

CHAPTER 9

WORD STUDIES

NAME:

Kate Sweeney

DATE:

A concordance is a listing of all the words used in a book, often with a summary of how those words are translated into English. You can use a concordance to get a feel for what the word could mean (i.e., its semantic range). We are going to use the online resource developed by the scholars at Tyndale House, Cambridge—the STEP program (Scripture Tools for Every Person), available to use for free at www.stepbible.org. The STEP program is tied to the ESV.¹

ASSIGNMENT 9-1

Use the STEP Bible program as your concordance to answer the following questions:

1. Use the concordance to answer the following questions about Acts 1:8.
 - a. Write out the English transliterated form of the word translated “power” in Acts 1:8: *Greek - Dynamis - Strength, ability*
 - b. How many times does this word occur in the New Testament? 119
 - c. List the passages in Acts that translate this word as “power”:
Acts 1:8, 3:12, 4:7, 4:33, 6:8, 8:10, 10:38

1. If you prefer the NIV translation, you could use *The Strongest NIV Exhaustive Concordance*, ed. Edward W. Goodrick and John R. Kohlenberger III (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999). The online STEP Bible program is tied to the ESV translation. The main thing is that you use a concordance that matches the version of the Bible you are using.

d. List the passages in Acts that translate this word as "miracles" or "mighty works":

~~Acts 2:22, 8:13, 19:11~~ Acts 2:22, 8:13, 19:11

2. Use the concordance to answer the following questions about Exodus 4:21.

a. Write out the English transliterated form of the word translated "power" in Exodus 4:21:

hand

b. How many times does this word occur in the Old Testament? 578

c. List the passages in Exodus that translate the word as "power":

Exodus 2:19, 3:8, 3:20, 3:19, 5:2, 6:1, 7:4, 7:5, 7:15, 7:17, 9:3, 13, 13:9, 13:14, 14:30, 15:9, 15:17, 16:13, 17:9, 17:10, 18:9, 18:10, 21:20, 23:21

3. The ESV uses the word "judge" in 1 Corinthians 4:3; 5:12; and Revelation 20:4. Are these the same Greek words? Write out the English transliteration of the three Greek words translated as "judge" in these three passages.

4:3 amarkino - to investigate, examine closely

~~amarkino~~

5:12 - krino - to decide, consider, make a distinction between

Rev 20:4 - krima - judgement, condemnation, punishment

4. Use the concordance to answer the following questions about the word "hope":

a. Paul uses the word "hope" in Romans 4:18. How many times total does Paul use this same Greek word in his letters? (Do not assume that Paul wrote Hebrews.) 49

b. How many times is the word used in Matthew, Mark, and Luke? 2x Matthew 12:21

c. Is this the same word for "hope" that is used in 1 Corinthians 13:13? Yes

the word here is (elpis) The object of hope, trust, confidence

like 24:21 (hope)

ASSIGNMENT 9-2

You are studying the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7) and the word "anxious" in Matthew 6:25 (ESV) catches your eye. You decide to study the word "anxious" more in-depth. Use the STEP Bible program as your concordance to answer the following questions:

1. What is the Greek word for "anxious" in Matthew 6:25? Write out the word in transliterated English form: Merimnaō. How many times is it used in the New Testament? 19
2. Now do some more concordance work to decide what the word "anxious" *could* mean in the New Testament. Make a list of the "meanings" provided in the box to the right in the STEP Bible program. This gives you a good sense of what the word could mean, but you need to look a bit more closely at the context. There is an art to identifying a word's semantic range. Don't give up. Keep working at it, and you'll find that it gets easier with practice. Answer the following questions about how the word is used in each context as a way of getting at its range of meaning:

- a. What things are we told not to be anxious about in Matthew 6:25, 27, 28, 31, 34; Luke 12:22, 25, 26?

Matthew 6:25-6:31 - your life, eat, drink, clothing
 " " 6:31 - worries of tomorrow
 Luke 12:22 - your life - what to eat, drink, clothing
 (Daily needs)

- b. What is the context of Matthew 10:19 and Luke 12:11? Is this a different kind of anxiety than that prohibited in Matthew 6:25?

This anxiety stems from being brought ^{to} the rulers and authorities and how to defend their faith -
 to concern ~~oneself~~ one's self

- c. What stands in contrast to Martha's anxiety (Luke 10:41)? How does this contrast help to define Martha's anxiety?

Martha's anxiety stems from wanting things perfect ~~and to~~ to please her guests.

The thoughts occupied with

d. In 1 Corinthians 7 Paul uses the word four times. Describe the context of this usage.

Merimnaō - to worry, constant thinking

e. What do the contexts of 1 Corinthians 12 and Philippians 2 have in common?

to think about or have the thoughts occupied with.

f. What kind of anxiety is Paul describing in Philippians 4? How do you know?

Worry - he is telling the reader to pray and make their request to God.

3. As you survey the word in context, do you want to add to or take away from the list of meanings? Based on your brief study of the word as used in context, describe as best you can the semantic range of the word. There are at least two major senses of the word and perhaps a couple more.

Merimnaō - to worry
to expend careful thought
to concern one's self
to feel an interest in

Depending on the verse
all description would not
apply

4. Now decide what the Greek word used in Matthew 6:25 and translated "be anxious" actually means in this verse. Select one of the semantic-range options that you identified in step 2 and explain why you think the word carries that meaning in Matthew 6:25.

Merimnaō - to be concerned of one's self -
to be concerned what one would wear, ^{what} would they would eat &
drink - it is about themselves

5. To check your work, see Verbrugge, *New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology: Abridged Edition*, 364.

ASSIGNMENT 9-3

You want to study the word “meditate” in Joshua 1:8, where God tells Joshua: “This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it.” Use the STEP Bible program to answer the following questions:

1. Click on the word “meditate” in Joshua 1:8. What is the transliteration of the Hebrew word that appears in the Vocab panel to the right? hagah How many times is it used in the Old Testament? 25
2. List out the meanings provided in the Vocab panel as a way to begin establishing a range of meaning. Now click on the phrase “Search for this word” in the Vocab panel to generate a list of its occurrences in the Old Testament. Now look at each occurrence as a means of clarifying the word’s range of meaning. Based on your brief study of the word as used in context, describe as best you can the semantic range of this word.

to moan, growl, utter, muse, mutter, meditate, devise, plot,
speak, utter

to speak on it day and night

3. Now decide what the Hebrew word used in Joshua 1:8 means. Select one of the semantic-range options that you identified in step 2 and explain why you think the word carries that meaning in Joshua 1:8.

utter, speak

4. To check your work, see VanGemen, *New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis*, 1:1006-8.

NAME:

Godwin Sweeney

DATE:

ASSIGNMENT 9-4

Complete the following word study of the word "trials" in James 1:2 using the STEP Bible program. The example of our study of the word "present" in Romans 12:1 in this chapter may prove helpful.

1. First, why do you think it is important to study this word?

*to decipher the meaning of the word
in context*

2. What *could* this word mean? In other words, identify the word's semantic range.

test, trial, temptation

3. What *does* this word mean in context? Be sure to explain your choice.

*testing, because it is followed by
"For you know that testing of your faith
produces steadfastness"*

ASSIGNMENT 9-5

Complete the following word study of the word "sick" in James 5:14 using the STEP Bible program. The example of our study of the word "present" in Romans 12:1 in this chapter may prove helpful.

1. First, why do you think it is important to study this word?

the word can have different meanings
such as being deficient in authority, dignity, or power

2. What *could* this word mean? In other words, identify the word's semantic range.

ill, weak, infirm, deficient in strength
to doubt, hesitate, be unsettled, timid
to be deficient in authority, dignity, or power, contemptible

3. What *does* this word mean in context? Be sure to explain your choice.

ill, weak. The elders are to ~~visit~~ anoint the sick with oil and pray over them that they might be healed. Healing the sick is what it seems to apply,