

# Listening Guide

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## **I. Matthew and John: We Wrote What We Experienced**

[1] What does the word *gospel* mean?

[2] What did John and Matthew have in common that equipped them to write their gospels?

## **II. Mark and Luke: We Wrote What We Discovered**

[3] What was the source of Mark's information?

[4] Where did Luke get the material for his gospel?

## **III. The Synoptic Gospels**

[5] What does the word *synoptic* mean?

[6] Which gospels are included in the Synoptics?

[7] Why should we read all three Synoptic Gospels?

## **IV. John's Gospel**

[8] What is the primary difference between John's gospel and the Synoptic Gospels?

[9] What did John structure his gospel around?

## **V. Why Are the Gospels Different?**

[10] Name one difference we see in the gospel accounts.

[11] Explain how having four different writers would explain the differences in the Gospels.

[12] Why would having different audiences account for differences in the Gospels?

[13] How would having different purposes explain the differences in the Gospels?

## **VI. The Gospel Writers**

[14] Describe Matthew in your own words.

[15] Describe Mark in your own words.

[16] Describe Luke in your own words.

[17] Describe John in your own words.

[18] In a paragraph or two, describe how *you* see Jesus.

## **VII. The Gospel Writers' Audiences**

[19] Who did Matthew have in mind when he wrote?

[20] Name one or two reasons we believe Matthew wrote to those people.

[21] Who did Mark focus his gospel on?

[22] Why do we believe Mark wrote to them?

[23] To whom did Luke address his gospel?

[24] Was he the only reader Luke had in mind?

[25] How did Luke's audience influence his gospel?

[26] In what way was John's audience different from the other three gospel writers' audiences?

## **VIII. The Gospel Writers' Purposes**

[27] What was Matthew's focus on Jesus?

[28] List one or two ways he presented his case.

[29] How did Mark present Jesus?

[30] What indicates that Mark presented Jesus this way?

[31] What aspect of Jesus's mission did Luke focus on?

[32] What evidence do we have to support that idea?

[33] John stated how he wants his reader to understand Jesus. What did he say?

[34] Where did John state his purpose?

[35] What did John use to support his thesis?

### **Conclusion**

[36] Even with four gospels, do we believe we have a comprehensive picture of Jesus's life? Why? Why not?

[37] What did John write that gives us the answer to that question?

## **Reflection**

Record one new fact or insight you discovered in this lesson.

## **Application**

*Gospel* means “good news”! Have you personally experienced the good news of God’s salvation? Is it really good news to you? Have you ever told this good news to anyone else? In Acts 1:8 Jesus gave His final commission to His followers: “You will be my witnesses.” Would you consider praying for one person by name and ask God to help you share this good news with that person?