



A ministry of Chinese For Christ Church of Hayward

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Resonate

(Vision Sunday; Luke 24:44-49; John 14:11-12)

Introduction

Resonate [physics]: Tendency of a linear system to oscillate at a larger amplitude at certain frequencies.

1. Something matches another (frequency), causing the transfer/sharing of energy (transmission).
2. Acoustic resonance; mechanical resonance (e.g., the Tacoma Narrows Bridge); orbital resonance.

3 key things about resonance:

1. Hit the right frequency
2. Amplification of energy/power
3. Reverberating impact

What if life with Jesus is supposed to be like that?

Vision: The Crossing is an English-speaking, multiethnic ministry crossing generations & cultures together in Christ to love God (tune into the frequency with Jesus), love people (amplify His power with the Church), and serve the world.

1. Love God: Tune into the right frequency with Jesus,
2. Love people: Amplify His Spirit's power with the Church,
3. Serve the world: Impact the culture.

Theme: Resonate with Jesus (tune into His frequency) to amplify the gospel, impact the culture.

Tune into the right frequency with Jesus

We'll help each other stay tuned into the right frequency by understanding, living with & experiencing Jesus through it.

1. Is this Jesus stuff real? Does it work? 2-year journey through Luke-Acts will answer those questions.
 - a. This year: The gospel according to Luke. If you have difficulty connecting with Jesus, Luke is an investigative historical biography written for outsiders. No one is an outsider with Jesus.
 - b. As you tune into His frequency, get to know Him & His teachings, He'll write an amazing story into your lives.
2. After He was crucified & raised from the dead, He appears to His followers [Luke 24:44-49].
 - a. [44-45] As spend time with Jesus, connect & tune in to Him, He opens your mind to understand... what?
 - b. [46-47] How God's redemption history fits together; how all of Scriptures point to Jesus as its fulfillment:
 - c. That He suffered, died & rose again; & if we turn away from sin to Him, we receive forgiveness/connection.
3. [48] Key: "You are witnesses."
 - a. How are they witnesses? After they see the wounds of His hands & feet, touch them, eat with Him [24:38-42].
 - b. Not just disconnected bystanders, but the kind of witness that touch, connect, experience for themselves.
 - c. Don't just flirt with Jesus (use Him to bless you, give stuff, make feel good), but connect, experience, witness.
4. Challenge: "Become a witness" transformed by testing, touch, experiencing Him for yourself, in 3 ways:
 - a. On your own: Explore, study, pray through the gospel of Luke for it to really take root in your heart/life.
 - b. To help you read/reflect during the week: Supplemental reflection material/questions posted at our website: <http://thecrossing.cfcchayward.org/sermons1009.htm>.
 - c. Commit to coming weekly: We'll learn & explore together through preaching/teaching of the Word in worship.

Tune into the right frequency this year as we go through Luke as a church. Be a witness: As you resonate with Jesus, experience Him & His teachings, He writes an amazing story into your life.

Amplify the power through our lives & church

As we tune into Jesus, His power is amplified & expressed in our lives and church.

1. [49] “The promise of My Father... clothed in power”: the Holy Spirit poured on His church [cf. Acts 1:8; 2:32-33].
 - a. The Holy Spirit has many roles, but particularly in Luke-Acts, He empowers Jesus, & then the church together, to do incredible things for the sake of the gospel.
2. Resonance is not a melody we play alone; it takes multiple chords to fill out the complete harmony in the church.
 - a. Next year: We’ll explore Acts [Luke, pt. 2] to discover how early followers of Christ resonated with the Holy Spirit in a highly relational community, to amplify the Spirit’s power & work in and through their lives.
 - b. This year: Like the group following Him in Luke, we’ll discover how to connect with Jesus & experience His power in and through us, together [cf. Luke 9:1-6 & 10:1-24].
3. Challenge: Experience the power of God’s Spirit amplified through life in community, accountability and witness, which takes place in our fellowship small groups, in 3 ways:
 - a. Believing the Father’s promise, come expecting to grow in a small group together by the Holy Spirit’s power.
 - b. Learn to love & accept people who are very different from you [cf. John 13:34-35].
 - c. Dig deeper into each other’s lives.

Imagine how God’s power would be unleashed when a safe, authentic, challenging, grace-filled community experiences & amplifies the power of God’s Spirit together. Stay connected to Jesus in the fertile soil of community where amazing growth happens, and amazing stories are written.

Reverberate with impact on the culture

As something resonates, there’s always an impact on someone/something else.

1. The disciples connect with Jesus, and will receive power from His Spirit for a purpose:
 - a. [46-47] Not only to understand & experience Jesus for yourselves, proclaim it to all nations.
 - b. [48] Witnesses: Both eyewitnesses of experience, and ones who testify [“to the end of the earth”; cf. Acts 1:8].
 - c. [49] The same Helper (the Holy Spirit) will empower you to have an impact on people.
2. Resonate with your neighbors, co-workers, friends, community, city: People outside these 4 walls (of church).
 - a. When we live & experience Christ, amplifying His gospel in our lives, it will resonate/strike a chord with others.
 - b. [Chip Ingram] Growing churches believe growth is normal, predictable, supernatural, imperative [cf. Acts 1-ff.].
 - c. [Luke 8:4-15] Good seed, right soil, 100% of time produces growth. We’re not responsible for the seed or soil, but to help sow [cf. Mark 4:1-29].
3. Challenge: Seize opportunities for impact.
 - a. Strike a chord with others by being intentional, relational & missional outside of church.
 - b. We already take risks in many areas of life where the outcome is questionable, the chance of rejection high.
 - c. [Bill Hybels] “Jesus & the gospel are the hope of the world... and the Church is His chosen vehicle.” There is no plan B; you are it.

God wants to write your great story

Is it true? Does this happen to real, normal people? Would our lives exponentially resonate if connected with Jesus?

1. [John 14:11-12]
 - a. [11] Works: They saw Jesus teach powerfully about the Kingdom, perform powerful miracles, set people free, heal the broken, transform lives.
 - b. [12] “Whoever believes in Me [Jesus] will also do the works that I do; & even greater things than these.”
 - c. Resonate; amplify; even greater.
2. We’re going to learn to resonate with Jesus to amplify the gospel, impact the culture.

My prayer is that God would write a great story into our lives, something we could tell our kids, church, friends: “This is what Jesus has done; greater things than we could do by our own intellect, ability & strength; impact.” God wants to write an amazing story into your life. Does that resonate with you?