

More Than Hearing Worksheet

Episode: CEaster3x2019

Texts: [Acts 9:1-6, \(7-20\)](#) • [Psalm 30](#) • [Revelation 5:11-14](#) • [John 21:1-19](#)

MATH Smart

MATH smart people reason mathematically, discover abstract patterns, classify and organize, enjoy mathematical computations, and think logically. This person needs to see the logic and organization in what is being learned. In worship, they would need to know *why* more than how we do things the way we do. From time to time, stating the reason for a particular part of worship would be beneficial. Pointing out the flow of the service, the logical progression of the parts of worship, and the context for Scripture passages also addresses the need to recognize patterns and organization.

Text: Acts 9:1-6 (7-20)

Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for **letters** to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" 5 He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. 6 But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

7 The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. 8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. 9 For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

10 Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." 11 The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, 12 and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." 13 But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; 14 and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; 16 I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." 17 So **Ananias went** and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, 19 and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, 20 and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
	<p>People's intensity in resistance tends to rise when they fear what they are resisting is perhaps valid. What evoked the change - or perhaps the straw which broke the camel's back - was an experience he had on the road to Damascus. ~Bill Loader</p> <p>Such amazing grace also changed Paul's perspective on scripture from a fearing defensive fundamentalism to a centred, critical, interpretation, inspired by Jesus' own stance. He was prepared to follow its logic to the end...</p>	<p>Vs 2 - letters Search warrants Subpeona</p> <p>Paul is a witness to the resurrection - it's different from the experience of the twelve but is no less transforming.</p> <p>To what have you been a witness? Did it require testimony either in a court of law, a boardroom, a living room, or a church?</p> <p>Define "witness"</p> <p>Ananais is also a witness - he has his own experience of Jesus which then validates Paul's experience.</p> <p>Why do we trust some testimony more than others? Why are we more willing to trust multiple testimonies?</p>	<p>Do an exercise with your congregation where everyone who has seen (x) stands. Select different variables of (x) - some things that are everyday ordinary things to begin and then become progressively more unusual.</p> <p>Tailor the list to include ways that people may have witnessed the resurrection: either through their own personal experiences of the Risen Lord or ways that they have seen the way the Resurrection has transformed someone or a situation.</p> <p>People may not realize they have been witnesses to Jesus' presence, so encourage them to understand they have and likely do frequently.</p>

Text: Psalm 30

I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up,
 and did not let my foes rejoice over me.
 2 O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,
 and you have healed me.
 3 O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
 restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.
 4 Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones,
 and give thanks to his holy name.
 5 For his anger is but for a moment;
 his favor is for a lifetime.
 Weeping may linger for the night,
 but joy comes with the morning.
 6 As for me, I said in my prosperity,
 "I shall never be moved."
 7 By your favor, O Lord,
 you had established me as a strong mountain;
 you hid your face;
 I was dismayed.
 8 To you, O Lord, I cried,
 and to the Lord I made supplication:
 9 "What profit is there in my death,
 if I go down to the Pit?
 Will the dust praise you?
 Will it tell of your faithfulness?"
 10 Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!
 O Lord, be my helper!"
 11 You have turned my mourning into dancing;
 you have taken off my sackcloth
 and clothed me with joy,
 12 so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.
 O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
	Vs 6 - the logic of wealth	Why does prosperity lead people to believe they are safe? What connection is there between evidence of wealth and shelter? Here is some advice about how to trust your wealth manager.	⇨ post a chart with the poverty level of your community - what is "enough"? What do we need <i>materially</i> in order to praise God?

	<p>Vs 9 - the logic of death vs. praise</p>	<p>“For the psalmist the threat of the abode of the dead is that it is a place of silence where God is not praised (“will the dust praise you?” verse 9b). To praise God and to give thanks has become for the psalmist the vocation of the human being and the sole purpose of the creation.” ~ Jerome Creach WP</p> <p>Is life and living always a long series of contrasts?</p>	<p>⇔ to live is to praise, and to praise is to live</p> <p>Write this in a mathematical formula and display it prominently. (Symmetric property of equality)</p> <p>More a ratio....?</p>
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Text: Revelation 5:11-14

11 Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered **myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands**, 12 singing with full voice,

“Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

“To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

14 And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
	<p>Vs 12 - the one who receives wealth and all its trappings is worthy of it all because that one was slaughtered. There’s a twist of logic if ever there was one!</p> <p>The scenes which follow show all these royal dignitaries and heavenly courtiers celebrating this powerless figure who has now been given all power. This is a subversion within the court discourse, almost a parody of power. ~ Bill Loader</p>	<p>Topsy turvy logic!</p> <p>The lamb received seven attributes. The number seven is significant in Jewish thought - it is considered perfect, because God rested on the seventh day after creation and called it all good.</p> <p>Israel Kamudzandu’s commentary suggests we are being offered a choice in these verses between worshipping the wealth of the world (what is given to the lamb) or the slaughtered lamb. It’s a “red pill/blue pill” choice regarding reality.</p>	<p>Present the “wealth” of the world and the slaughtered lamb on our tried and true balance scales or a catapult!</p> <p>⇐ So, have some red and blue jelly beans on hand.</p>

Text: John 21:1-19

21 After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. 2 Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. 3 Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

4 Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. 5 Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." 6 He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. 7 That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. 8 But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

9 When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. 10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." 11 So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. 12 Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. 13 Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. 14 This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

15 When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." 16 A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." 17 He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. 18 Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." 19 (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

Smarts	Images in the text/ interesting exegesis	Illustrations	SFX
	Illogical events abound here Try fishing off the other side of the boat - why does this make a	The sequence of three questions is a lot like hitting the delete key on your keyboard - you've taken away previous work and replaced it with	⇐ If you know anyone who codes, see if you can arrange this action in C language and display it somewhere.

	<p>difference?</p> <p>Peter leaping into the water - why did he do that?</p> <p>The sequence of three questions - mirrors the three denials</p> <p>Jesus appears with a purpose - in this passage, to commission Peter.</p> <p>Jesus also re-commissions the disciples to "fish for people" and they do!</p>	<p>something else that will go forward into the future.</p>	<p>I would start with Peter in the courtyard being asked if he knows Jesus and him denying that three times.</p> <p>A cock crows.</p> <p>Then, Peter and Jesus are having breakfast and Jesus asks him if he loves him three times. Peter affirms it three times.</p> <p>The sun rises.</p>
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