



## Why Four Gospels?

By Kevin McCauley

Have you ever wondered why there are four accounts of the life and ministry of Jesus in the Bible? The reasoning behind this makes sense but few ever take the time to understand. Each of the Gospel writers (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John) had a different audience as well as a different presentation of Jesus in mind as they wrote. This is why they emphasize a different event, character or teaching. Of course there are similarities between the Gospels because they all discuss Jesus and the events and significance of His life!

Matthew wrote to the Jews and emphasized the heritage and fulfillment of prophecy that was important to Jesus being the Messiah. In this gospel Jesus is portrayed as a king and sovereign ruler of men. Matthew presents the One who is worthy of our worship.

Mark had the Roman world in mind as he wrote. Much of the empire was slaves and people in servitude. Mark presents Jesus as the servant of all – and as a God who can truly help, not as a Roman god who is impotent and inept. Mark tells of a Jesus who came to serve and provide freedom!

Luke wrote to the Greeks. As those who loved philosophy and deep thought, Luke presents Jesus as the Son of Man. In this presentation, the teaching, parables and depth of Jesus are discussed. The truth of Jesus' life and words are given to convince the reader of His divine nature.



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John had a much larger audience in mind: the world. He presents Jesus as the Son of God, and the only One worthy, who can redeem man. John presents miracles, teaching and a life that is incomparable.

Together the four gospels give us a more complete and comprehensive look at the life, ministry and teaching of Jesus. Each helps us to see Jesus from a different perspective and to appreciate him more!

Beginning this September we began a verse-by-verse study of Luke's Gospel here at Hope. My prayer is that because of this study we will each come to know, understand and appreciate and LOVE Jesus more!

## Hope Sound Team

By Bruce Spicer

Have any of you ever wondered what the Hope Sound Team does? Oh, "who and what is a sound team?" you ask. Well, we are the people who hang out on Sunday morning in the sound booth. "What and where is the sound booth?" you ask. OK . . . the sound booth is that slightly elevated area surrounded by an acoustic half wall that provides space for equipment and for both the Sound Team and the Multimedia Team (see last month's Hope Notes to learn about the Multimedia Team) to work during events such as Sunday morning service. It is located behind the congregation, a location referred to as "front-of-house" in stage terminology.

Hmmm. So maybe you never paid much attention to us. The action, after all, is up in front. When you sing along with the Praise Band or are enthralled in Pastor Kevin's message, who would pay attention to people walled off behind you?

But what we do does matter. What the congregation hears when our Praise Band plays and when Pastor Kevin speaks depends on a very technical process that the Sound Team manages in real time back in the sound booth. We have many separate sound signals coming from the stage area to the sound booth, mostly from microphones. Most of the signals are transmitted in a group of belowground cables (called a snake), and a couple through wireless transmitters. We process those signals, and, after balancing levels (volume) on each one, mix them together and provide the combined, processed and balanced signal to the input of power amplifiers located on the stage, which in turn supply the speakers above the stage facing the congregation.

"Not so fast" you say ". . . what do you mean process the signals?" Well, OK . . . this gets a bit technical, but I'll take a stab at it. The raw signals for the stage area need more than just level control to make them sound good.

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Audio signals inherently will have a range of volume levels. For example, some of the sounds in a singer's singing are louder than other sounds in their singing. We call this "dynamic range." With praise songs, where lyrics are particularly important, if a lot of instrumentation accompanies a singer it is important to have the vocals, including the quieter portions of the vocals, audible above the instrumentation. However, we need to do that without making the louder parts of the vocals unacceptably loud. Christian Rock is intentionally loud, but we need to keep it below where it is painful, or injurious. We use a device called a "dynamic range processor" sometimes called a "dynamic range compressor," which acts like an automated, very-fast hand on the volume control. It reduces the range between the loudest and quietest parts of an audio signal. We have control over the level at which it starts to compress, and over how aggressively it compresses. We use dynamic range compression primarily on vocals, although it can have application on other audio signals. By reducing the dynamic range of a vocal channel, we can combine it with instrumentation channels and make it audible above the instrumentation without being too loud. We apply compression to individual audio channels before adjusting for level and mixing them with other channels.

We also tweak tonal qualities by adjusting the frequency response characteristics on each or the audio channels before we mix them. This process, referred to as equalization, E.Q for short, can increase or decrease each or the premix audio signals in each of three frequency ranges. The needed equalization varies for each vocalist and each instrument, and we adjust it to compensate for the acoustic characteristics of the room and for day-to-day variations including number of people in the congregation and even air temperature and pressure. Damping out a room resonance is especially important to assuring intelligibility to the sound of Kevin's speaking.

Sounds simple, right? OK . . . so I left some things out. For one, I have been talking about what we do to the audio signal the congregation hears. We also mix four additional signal mixes that we provide back to the stage to control what each musician hears. Members of the band each need to hear themselves, as well as some of the other parts of the music the band is producing. It turns out that what a drummer needs to hear is not the same as what a keyboard player needs to hear, which is also not the same as what a guitar-playing vocalist needs to hear. Thus, we create four audio mixes just for the musicians, with those signals amplified and played back through speakers on stage referred to as monitors.

As you may have concluded, our work is a bit technical, and thus the sound team tends to draw those of us who are a bit on the nerdy side. We tend to avoid the spotlight and keep our noses in the work. Our team currently consists of Ed Auria and myself, along with Nathin Doolin (currently living out of state, but we expect his return) and with occasional back up from Dave Marks. It is a small team and could use some additional help, but all of us like the work, so it doesn't feel like a burden.

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Our scope extends to maintaining the sound equipment, and events we support include more than Sunday services. Personally, I have found providing sound support at memorial services to be a very moving way to feel a sense of connection and participation in a setting that is otherwise difficult for me. If you are interested or have questions, come talk to us in the sound booth!

## Who are the Marks?

Dave and Teresa Marks have been married for 26 years. Dave is a Maintenance Splicing Technician for AT&T, and Teresa works in commercial property management for Hudson Pacific Properties. While they have no human children, their house has always been home to multiple fur (and feather) babies, often rescued from the pound or other organizations.



## What is your church background?

Dave was raised in the Catholic Church, while Teresa's exposure to church and religion was very limited. Shortly after they were married, they were attending an Amway convention and "accidentally" got there too early on a Sunday and were exposed to the gospel. While Dave was at the snack bar, the speaker gave an altar call and Teresa responded. Dave came back to their seats only to discover that his wife was down on the floor of the stadium, giving her life to Christ. Several years later, after losing his brother in a car accident, Dave did the same thing at a Promise Keepers event.

## What initially brought you to Hope Church?

Dave and Teresa were looking for a new home church and knew Ray Wolff through the Christian Motorcyclists Association. He invited them to attend Hope. They came one Sunday and instantly felt a connection and felt like they were "home".

## What was your first impression of Hope?

The first impression they had was that everyone was friendly and inviting. The building and the service were comfortable, the music was awesome, and the pastor was down to earth. Of course, hot coffee ready and waiting was a bonus.

## What do you like most about Hope?

Dave and Teresa feel that the best thing about Hope is what first impressed them.

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The building and people are very friendly and welcoming. It feels like “family”. Time and time again, the love of Christ has been demonstrated by the people of Hope towards other Hope members, as well as the general public.

**At your time at Hope, have there been any meaningful experiences you would like to share?**

Dave and Teresa's whole experience at Hope has been meaningful, nothing specific pops out.

**What groups at Hope are you involved with?**

Dave spent several years as an Elder at Hope, and is now continuing to serve as leader of the Welcome Team, and co-leader of the Monday night men's bible study. Teresa serves on the worship team.

**What gifts or special talents do you think God has blessed you with?**

God has gifted Dave and Teresa with a heart for the lost. They love to go out into the world, to bring Christ to those on the fringe who have no hope. They are just as comfortable at a motorcycle rally or prison as they are at church. They are so grateful that God created everyone with different gifts, so that, as one body, we can bring hope to the hopeless, and care for one another, orphans and widows.

**How do you see yourself serving God at Hope and/or outside of Hope?**

Outside of serving on the welcome team, men's bible study and worship team, Dave and Teresa have recently accepted a volunteer position with the Christian Motorcyclists Association. They help to support and guide three local chapters of this ministry, and attend motorcycle rallies, races, and runs.

**Do you have any message for folks who are seeking God or are striving for a closer walk with Him?**

King David had it right in the Psalms. The secret to drawing closer to God is to focus on the heart and to not lose that “first love”. Psalm 51:10 (NKJV): “Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me”. And in Psalm 51:12 (NKJV): “Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me by Your generous Spirit”. It is easy to allow the relationship with God to grow “stale”. The challenge is to keep that “wow, God” factor that we first had when accepting Christ. Let Him continue to “wow” you with His splendor, love, grace, holiness, sovereignty, etc. We are in awe of His splendor.



## Some upcoming Hope Christian Church events

### Pray for the Persecuted Church – Sunday, Nov 12, during service

Many of our brothers and sisters around the world are persecuted for their faith in Jesus. Hope will be part of this world-wide prayer meeting to lift up those who are suffering for Christ!

### Hope Workday – Saturday, Nov 18, 8am - noon

Come to Hope for bagels, coffee, fellowship, and oh yeah, to help clean, weed, repair, and take care of our facility. Come for a while or stay the whole morning. Men, women, and youth of all skill levels can all help. Many hands make light the work! For questions, please contact Oscar Gomez (oog1978@icloud.com).

### Thanksgiving Eve Service – Wednesday, 7:00pm – 8:00pm

Join together with the people of Hope to give THANKS to the Lord for all His blessings and goodness to us. There will be a time of worship, teaching, as well as opportunities to share with others your heart of thankfulness.

### A look ahead at Sunday Messages

Nov. 5            Luke 4:31-44

Nov. 12           Luke 5:1-32

Nov. 19           Luke 5:33-6:5

Nov. 26           Luke 6:6-16

### Hope Christian Church

**Pastor:** Kevin McCauley

**Music Director:** Ray Wolff

**Children's Director:** Deahna Rosch

**Youth Group Leader:** David Rosch

Please submit all articles/news for the next Hope Notes by **Monday, Nov. 20th, 5pm.**  
Send to: Ed Auria  
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