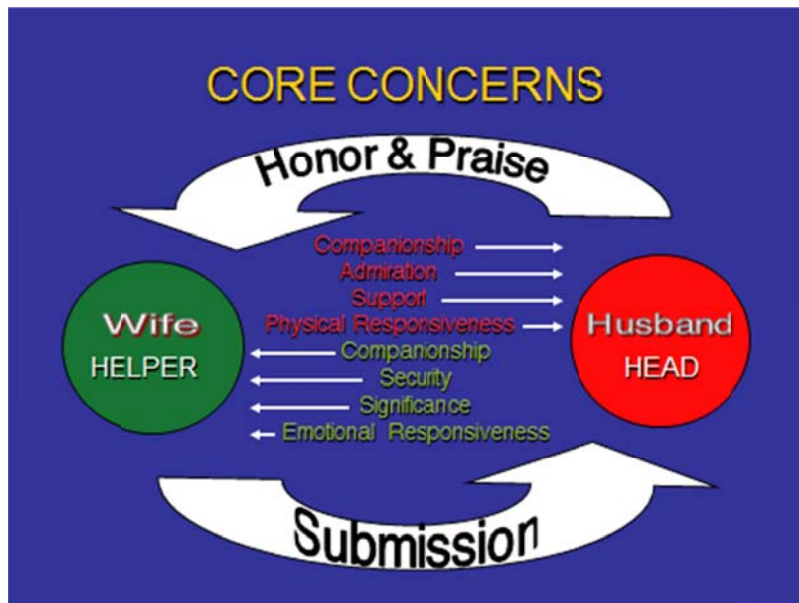
Steve Holdaway

LifeSpring Church, 04.15.12

1 Peter 3:1-7 ESV

Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives— ² when they see your respectful and pure conduct. ³ Do not let your adorning be external—the braiding of hair, the wearing of gold, or the putting on of clothing— ⁴ but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious. ⁵ For this is how the holy women who hoped in God used to adorn themselves, by submitting to their husbands, ⁶ as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. And you are her children, if you do good and do not fear anything that is frightening.

⁷ Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.



the overarching need of man: respect

the overarching need of woman: love



couple confusion, part 1

Steve Holdaway

LifeSpring Church, Easter 2012

Genesis 2:18 ESV Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him."

in the beginning...

Adam toward God: intimate dependency

Eve toward God: intimate dependency

Adam and Eve: intimate interdependency

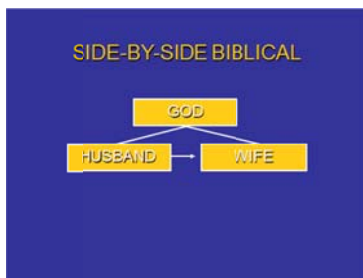
three marriage models

the "top-down" marriage model

the "50-50 identical" marriage model

Ephesians 5 ESV ²² Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. ²³ For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. ²⁴ Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands. ²⁵ Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her... ²⁸ In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself.

the "side-by-side" marriage model





lifesavers series
part 4, "saved to share"
Steve Hicks, LifeSpring Church, 03.25.12
1 Thessalonians 1

1. God brought the gospel TO US: This is Love

"For we know brothers, loved by God, that He has chosen you because our gospel came to you..."
vv. 4-5

*Do you remember that you were lost and needed the Savior?
Someone brought the gospel to you. Who? _____
We must realize that people are perishing.*

2. God did a great work IN US: This is Power

"...our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction...you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God" 5, 15

*God at work: Words, Power, Holy Spirit, Deep Conviction
Results: Radically changed life*

*Salvation is an event when we cross over from death to life
John 5:24*

3. God wants the gospel message to ring out FROM US: This is Mission

"And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. ⁸ The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere"⁸

The Church is the only hope for the world
Salt Light Ambassadors Preacher
If not us, who?

4. God will soon come FOR US: This is Urgent

They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath. 9-10

*For those who are saved: Great Hope
For those who are lost: Great Wrath
If not now, when?*

How do I Share?

Prepare yourself

Follow Christ Matt 4:19
Know the Gospel 1 Cor. 15:1-5
Be Pure 1 Peter 3:15

"...sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence" 1 Pet 3:15 NASB

Prepare your tool kit

Pray

Pray for the lost

Have an impact list: FRANS

Friends _____

Relatives _____

Associates _____

Neighbors _____

Servers _____

Your Top Three

Pray for divine appointments

Proclaim

Seeking the lost usually involves a three-stage process

CPR

Cultivate ...breaking up hardened ground Love them

Plant ...placing the seed in the ground Tell them

Reap ...bringing in the harvest Bring them

My next step with my top three:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

God has saved us to go and share. Let's go!

"As the Father has sent me, I also send you" John 20:21

Our responsibility is to share, God's responsibility is to save!



lifesavers series
part 3, "saved and secure"
Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 03.18.12

the story: Acts 8:9-24

the case for losing one's salvation

The testimony of those who have renounced their faith
The Roman Catholic Church – Mortal Sins
Some Protestant churches' teachings
Misunderstood scripture: Hebrews 6; 1 Cor. 9:27; King Saul

what the doctrine of eternal security means

"Perseverance of the Saints"

"If you have saving faith, you will never lose it, and if you lose it, you never had it in the first place."

1 John 2: 19 *They went out from us, but they did not really belong to us. For if they had belonged to us, they would have remained with us; but their going showed that none of them belonged to us.*

scriptural justification for this doctrine

The Promise of God to Preserve Us Philippians 1:6
being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

The Golden Chain of Romans 8
30 And those he predestined, he also called; those he called, he also justified; those he justified, he also glorified. (NIV)

The Sealing of the Holy Spirit Ephesians 4:30
And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.

The Intercession of Jesus Christ, the High Priest John 17:12
While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

The Power of Christ, Who is God John 10:27-28
My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one can snatch them out of my hand.

the assurance of salvation

How can someone be deceived into thinking they are saved?

- By false doctrine
- a) Universalism
 - b) Works theology

By false belief

- a) Intellectual faith
- b) Temporary faith
- c) Crisis faith
- d) Barren faith (Faith without works)

Reasons a believer may lack assurance of salvation?

- Because they never “nailed down” their commitment
- Because they never were baptized
- Because of a backslidden condition (They do not feel like a believer anymore.)
 - a) Fact=>Faith=>Feelings
 - b) Sin kills the assurance of salvation.

How can you have the assurance of salvation?

- By believing in what the Word of God tells us to do to be saved (repent & believe)
- By believing in the preserving power of God
- By the witness of the Holy Spirit.
- By the way we continue in the faith and bear fruit

1 John 5:13 I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.



Lifesavers Series Part 2: *Saved at Last*

Steve Holdaway, Ryan Jantz LifeSpring Church 03.11.12

Salvation Described: Acts 16:16-34

Acts 16:29-31 NIV

The jailer called for lights, rushed in and fell trembling before Paul and Silas. He then brought them out and asked, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved — you and your household."

Salvation is a concept that even the demons know.

Salvation is the heart-cry of those who have been in the presence of God.

Salvation Defined: Titus 3:3-8 ESV

³ For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. ⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

Saved

--to be delivered from the penalty and power of sin.

Sozo: to save, deliver, or protect; to be made whole

Acts 4:12 "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."

Your attitude can be: *Gratitude*

Works

Acts or deeds. "Works" can be good or bad, but scripture makes it clear that even good works cannot earn salvation.

Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 2:8-9

Your attitude can be: *Humility*

Regeneration

The spiritual change brought about in a person's life by an act of God. In regeneration a person's sinful nature is changed, and he is enabled to respond to God in faith. (Nelson's Bible Dictionary)

2 Cor. 5:17-18 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

Your attitude can be: *Assurance*

Justified

To be declared "righteous" by God.

Romans 3:22-24 There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.

Your attitude can be: *Boldness*

Heirs

Romans 8:16-17 "The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God, and if children, then heirs-heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ..."

Your attitude can be: *authority*

Eternal Life

Romans 6: For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Your attitude can be: *Joy*



Lifesavers Series *Part 1: Lost at Sea*

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 03.04.12

Three Stories of Lostness: Luke 15

One Testimony of Lostness

The Theology of Lostness: *To be lost is...*

- *to be perishing*
- *to be alienated*
- *to be depraved*

"Lost men and women have a slight impediment. They are deaf, blind and dead; other than that they are in fairly good shape. Sin is a cancer destroying the human race and cannot be dealt with effectively until it is openly acknowledged. In thought, word, and deed we have all come short of the standard God has set for us." –Dr. James Kennedy

Romans 3:23 *All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*

- *to be held captive by a sin nature*

biblical words for sin:

Old Testament Words—

Avah – to be bent, twisted, or perverted Prov. 12:8

Shagah - to go astray, to sin through ignorance Ezek. 34:6

Ra – evil, wickedness, moral and spiritual badness Prov. 21:10

Chamas – violence or wronging another perso. Jer. 22:3

New Testament Words—

Anomia – defiance of the law, lawlessness 2 Thess. 2:3

Hamartia – to miss the mark 1 John 1:8

Aselgia – sensuality, filthiness Ephesians 4:19



ELIJAH: STRENGTH FOR TIMES LIKE THESE
“TIMES OF OPPORTUNITY”

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 02.26.12

Story #1:

The jug that didn't run dry, 1 Kings 17:13-16

When Jehovah is your God, expect him to multiply what you offer him.

Story #2:

The boy raised from the dead, 1 Kings 17:17-24

When Jehovah is your God, expect divine appointments.

Story #3:

The fire from heaven, 1 Kings 18

When Jehovah is your God, expect boldness as you take a stand.

Story #4:

Claiming the cloud, 1 Kings 18:41-46

When Jehovah is your God, expect that his word will come true.

Application:

- Do others know, without a doubt, that the Lord is your God?
- How have you stepped out in faith lately so that you can be part of a “miracle?”



ELIJAH: STRENGTH FOR TIMES LIKE THESE **“TIMES OF ADVERSITY”**

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 02.19.12

1 Kings 17:7-12 NIV

7 Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. **8** Then the word of the Lord came to him: **9** "Go at once to Zarephath of Sidon and stay there. I have commanded a widow in that place to supply you with food." **10** So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, "Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?" **11** As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread."

12 "As surely as the Lord your God lives," she replied, "I don't have any bread — only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it — and die."

Truths about Times of Adversity:

God knows when your brook will run dry.

God is still in control when your brook dries up.

God's care doesn't run out when the brook runs out.

God has a purpose for dry brooks. Stay put until God moves you.

God's children suffer alongside unbelievers.

Isaiah 43:19 *I am making a way in the desert and streams in the wasteland.*

God specializes in tough circumstances.

Sometimes God's place isn't an easy place.

Sometimes what God is teaching us requires that things get worse before they get better.

Miracles occur when you stay with God through a storm, instead of seeking a way around it.



Elijah: Times of Courage

Josh Brown, LifeSpring Church

February 12, 2012

cour·age

noun

the quality of mind or spirit that enables a person to face difficulty, danger, pain, etc., without fear; bravery.

1 Kings 17:1-6

¹ Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.” ² Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: ³ “Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. ⁴ You will drink from the brook, and I have directed the ravens to supply you with food there.” ⁵ So he did what the LORD had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. ⁶ The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

Courage To Take An Unpopular Stand (17:1)

Requires trust in the promises of God

- *What are some areas of idolatry in your life?*
- *How will you confront them?*

Courage To Deal With Consequences (17:2-3)

Requires trust in the purposes of God

- *Has your Christianity ever cost you?*
- *How is God calling you to suffer?*

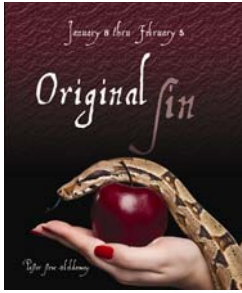
Courage To Live An Uncommon Lifestyle (17:4-6)

Requires trust in the provisions of God

- *Are you in a position of total dependence on God?*
- *In what ways can you risk more for God?*

The Challenge

- Prayerfully confront idols in your heart and home
- Commit to a daily Bible reading plan
- Do one thing this week that builds your spiritual courage



Spiritual Warfare

“Original Sin” Series

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 02.05.12

Genesis 3:24 ESV

He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

Ephesians 6:10-13 ESV

10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. **11** Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. **12** For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. **13** Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm.

Never forget that you're at war.

Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. 1 Peter 2:11

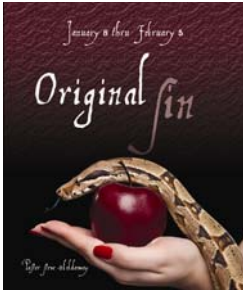
Fight spiritual battles with spiritual weapons.

2 Cor. 10:3-4 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds.

- Fit yourself with the full armor of God.
- Forecast the future consequences of your actions.
- Flee the temptation.
- Find yourself busy for a big cause. “Make the most of your time, because the days are evil.” Eph. 5:16

Remember that you will triumph only in the Lord.

1 Tim. 6:12 “Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called...”



Seduction, Part 2

“Original Sin” Series

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 01.29.12

Genesis 3:8-14 ESV

8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. **9** But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" **10** And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." **11** He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" **12** The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." **13** Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

Satan's seduction always ends in:

Isolation (8-10)

"The devil did not tempt Adam and Eve to steal, to lie, to kill, or to commit adultery; he tempted them to live independently of God."

"Throughout the ages God's call is, 'Where are you?'"

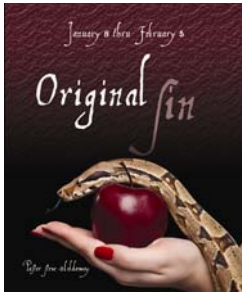
Accusation (11-13)

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night, has been hurled down." Revelation 12:10

Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died — more than that, who was raised to life — is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. Romans 8:34

The Twenty “Cans” of Success by Christian author Neil Anderson

Memory Verse: *For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Ephesians 6:12*



Seduction, Part 1

“Original Sin” Series

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 01.22.12

Genesis 3:4-6 ESV

4 But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. **5** For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." **6** So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

How does Satan seduce the world?

1) Through demonization

Matthew 8:28

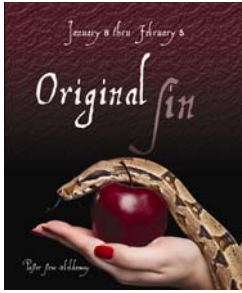
2) Through deception

2 Cor. 11:14 "...Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light."

3) Through temptation

1 John 2:16 KJV *For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.*

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Eph. 6:12



paradise lost **"Original Sin" series**

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 01.15.12

Genesis 3:8-24 ESV

8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. **9** But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"* **10** And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." **11** He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" **12** The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." **13** Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

22 Then the Lord God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—" **23** therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. **24** He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

the immediate consequences of sin (7-13)

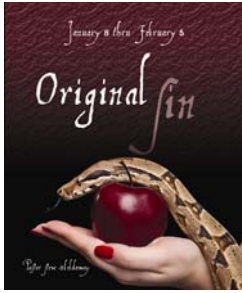
- o shame: They scrambled to cover their nakedness.
- o broken relationship with God: They tried to hide.
- o pride: They blamed someone else for their wrong.

the lasting consequences of sin ("the fall") (14-24)

- o a curse upon Satan 14-15
- o pain and suffering in daily life 16-19
- o a curse on the earth 18
- o mortality 19
- o banishment from the Garden of Eden 23-24
(spiritual death: total depravity)

Is there hope of paradise regained?

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. 1 Corinthians 15:21-22



The Serpent

“Original Sin” Series

Steve Holdaway, LifeSpring Church, 01.08.12

Background: Genesis 3 is one of the most important chapters in the Bible. It explains why we die, why evil controls this world, the lost nature of humankind, and why we need a savior. By the way, evolution offers no explanation and no solution.

Genesis 3:1-13 (NIV) 1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the

LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden'?"

2 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, 3 but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die.'"

4 "You will not surely die," the serpent said to the woman.

5 "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God**, knowing good and evil."

The Serpent's Identity

- ❑ Satan is a created being.
- ❑ Satan is a personal being. (Ezekiel 28:12-17)
- ❑ Satan is a rebellious being.
- ❑ Satan is a multiple-named being.

Satan (adversary); Devil (slanderer); Lucifer, Anointed cherub, Evil one, Ruler of this world, god of this age, Prince of the power of the air, Dragon, Accuser, Tempter, Deceiver, Murderer, Liar, Sinner, Beelzebub, Belial, Roaring lion

The Serpent's Strategy: To influence God's creatures to doubt God, distrust God, disobey God, and then experience damnation.

In the garden, Satan:

- 1) disguised himself as a "good" creature.
- 2) asked a question for which he already knew the answer. v.1 "Did God really say..."
- 3) denied God's command vv.1-5
- 4) accused God of holding out on them v.5
- 5) presented Eve with a deceptive half-truth vv.4-5

The Serpent's Singular Goal: To rule (Ephesians 2:2)

- * He rules an army of evil angels (demons).
- * He rules this world and evil in the heavenly realms.
- * He rules nonbelievers.
 - He wants to rule you.