Dear Open Door Family,

My Dad used to start every year by studying the four gospels together as a harmony. This harmony of the gospels placed all the passages chronologically and in columns near each other. My Dad used to read and then compare and contrast the words of the gospels. This year as I thought back on his practice I decided to start 2010 by reading a harmony of the gospels as part of my devotions. The great thing about studying the gospels is that we come face to face with all the things that Jesus said and did. What better way to start a new year than by focusing our hearts and minds on our Lord. I invite you to spend the next month or two reading the gospels. Focus on Jesus see Him again through the pages of the Living Word of God.

Luke 1:1-2 *(NIV) Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, [2] just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word.*

Luke is explaining why he is writing the history of Jesus' life. He also tells us he has interviewed "eyewitnesses" and those who were a "servants of the word". What does it mean to be a servant of the word? One explanation is anyone who served by continuing to spread the good news of Jesus. That would include those who were committed to Jesus Christ and to serving Him. It is interesting that ...*Luke used the same word that John used to speak of Jesus as "the Word" who "became flesh and made his dwelling among us"* Holman NT Com We know that Jesus is the Living Word of God. So we could say that anyone who seeks to understand, obey, and then teach or share God's Word is a servant of the Word. Maybe we need to ask ourselves: Would others consider me a servant of the WORD? Am I committed to the Word of God? Am I sold out completely and totally to Jesus Christ?

PRAYER: Lord Jesus, may I be known as a "servant of the WORD." May I willingly serve both the Written and the Living Word of God in anyway that I can. Help me to be devoted and single-minded towards You.

Pastor Mark Kieft
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