



THE BIBLE RESONANCE EXPERIMENT

A SIX STAGE TRANSFORMATIONAL
ENCOUNTER WITH SCRIPTURE

Resonance is the effect that sound waves have on the physical world around them. For example, while extremely rare, a professionally trained opera singer actually can break a glass under the right conditions simply by the power her voice. Or, when certain scientific instruments are used to pair the resonance of sound with an element like salt, the result is that the salt particles arrange themselves into beautiful patterns that mirror the waves.

The Bible has the potential to produce resonance effect on the life of a believer. The more we allow the word of God to sink into our hearts and dwell in our minds, the more it begins to transform our very being from the inside out. We can become the glass or the salt particles which are formed and shaped by the waves, rhythms, and themes of the text.

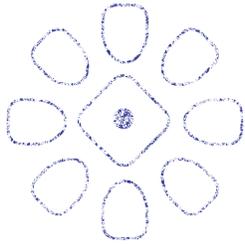
Now, this doesn't happen automatically. While God's word is written for all, it never forces its way in. The word awaits fertile soul. Paul writes these words in 1 Thessalonians 2:13, "And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe."

What exactly did Paul praise this church for? It wasn't a particular way of living, but a particular way of hearing. They received the word of God with a posture of receptivity and humility. They heard the word in such a way that it was "at work in you." In other words, it resonated.

The Bible Resonance Experiment is a six-stage journey designed to let scripture seep deeper into your heart, soul, mind, and strength than it ever has before. The first two stages are to be completed in January, and the rest will each take one month to work on. The whole project will culminate in a capstone church wide event later this May. Here's a glimpse at the six stages.

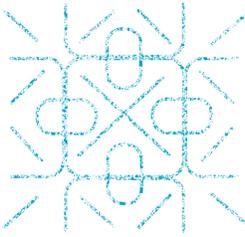


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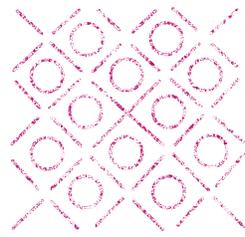
SELECT

Stage 1. January. Spend the next few weeks finding your verse of the year. This is a verse, or maybe a paragraph, that you want to allow to shape your life this year. It needs to be something that challenges you, something your heart is drawn to, or something you want to become. Talk to people you trust about possible passages for you. Read big chunks of scripture. Pray that God will lead you to a text you can make your own.



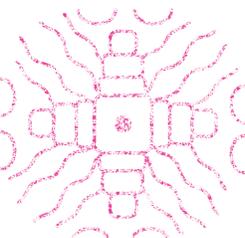
STUDY

Stage 2. January. Once you've picked your passage, take a deep dive on the study of this passage. You can begin by reading notes in a good study Bible. From there you can look for resources in the Bible app related to your passage or go the OC Library on an afternoon and pick out a few commentaries and read what Bible educators say about your text.



PRAY

Stage 3. February. Spend an entire month bringing this verse into your prayer life. Ask God what he is trying to reveal to you in this text. Praise God for how you see him in the passage. Repent from wrongdoing inspired by the passage. Pray the passage over people you love. Ask that God will give you opportunities for you to share, apply, or use this verse in a tangible way in the world around you.

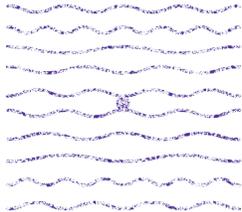


SHARE

Stage 4. March. Find people to share your verse with. Start with a friend or family member. Share it with your Bible class or small group. Tell someone in your work place about this project and share the verse with them. Freely you have received, now freely give.

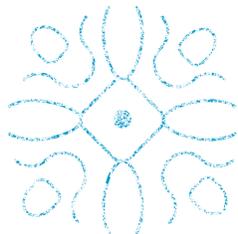


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DEMONSTRATE

Stage 5. April. Earlier you prayed that God might give you opportunities to embody this verse in your world. In this stage you begin to search for answers to that prayer. Who might need a blessing prompted by this verse? How might I build stronger internal virtues of gratitude or perseverance or peace in my own heart? What is some way that this verse, through me can impact another person, family or organization?



CREATE

Stage 6. May. Make something that captures the essence of your verse. Perhaps you feel prompted to write a song or paint a scene or build something in your garage. Or, this could be that you simply take the words of the text and write it out in a creative way. Even don't consider yourself a creative person, we invite you stretch yourself a bit so you can have a tangible item to remember this experience.