



tcS0038

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— “Every ‘Creature?’ Really?” —

I've read this verse hundreds of times. You may've done that, too. But I failed to notice the significance of it until a friend whose best friend forever was his dog asked me about it. Here's that verse:

✓ "...Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." —Jesus, at Mark 16:15

"Does Jesus intend for us to 'preach' to our pets, too?" he asked, "And if so, how're we supposed to do that?"

I drew a complete blank and I had no choice but to tell him that. It was fortunate for me that he understood. I promised him that I'd do some digging and get back with him soon. But where might YOU start digging for credible answers to questions like those?

Most believers may ask a pastor or search online for "expert" Bible commentaries on the topic. Been there. Done that. Found a much better way to discover dependable answers to lots and lots of Bible questions: the original Bible languages. Am I a language scholar—N.T. Greek or O.T. Hebrew? No. I'll be happy to direct you to the easy-to-find tools I use:

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible helps me to learn the original-language definitions of Bible words and phrases. When I need to dig even more deeply, I consult the Interlinear texts. There are several of those. They feature the English-language Bible translations alongside the verbatim Hebrew or Greek texts. Their most valuable feature may be the literal translations of original-language words and phrases into English.

What I learned from this digging is that that KJV word, "creature," means "creature" in the original Greek language, too! I felt compelled to share that marvelous insight with my friend, in person. We prayed and then collaborated for the answer to his second question: HOW are we to "preach" the Gospel to our pets...and to other living creatures?

We are to relate to and do things for them that help them know that God cares for them, too. It then occurred to us that the most effective way to "preach" the gospel to fellow human beings is to...well, relate to and do things for them that help them know that God cares for them, too. That'll make them curious. Curious people ask questions! Got it?



His eye is on the Sparrow and He watches me, too!

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“...[be] ready always to [give] an answer to every man that ASKETH you a reason of the hope that is in you...”  
—1 Peter 3:15

Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these ye have done it unto me.

—Jesus



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