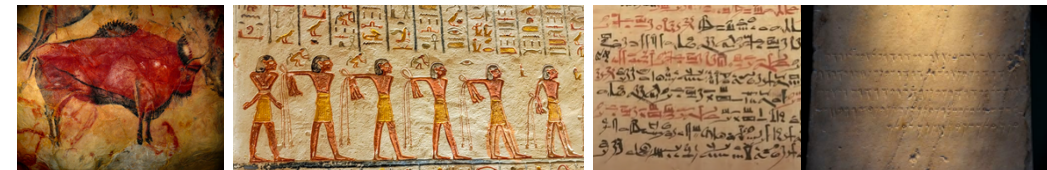


The Rosetta Stone (196 BC) was a decree written three distinct and ancient scripts (Egyptian Hieroglyphics and Demotics, and Greek). This archeological wonder decoded the mystery in the development of written language as we saw how written language went from pictographs to hieroglyphics to symbols representing phonics (alphabets).



Cave Paintings > Pictograms & Ideograms > Hieroglyphics > Hieratics > Demotics > Phoenician Alphabet



movement toward symbols as sounds



ORDER from CHAOS

IT IS WRITTEN



כְּתַבְתִּי

I have written



The spiritual discipline of scribing is the practice of copying the words down as a form of connecting the body (hand) with the Scripture.

Genesis 1

Lectio (Imagine): Read the Scripture (3x's). After the third reading note the verse that sticks out to you and Scribe the verse three times.

Oratio (Feel): After your scribing session, pray and express your feelings to God about the verse that stuck out to you. This could include your desires, confessions, questions, gratitudes, or resistance.

Meditatio (Think): Do you have any questions for God? What questions do you have of yourself? I intentionally ask myself tough questions from what I read in order to uncover the truth of my heart. Did you experience any insight, knowledge, wisdom, vision, or sense of action to take? Write all of this down.

Contemplatio (Be Still): Sit quietly for 5 minutes. Just being in God's presence. Don't try to think, feel, or will anything simply let yourself be in God's Presence. These words have brought you into the very presence of God.

We usually read Genesis 1 as a story on creation, but the past few weeks we have been reading through Genesis 1 as a spiritual practice on bringing order out of our chaos. This week we will read through Genesis 1 to gain a meta-process (a bird's eye view) perspective on the "writtleness" of the writing.

Take a step back from immersing yourself in the vision of the meaning of the words and instead reflect on the meaning of it being written. In other words, what process was involved in getting the words and sentences into their place. Why was this *written*? What does it mean that it *had to be written* down? What processes went into preserving this Scripture? What does the fact that *it is written* say to you?



כְּתַבְתִּי

I have written



Exodus 24:12-18

Lectio (Imagine): Read the Scripture (3x's). After the third reading note the verse that sticks out to you and Scribe the verse three times.

Oratio (Feel): After your scribing session, pray and express your feelings to God about the word or phrase that stuck out to you. This could include your desires, confessions, questions or gratitudes, resistance, or supplications.

Meditatio (Think): Do you have any questions for God? What questions do you have of yourself? I intentionally ask myself tough questions from what I read in order to uncover the truth of my heart. Did you experience any insight, knowledge, wisdom, vision, or sense of action to take? Write all of this down

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Read through Genesis 1 and highlight every time the account reads, "And God called . . ." What do you notice about this? What do you think the difference is between saying and calling? What does God call out over your chaos and newly forming order?

3.

פְּעָמַי הֵכֵן *pa'amay haken*

"Order my steps in your word . . ."



Psalm 119:129-136 (KJV)

Lectio Divina. Psalm 119 reflects on the written language of Hebrew by making use of the Hebrew alphabet. Each letter in the Hebrew alphabet is used in worship to the Word of God.

Lectio (Imagine): Read the Scripture (3x's). After the third reading note the verse that sticks out to you and Scribe the verse three times.

Oratio (Feel): After your scribing session, pray and express your feelings to God about the word or phrase that stuck out to you. This could include your desires, confessions, questions or gratitudes, resistance or supplications.

Meditatio (Think): Do you have any questions for God? What questions do you have of yourself? I intentionally ask myself tough questions from what I read in order to uncover the truth of my heart. Did you experience any insight, knowledge, wisdom, vision, or sense of action to take? Write all of this down

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Just as letters in an alphabet serve to make up words, which serve to give us meaning and order in the world of communication so the Psalter calls us to think about how letters in an alphabet serve the Word (of God) and give us meaning and order in the world of life.

D Pe. The Hebrew letter being celebrated in verses 129-136 is Pe. Because Hebrew (and all ancient written languages) developed from pictograms, hieroglyphics, and cuneiform, letters were designed as pictures first. The letter **D** means/looks like a mouth. It is connected with speaking, praying, and in verse 133 we see that order comes from speaking the Word of God. Each verse in this section (129-126) begins with a word that starts with the letter Pe--which are all similar--face, mouth, look, entrance, river.

4.

مكتوب *maktub*

"all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be"



Psalm 139:13-18

Lectio Divina. Psalm 139 reflects on how for God writtenness goes beyond what's on paper, parchment and scrolls to a purpose that is written on you.

Lectio (Imagine): Read the Scripture (3x's). After the third reading note the verse that sticks out to you and Scribe the verse three times.

Oratio (Feel): After your scribing session, pray and express your feelings to God about the word or phrase that stuck out to you. This could include your desires, confessions, questions or gratitudes, resistance or supplications.

Meditatio (Think): Do you have any questions for God? What questions do you have of yourself? I intentionally ask myself tough questions from what I read in order to uncover the truth of my heart. Did you experience any insight, knowledge, wisdom, vision, or sense of action to take? Write all of this down

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"It is written" has long had a rich meaning in the Ancient Near East (Arabic *maktub*) and was used by ancient Bedouins to denote 'purpose is written on you'. The thought was humans have *fate* (uncontrollable circumstances that shape us, like our ethnicity) and we have *destiny* (the Divine possibility-opportunity and purpose), which is written on our soul. Destiny is arrived at through the wise decisions.

The ancients believed that when a person pursued their divine purpose (the *it-is-writtenness*) the universe would conspire to with the person, because the hand that wrote that purpose on you was The Hand that wrote it all.

5.

Γέγραπται

"It is written . . ."



Luke 19:45-48

Lectio (Imagine): Read the Scripture (3x's). After the third reading note the verse that sticks out to you and Scribe the verse three times.

Oratio (Feel): After your scribing session, pray and express your feelings to God about the word or phrase that stuck out to you. This could include your desires, confessions, questions or gratitudes, resistance or supplications.

Meditatio (Think): Do you have any questions for God? What questions do you have of yourself? I intentionally ask myself tough questions from what I read in order to uncover the truth of my heart. Did you experience any insight, knowledge, wisdom, vision, or sense of action to take? Write all of this down

Contemplatio (Be Still): Sit quietly for 5 minutes. Just being in God's presence. Don't try to think, feel, or will anything simply let yourself be in God's Presence. These words have brought you into the very presence of God.

What do you notice about Jesus' use of "it is written"?

The first time he uses is really the first time he speaks and its during his spiritual formation in the wilderness. The Voice has just spoken to him, and then Satan attempts to confuse him and Jesus brings order to this confusion with "It is written" (Luke 4:1-12). The very next scene Jesus clarifies his purpose with what is written when he opens up the scroll to Isaiah and says, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me to preach . . ." (Luke 4:16-21).

Now at the end of Jesus' ministry he uses "It is written" to bring a radical corrective to the Temple corruption.

6.

Γέγραπται

I have come—it is written of me in the scroll of the book—to do your will, O God



Hebrews 10:5-7

Lectio (Imagine): Read the Scripture (3x's). After the third reading note the verse that sticks out to you and Scribe the verse three times.

Oratio (Feel): After your scribing session, pray and express your feelings to God about the word or phrase that stuck out to you. This could include your desires, confessions, questions or gratitudes, resistance or supplications.

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The writer of Hebrews quotes from a Psalm of David (40) as he talks about how God never desired animal sacrifices and ritual killings, but wanted a people who listened and fulfilled their divine calling. When he says, "a body you prepared for me . . ." the Hebrew literally says, "ears you have dug out for me," the notion is that God formed man's ears for the purpose of hearing God speak and doing God's will. The real point of this is that the Messiah had ears created by God to hear what God was saying and moreover, the Messiah found his ears in "It is written in the Scroll."



OPPORTUNITIES To Love and Beloved

December CALENDAR



Coming Up

- 4th @ 1pm Football Sunday
- 4th & 18th @10a B'fast Sandwiches
- 6th & 13th @6:30p Sanctuary Yoga Tuesdays
- 14th @6:30p Communal Prayer Night Wednesday
- 24th @ 6:30p YWAM street ministry hot cocoa and caroling Saturday

HELP NEEDED

socks, hats, hygiene, Christmas cookies
for the homeless Christmas Eve event
food/drinks for football Sunday

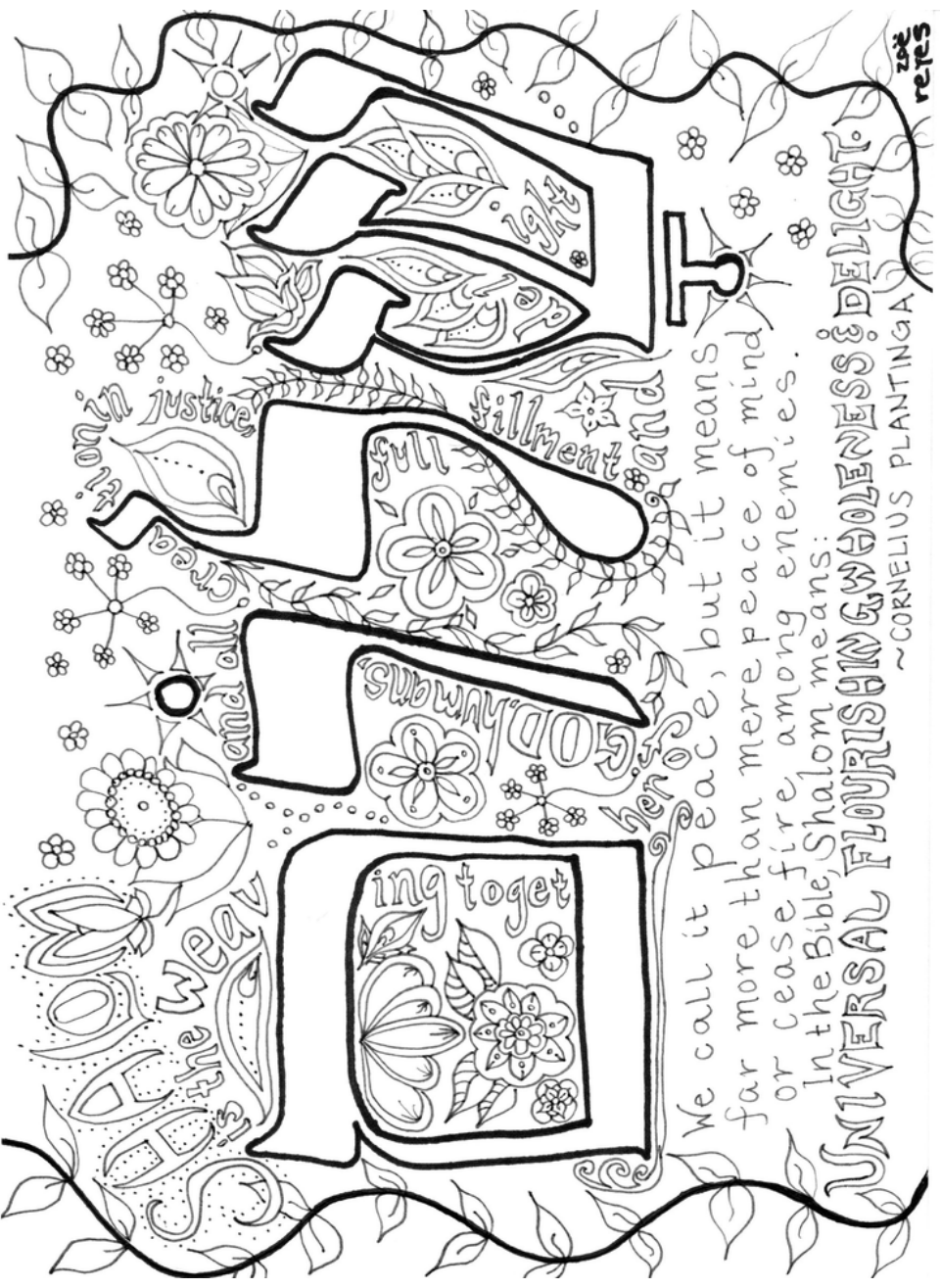


COMMUNAL PRAYER REQUEST



COMMUNAL PRAISE BOARD

See prayer cards on the table to submit a personal prayer or praise.



December Month-to-Date

Budget	Tithe & Offerings	Outstanding
\$17,930.23*	\$4,645.00	\$-13,285.23

Vision. Our vision for the next 18 months (12/23) is to have each operation financially self-sustaining.

Building: for the building to be self-sustained (mortgage, utilities) thru residential and event rentals.

Church: for the offerings/tithes to fund our social impact missions of anti-human trafficking in Nepal, homelessness in SF, recovery to those in need, and monthly neighborhood events as well as operational costs.

Pastoral: for Jeff's content creation (e-course sales, coaching) to pay his salary and other future salaries.

A Genesis Map of Order from Chaos

below is a map following the original sequence of words used in the Hebrew Bible of Genesis Creation Account

