

Like Never Before

Sermon Notes



267 Odens Mill Road PO Box 1243 Sylacauga, AL 35150 256.267.0815 www.fivepointsbc.org **Dates**

Name

Like Never Before™ Sermon Notes

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Date: Passage:	Preacher:
	MEANING:
FURTHER STUDY:	QUESTIONS:

Why Sermon Notes?

For many Christians, we sit in church services and Bible studies one or more times every week. At each of these opportunities, the revealed word of God is opened and read, and in most cases, a person illuminates the Scripture passage with information gleaned from significant study and experience. Yet, when asked to recall the subject, main points, or the applications that were fresh on our mind at the time, we find we cannot, without great difficulty, recall any of these details.

Note-taking is a time-honored method of assisting recall and real learning, what the Bible would call "implanting the Word." Instead of relying on our memories or, worse, allowing our minds to wander while the truth of God's word is being taught, we strengthen our recall and understanding by maintaining our attention, concentration, and participation in the proclamation of God's word.

But for this initiative, we will be moving a step beyond simply taking notes. While the act of making notes may tend to keep a person engaged in the short-term and assist in memory, for a real change to occur, the Scripture must be reviewed, perhaps even studied. It is in this private study that we allow the Spirit to use the word of God to make substantive changes in us. We may nod our agreement in the worship service, but it is in our quiet time alone with God where we properly bow to His instruction.

It is with this in mind that the following pages are offered. Each page will have four main sections: *Notes, Meaning, Further Study,* and *Questions*.

The *Notes* section is the largest, meant to allow you to record notes from the sermon or Bible study. This will be the beginning of your study on this passage for the next week, a place to write down points from the preached message from God's word.

The *Meaning* section is a place for you to write down core truths and insights into the passage that come as a result of your study. It may also be used to summarize key points in the message notes.

The Further Study section is an area for you to answer specific questions about the passage. There will be general questions that should be answered, but for

particular passages, the preacher may give additional questions for further study.

The general questions are:

- What does this passage tell me about God?
- What does this passage tell me about me?
- What do I need to change?

The final section is for *Questions*. This is a place for you to write questions that come up during your study. It may be a comparison with another passage that is troubling, or understanding the shade of meaning in a word or phrase. It could be a theological point that you need help understanding.

And now – the Catch...

For this year (2018), the evening services here at Five Points will be focused on YOUR further study of these Scriptures. For these services, we will dive deeper into these passages, focusing on questions and insights you have gained through your wrestling with these passages in your personal study.

Ideally, we will take the prior week's Sunday morning text as the focal passage for Sunday night's study, allowing you a full week to ruminate over the passage. For the times when we have no Sunday evening service, we will cover any intervening weeks to be as thorough as we can in covering these passages.

Don't fear if you miss a Sunday morning – we will make the Sunday morning messages available on the fivepointsbc.org website to allow you to remain current with our studies.

It is my hope that all our members will see the growth our Lord has for them through the ministry of His word.

J. Patrick McDonald

Pastor, Five Points Baptist Church

January 26, 2018

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^{*}None of these answers should be "nothing."

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