

Miniseries 1

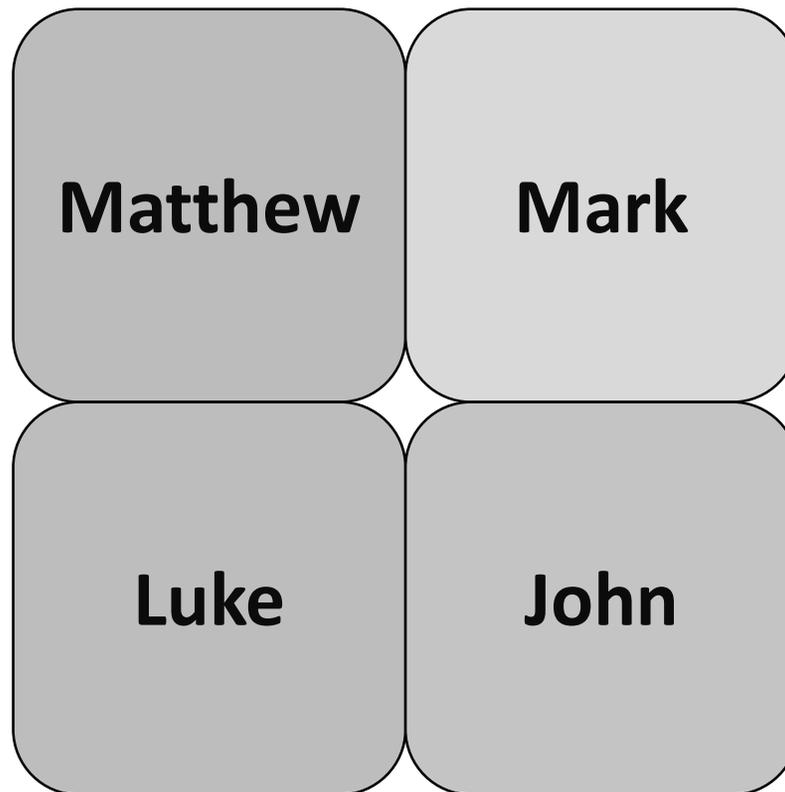
**The Synoptic Gospels:
Seeing the Same from Different Perspectives**

Let's play...

Which Gospel?

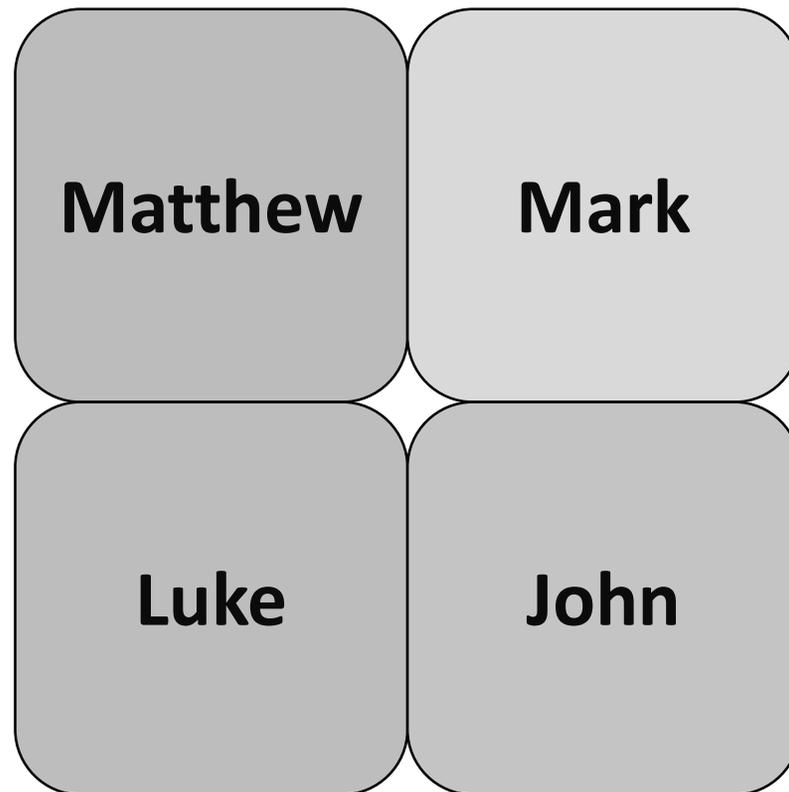
The Annunciation to Mary

Lk 1:26-38

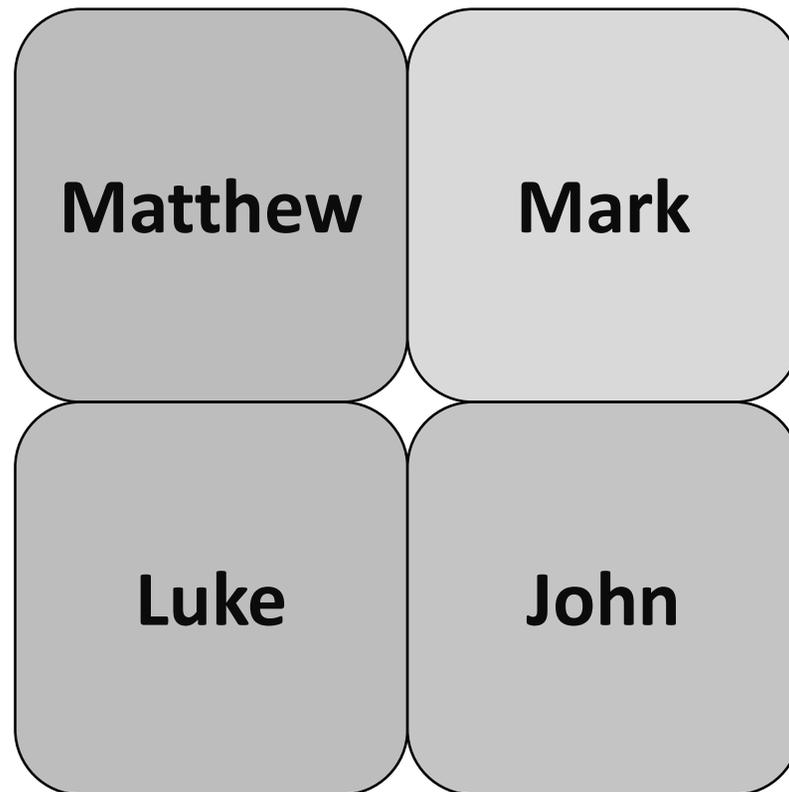


Annunciation to Zechariah

Lk 1:5-25

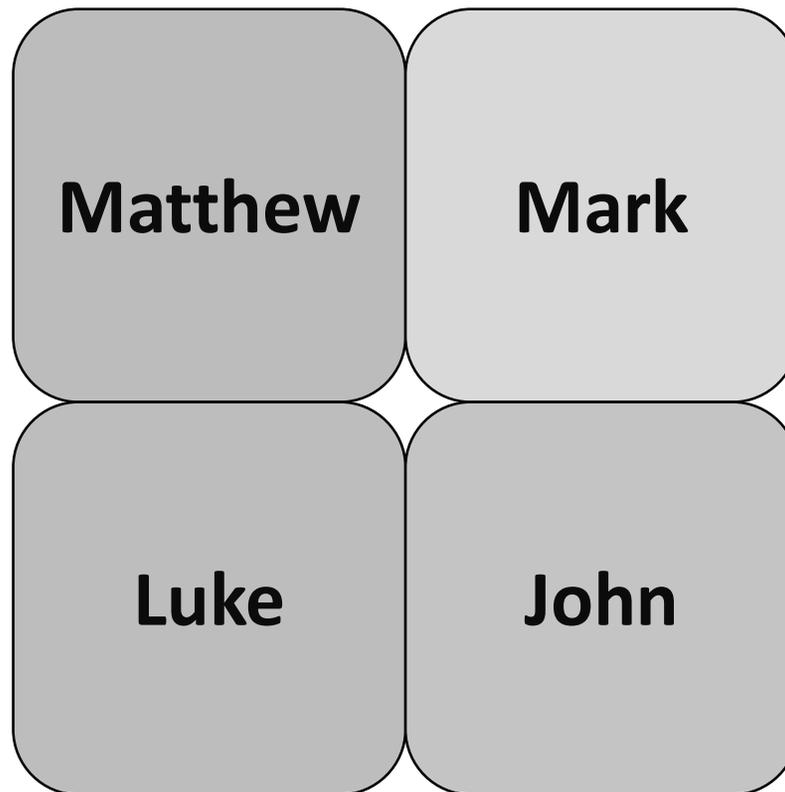


The Three Magi



The Three Gifts of the Magi

Mt 2:1-12



Sermon on the Mount

Mt 5-7

Matthew

Mark

Luke

John

Sermon on the Plain

Lk 6:20-49

Matthew

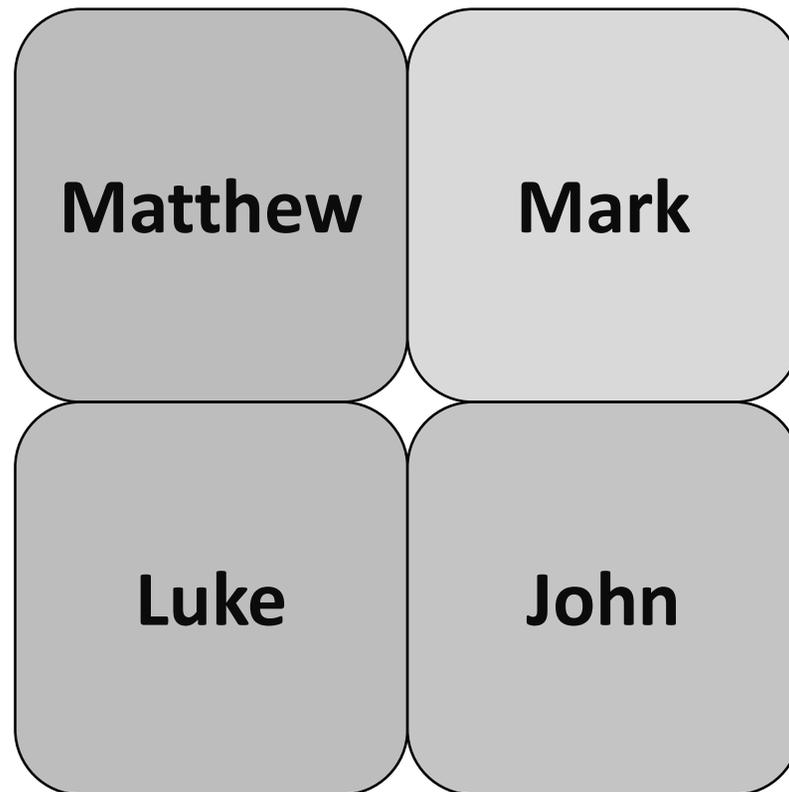
Mark

Luke

John

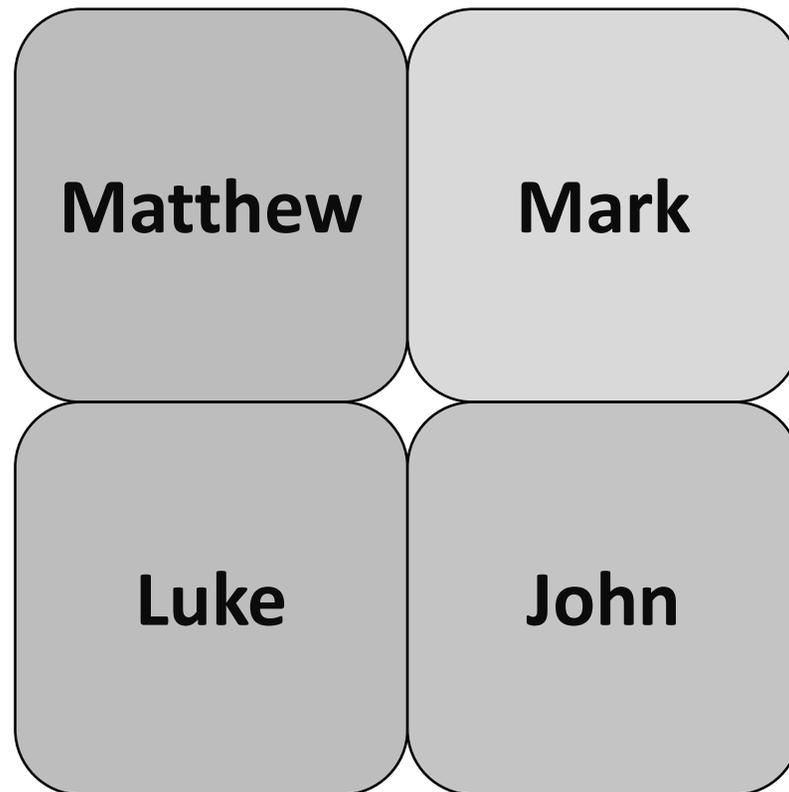
Sermon on the Boat

Mk 4, Mt 13



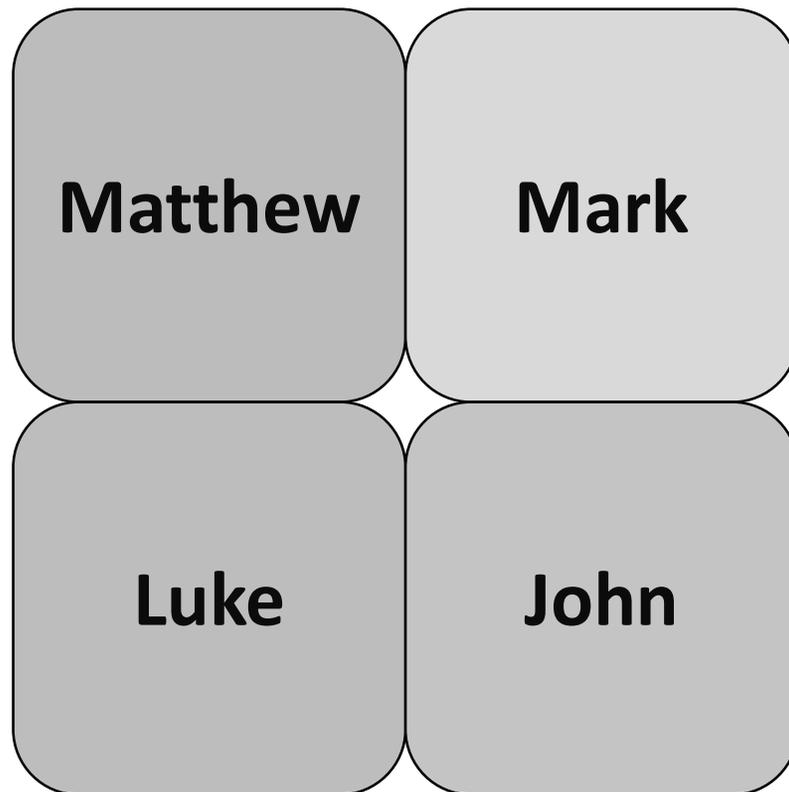
Genealogy

Mt 1, Lk 3



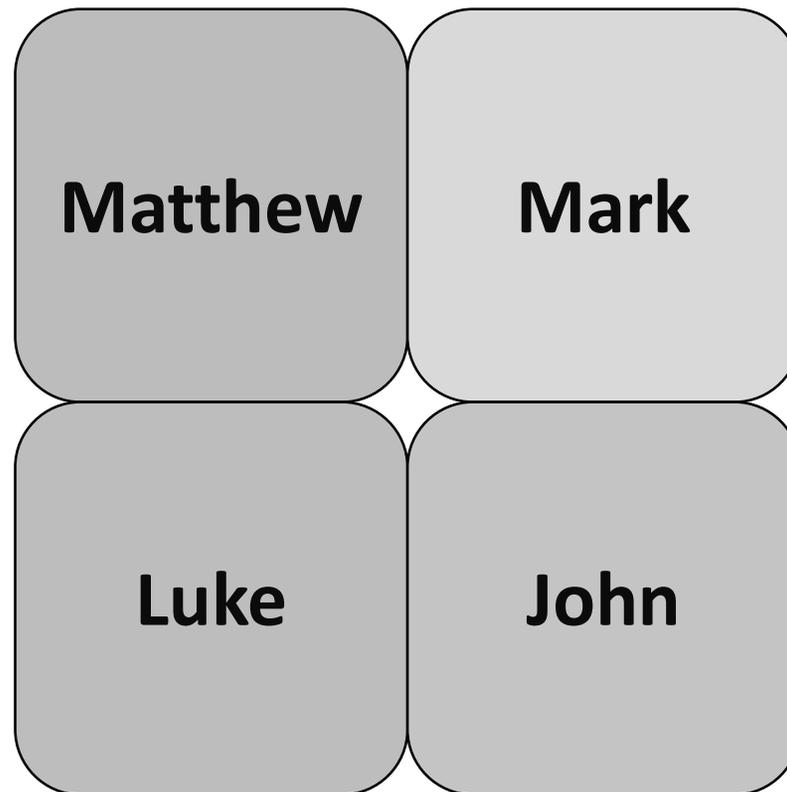
The Good Samaritan

Lk 10



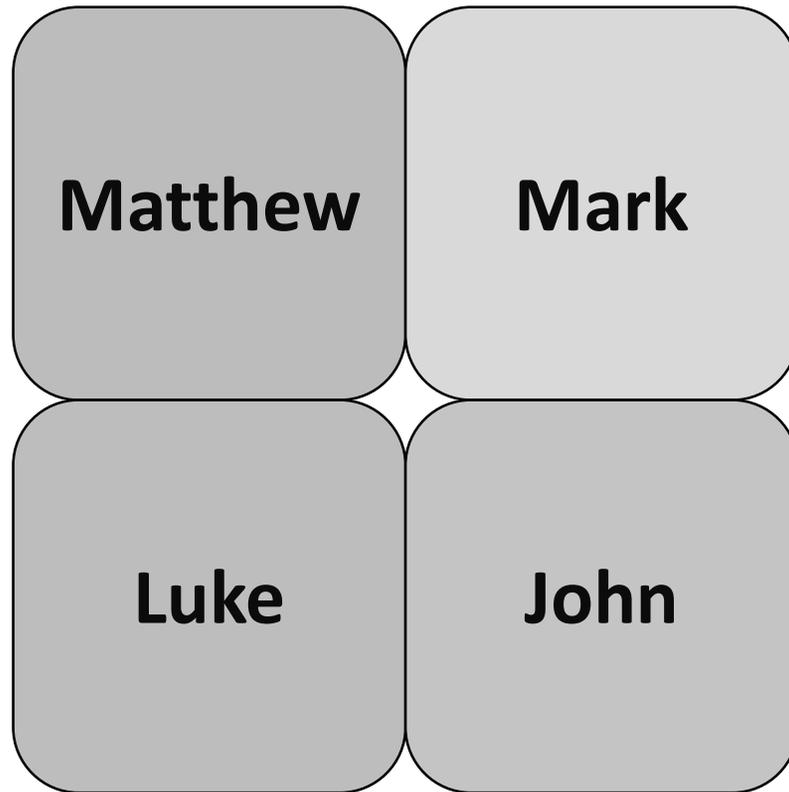
The streaker...

Mk 14:51-52



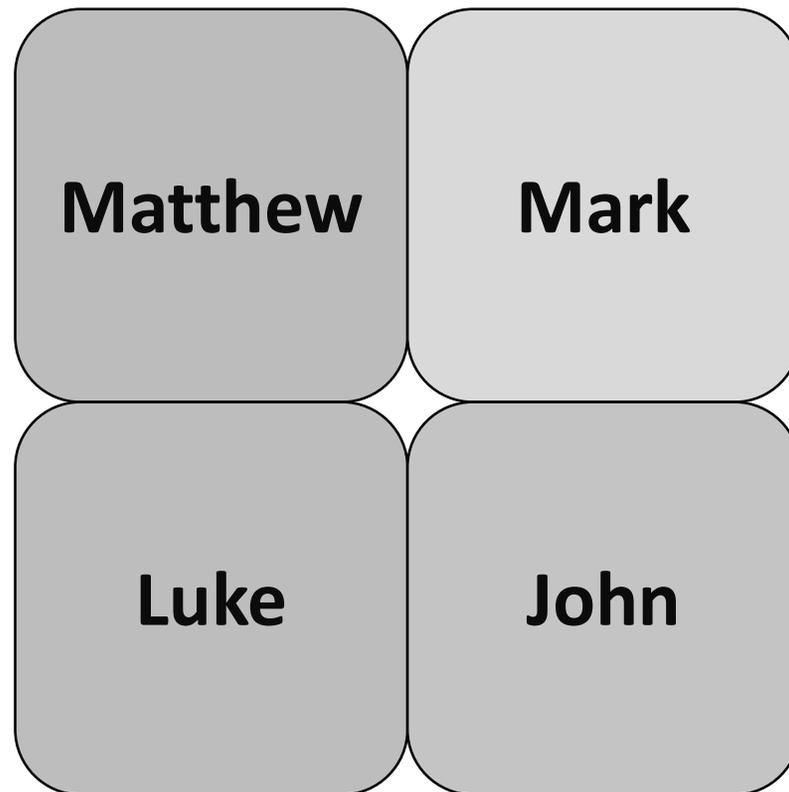
The Prodigal Son (Father)

Lk 15



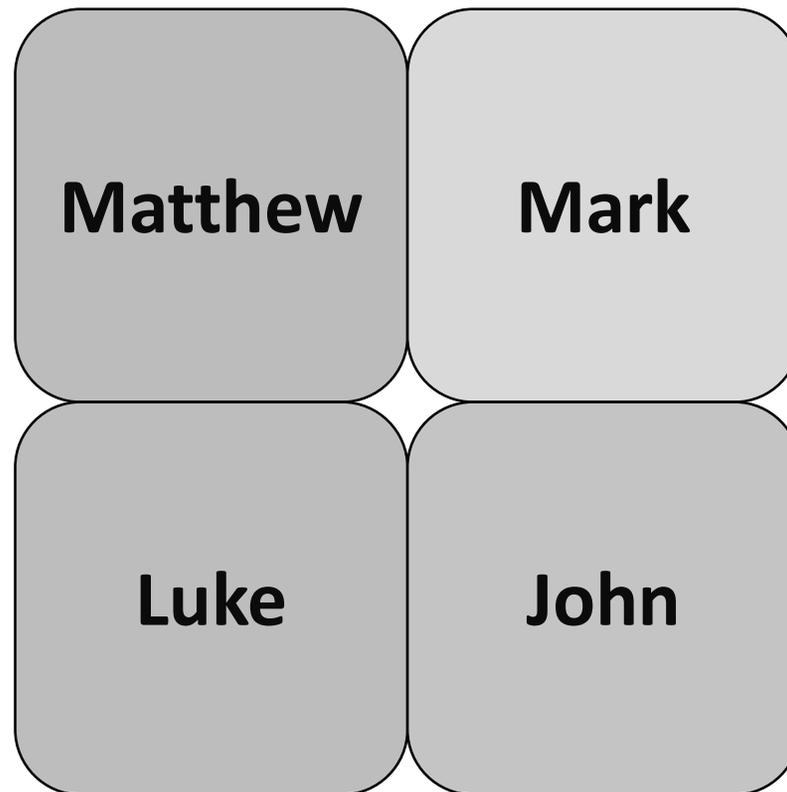
Emmaus

Lk 24



Jesus's crazy family

Mk 3:21, 31



Jesus speaking to women on the Way of the Cross

Lk 23:27-31

Matthew

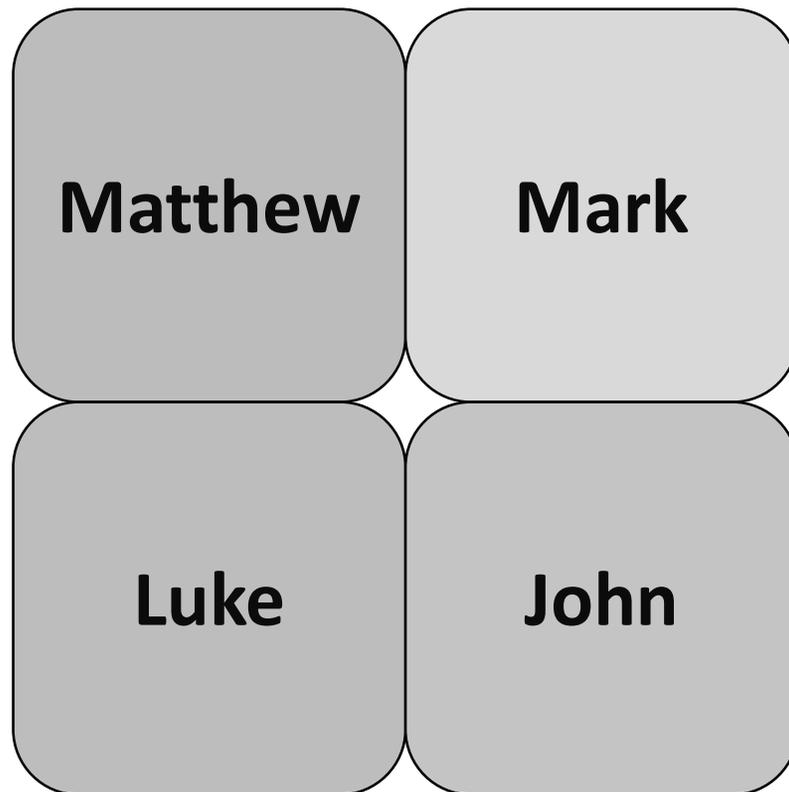
Mark

Luke

John

The Ten Bridesmaids

Mt 25:1-13



"You are Peter..."

Mt 16:17-19

Matthew

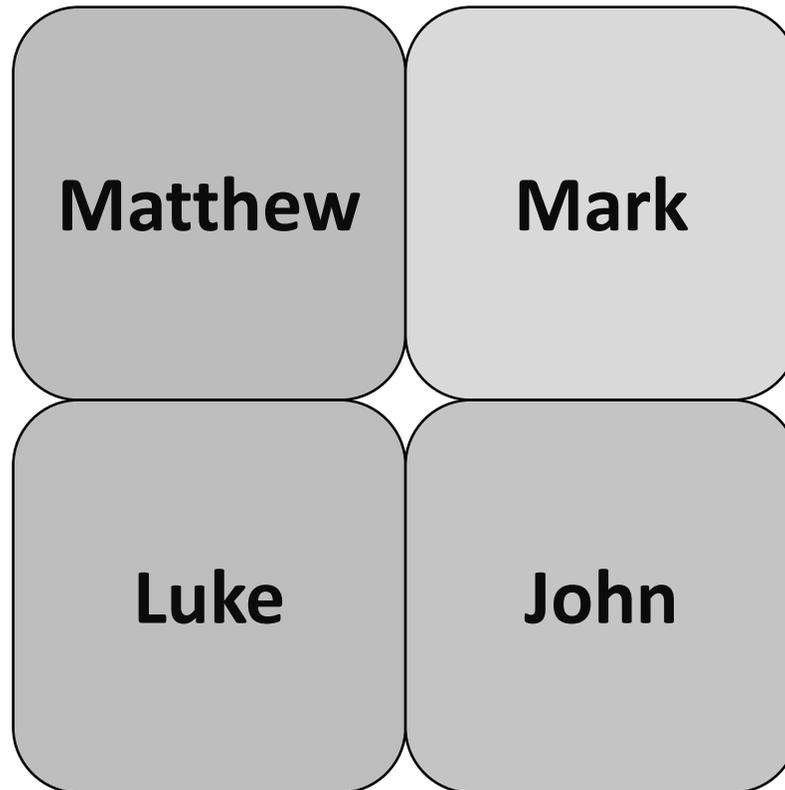
Mark

Luke

John

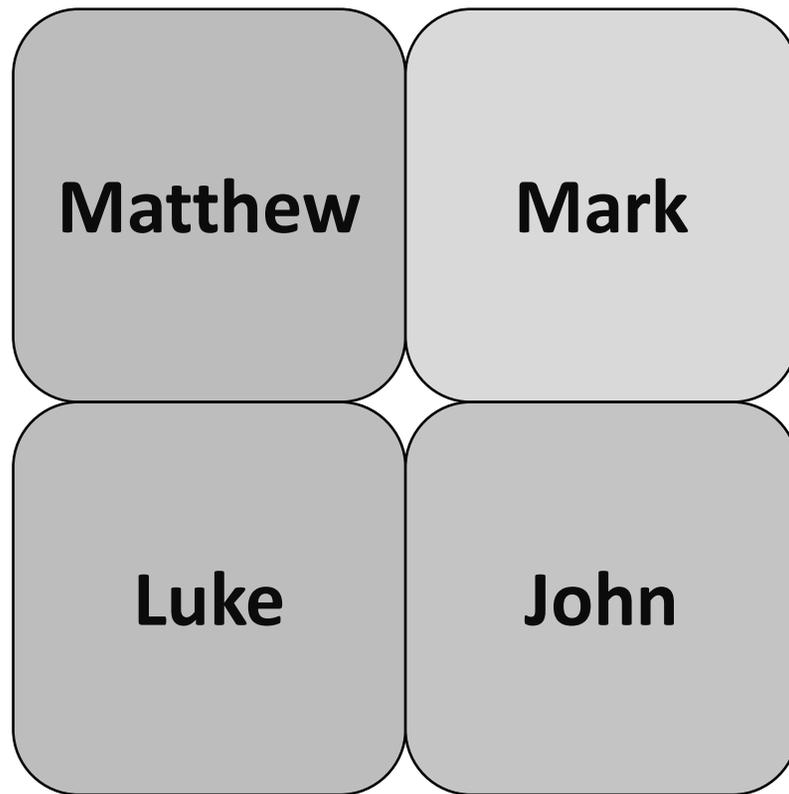
The Rich Man (Dives) & Lazarus

Lk 16:19-31



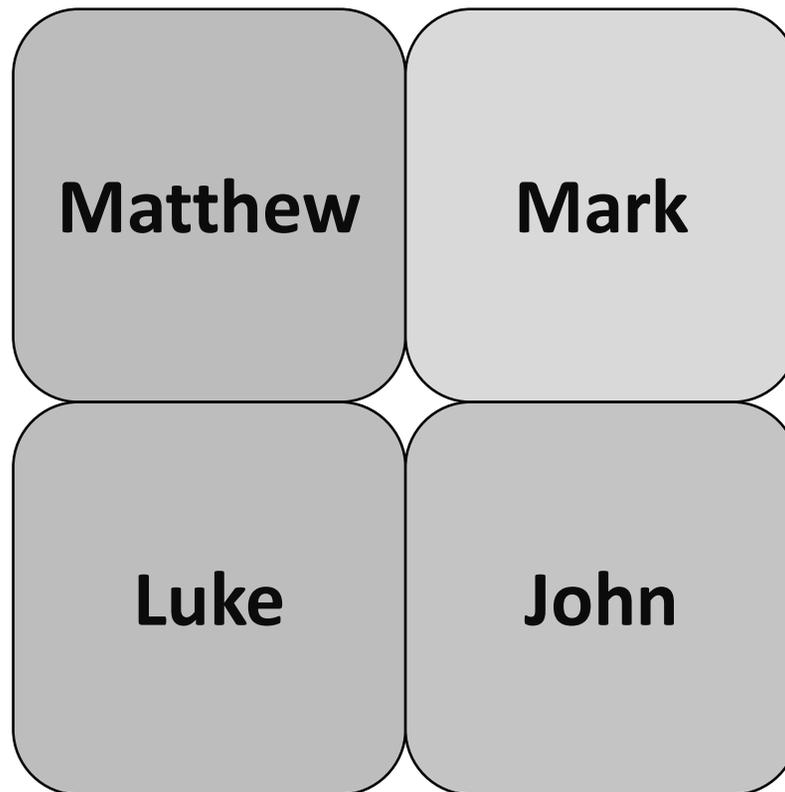
The Raising of Lazarus

Jn 11

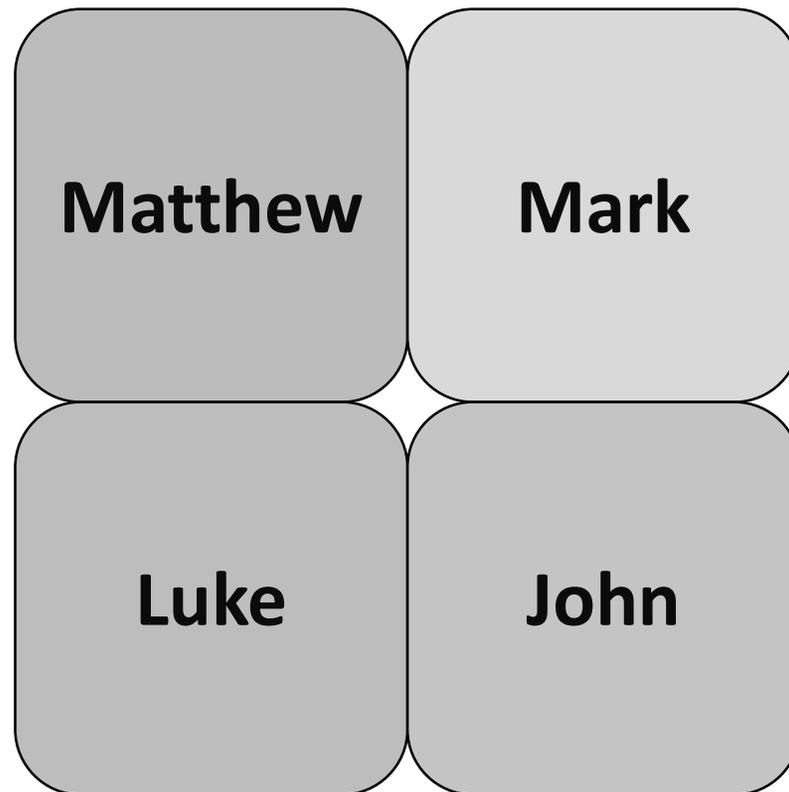


The Lord's Prayer

Mt 6:9-15, Lk 11:1-4

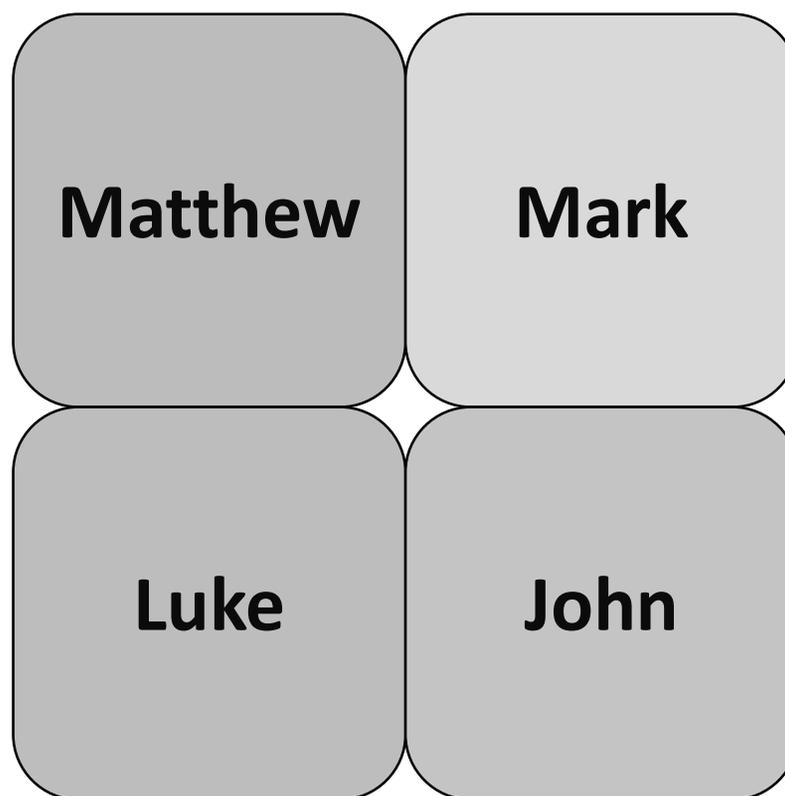


The Sign of Jonah



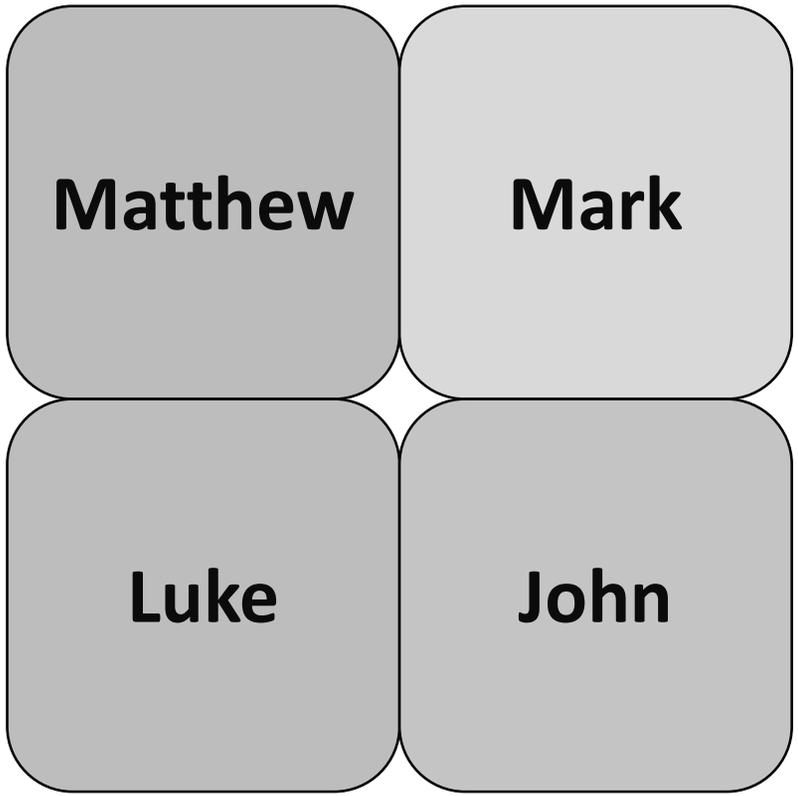
The Sign of Jonah...as resurrection

Mt 12:38-42



The Sign of Jonah...as repentance

Lk 1:26-38



Syn-optic Gospels



Syn
= together

optic
= seeing

Let's look at...

The Baptism of the Lord

The Baptism of the Lord

Mk 1:9-11

⁹ It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. ¹⁰ On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. ¹¹ And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Mt 3:13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?" ¹⁵ Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed him. ¹⁶ After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened [for him], and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove [and] coming upon him. ¹⁷ And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

Lk 3:21-22

²¹ After all the people had been baptized and Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, heaven was opened ²² and the holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

Miniseries 1

**The Synoptic Gospels:
Seeing the Same from Different Perspectives**

Let's look at...

**(what comes after)
The Baptism
of the Lord**

Post-Baptism

Mk 1:12-13

¹² At once the Spirit drove him out into the desert, ¹³ and he remained in the desert for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among wild beasts, and the angels ministered to him.

Mt 4:1-11

¹ Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. ² He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was hungry. ³ The tempter approached and said to him...

bread

security

kingdoms

Lk 3:23-38

[Genealogy]

Lk 4:1-13

bread

kingdoms

security

A Synopsis of the Synoptics

Matthew

**1,068 vv.
28 chs.**

Mark

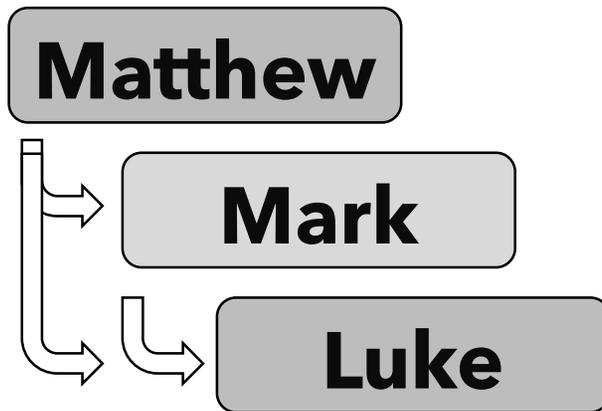
**661 vv.
16 chs.**

Luke

**1,149 vv.
24 chs.**

The Synoptic Problem

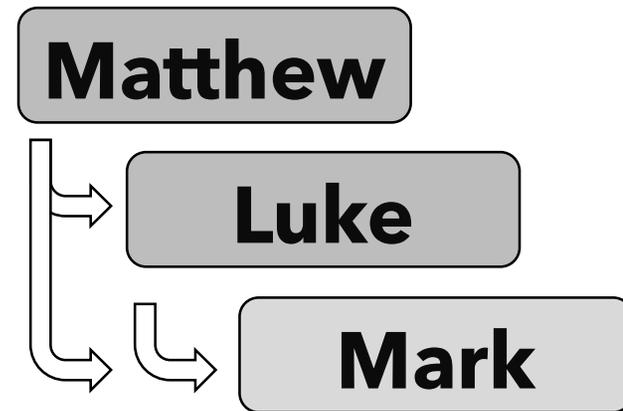
Hypothesis 1



Who says?

- St. Augustine (4th c.)
- Most of the Church until the 20th c.

Hypothesis 2



Who says?

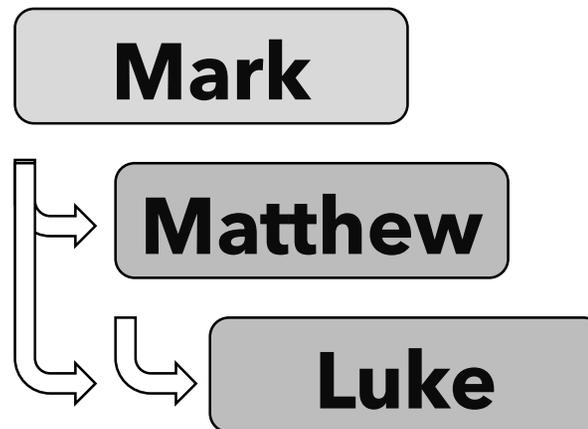
- Griesbach (1789)

Problems?

- 1. Why would Mark shorten Matthew?**
- 2. Why would Mark make changes that are less correct or make Jesus and the disciples look worse?**
 - a) Crazy Jesus - Mk 3
 - b) Magical Jesus - *Ephphatha!*
 - c) Losing-his-thunder Jesus: Bethsaida
- 3. Why do Matthew and Luke generally follow Mark's order and then diverge on the order of material not found in Mark?**

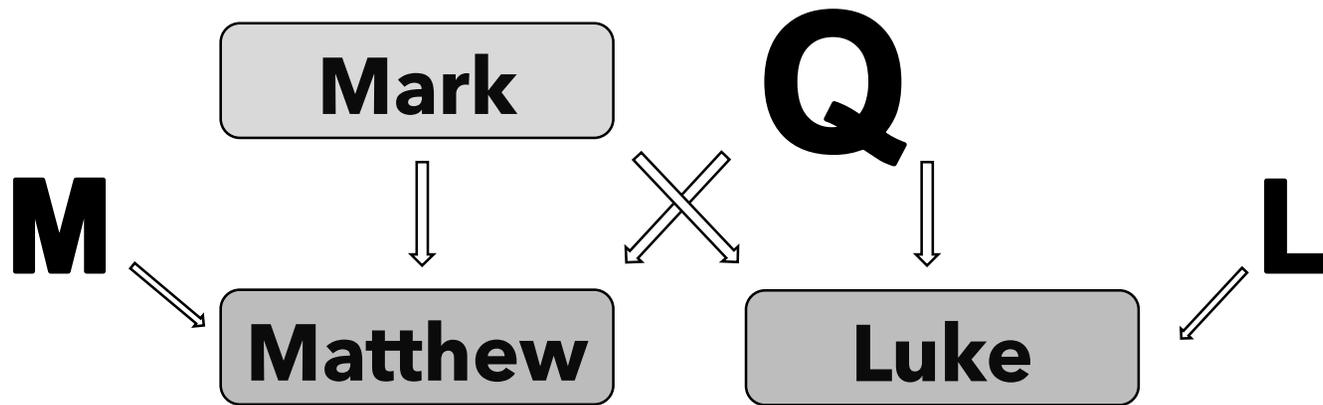
The Synoptic Problem

Hypothesis 3



The Synoptic Problem...

Hypothesis 4



Who says?

- Most scholars today

Does any of this matter?



Peter & Jesus's Suffering (1)

Mk 8:32-33

³² He spoke this openly. Then Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ At this he turned around and, looking at his disciples, rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as human beings do."

Mt 16:18-19

¹⁸ And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the netherworld shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

Lk 9:22

²² He said, "The Son of Man must suffer greatly and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed and on the third day be raised."

Peter & Jesus's Suffering (2)

Mk 14:32-42

Jesus:
Sit here while I pray...

Jesus:


Jesus:


Jesus:


Lk 22:40-46

40 When he arrived at the place he said to them, "Pray that you may not undergo the test." **41** After withdrawing about a stone's throw from them and kneeling, he prayed, **42** saying, "Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; still, not my will but yours be done." **45** When he rose from prayer and returned to his disciples, he found them sleeping from grief. **46** He said to them, "Why are you sleeping? Get up and pray that you may not undergo the test."

PJJ:


PJJ:

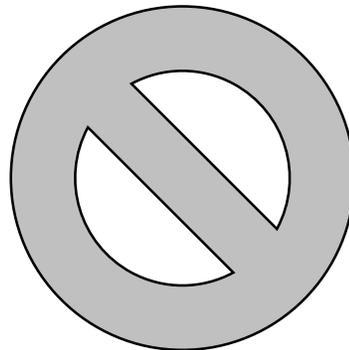

PJJ:


Mary

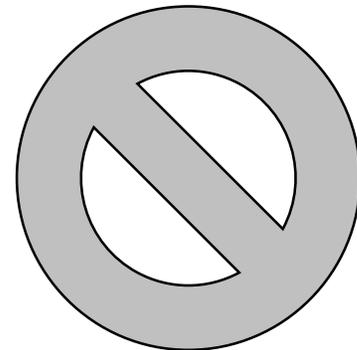
Mk 3:21

21 When his relatives heard of this they set out to seize him, for they said, "He is out of his mind."

Mt



Lk



Mary

Mk 3:21

³ Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary, and the brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

Mt 13:55

⁵⁵ Is he not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother named Mary and his brothers James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas?

Lk 1-2

**Annunciation,
Visitation,
Magnificat,
Nativity, etc.**

The Old and the New

Mark 2:18-22

¹⁸ The disciples of John and of the Pharisees were accustomed to fast. People came to him and objected, "Why do the disciples of John and the disciples of the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" ¹⁹ Jesus answered them, "Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? As long as they have the bridegroom with them they cannot fast. ²⁰ But the days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast on that day. ²¹ No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old cloak. If he does, its fullness pulls away, the new from the old, and the tear gets worse. ²² Likewise, no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the skins are ruined. Rather, new wine is poured into fresh wineskins."

The Old and the New

Matthew 9:14-17

¹⁴ Then the disciples of John approached him and said, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast [much], but your disciples do not fast?" ¹⁵ Jesus answered them, "Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. ¹⁶ No one patches an old cloak with a piece of unshrunk cloth, for its fullness pulls away from the cloak and the tear gets worse. ¹⁷ People do not put new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise the skins burst, the wine spills out, and the skins are ruined. Rather, they pour new wine into fresh wineskins, and both are preserved."

The Old and the New

Luke 5:33-39

³³ And they said to him, "The disciples of John fast often and offer prayers, and the disciples of the Pharisees do the same; but yours eat and drink." ³⁴ Jesus answered them, "Can you make the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them? ³⁵ But the days will come, and when the bridegroom is taken away from them, then they will fast in those days." ³⁶ And he also told them a parable. "No one tears a piece from a new cloak to patch an old one. Otherwise, he will tear the new and the piece from it will not match the old cloak. ³⁷ Likewise, no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins, and it will be spilled, and the skins will be ruined. ³⁸ Rather, new wine must be poured into fresh wineskins. ³⁹ [And] no one who has been drinking old wine desires new, for he says, 'The old is good.'"

The Demoniac(s)

Mark 5:1-20

¹ They came to the other side of the sea, to the territory of the Gerasenes. ² When he got out of the boat, at once a man from the tombs who had an unclean spirit met him. ³ The man had been dwelling among the tombs, and no one could restrain him any longer, even with a chain. ⁴ In fact, he had frequently been bound with shackles and chains, but the chains had been pulled apart by him and the shackles smashed, and no one was strong enough to subdue him. ⁵ Night and day among the tombs and on the hillsides he was always crying out and bruising himself with stones. ⁶ Catching sight of Jesus from a distance, he ran up and prostrated himself before him, ⁷ crying out in a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me!" ⁸ (He had been saying to him, "Unclean spirit, come out of the man!") ⁹ He asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "Legion is my name. There are many of us." ¹⁰ And he pleaded earnestly with him not to drive them away from that territory...

The Demoniac(s)

¹¹ Now a large herd of swine was feeding there on the hillside. ¹² And they pleaded with him, "Send us into the swine. Let us enter them." ¹³ And he let them, and the unclean spirits came out and entered the swine. The herd of about two thousand rushed down a steep bank into the sea, where they were drowned. ¹⁴ The swineherds ran away and reported the incident in the town and throughout the countryside. And people came out to see what had happened. ¹⁵ As they approached Jesus, they caught sight of the man who had been possessed by Legion, sitting there clothed and in his right mind. And they were seized with fear. ¹⁶ Those who witnessed the incident explained to them what had happened to the possessed man and to the swine. ¹⁷ Then they began to beg him to leave their district. ¹⁸ As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed pleaded to remain with him. ¹⁹ But he would not permit him but told him instead, "Go home to your family and announce to them all that the Lord in his pity has done for you." ²⁰ Then the man went off and began to proclaim in the Decapolis what Jesus had done for him; and all were amazed.

The Demoniac(s)

Matthew 8:28-34

²⁸ When he came to the other side, to the territory of the Gadarenes, two demoniacs who were coming from the tombs met him. They were so savage that no one could travel by that road. ²⁹ They cried out, "What have you to do with us, Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the appointed time?" ³⁰ Some distance away a herd of many swine was feeding. ³¹ The demons pleaded with him, "If you drive us out, send us into the herd of swine." ³² And he said to them, "Go then!" They came out and entered the swine, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea where they drowned. ³³ The swineherds ran away, and when they came to the town they reported everything, including what had happened to the demoniacs. ³⁴ Thereupon the whole town came out to meet Jesus, and when they saw him they begged him to leave their district.

The Transfiguration

Mk 9:2-8

² After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John and led them up a high mountain apart by themselves. And he was transfigured before them,

³ and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no fuller on earth could bleach them.

Mt 17:1-8

¹ After six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves.

² And he was transfigured before them; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became white as light.

Lk 9:28-36

²⁸ About eight days after he said this, he took Peter, John, and James and went up the mountain to pray.

²⁹ While he was praying his face changed in appearance and his clothing became dazzling white.

4 Then Elijah appeared to them along with Moses, and they were conversing with Jesus.

3 And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, conversing with him.

30 And behold, two men were conversing with him, Moses and Elijah,

31 who appeared in glory and spoke of his exodus that he was going to accomplish in Jerusalem.

⁵ Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here! Let us make three tents: one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus in reply, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

³² Peter and his companions had been overcome by sleep, but becoming fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. ³³ As they were about to part from him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

⁶ He hardly knew what to say, they were so terrified.

⁷ Then a cloud came, casting a shadow over them; then from the cloud came a voice, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him."

⁵ While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud cast a shadow over them, then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him."

But he did not know what he was saying.

³⁴ While he was still speaking, a cloud came and cast a shadow over them, and they became frightened when they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, "This is my chosen Son; listen to him."

⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell prostrate and were very much afraid.

⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and do not be afraid."

⁸ Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone but Jesus alone with them.

⁸ And when the disciples raised their eyes, they saw no one else but Jesus alone.

³⁶ After the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone.

9 As they were coming down from the mountain, he charged them not to relate what they had seen to anyone, except when the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

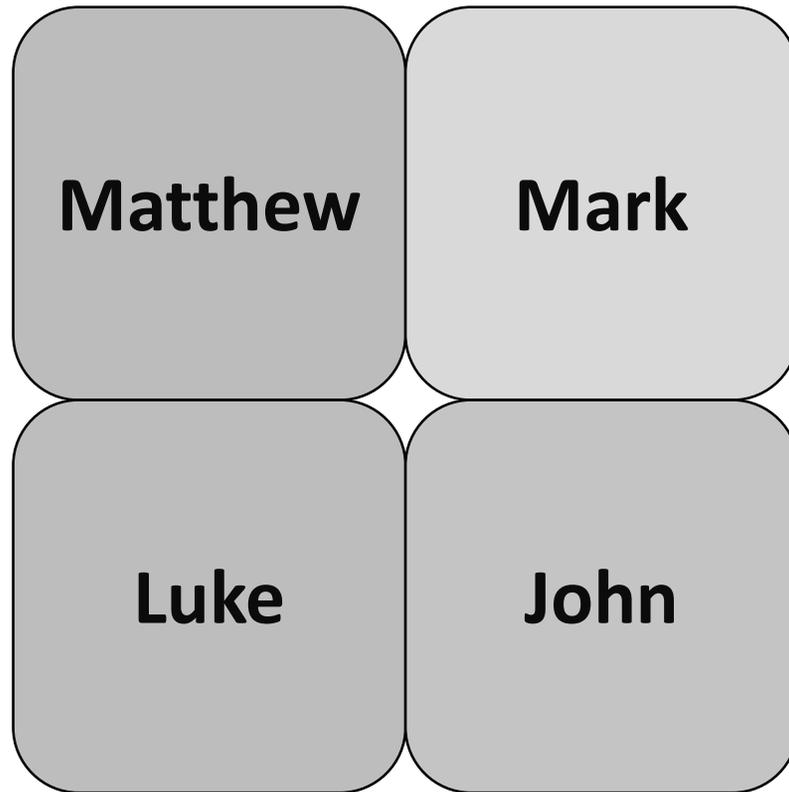
9 As they were coming down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, "Do not tell the vision to anyone until the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

They fell silent and did not at that time tell anyone what they had seen.

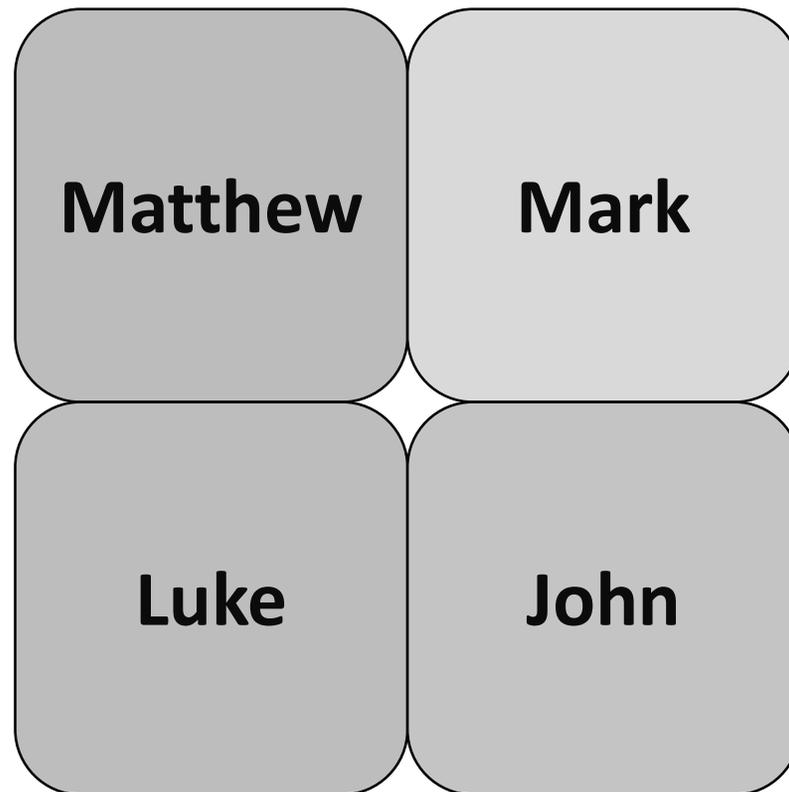
Let's play...

Which Gospel?

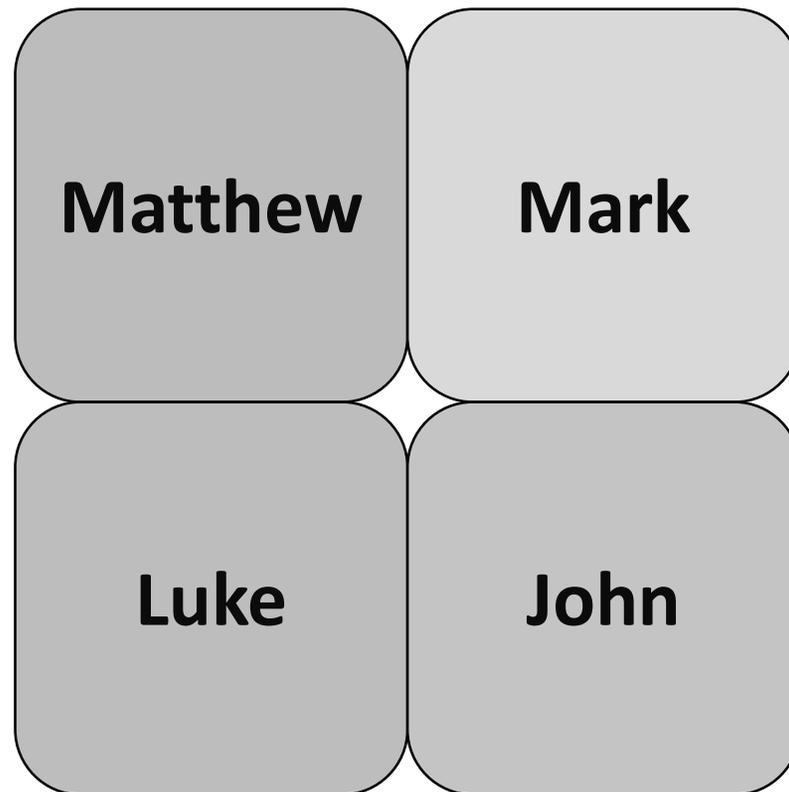
Young man clothed in white



Mary Magdalene, Mary mother of James, Salome go to anoint



Mary Magdalene and other Mary go to see the tomb



**Galilean women (Mary
Magdalene, Joanna, Mary
mother of James, etc.) go to
anoint**

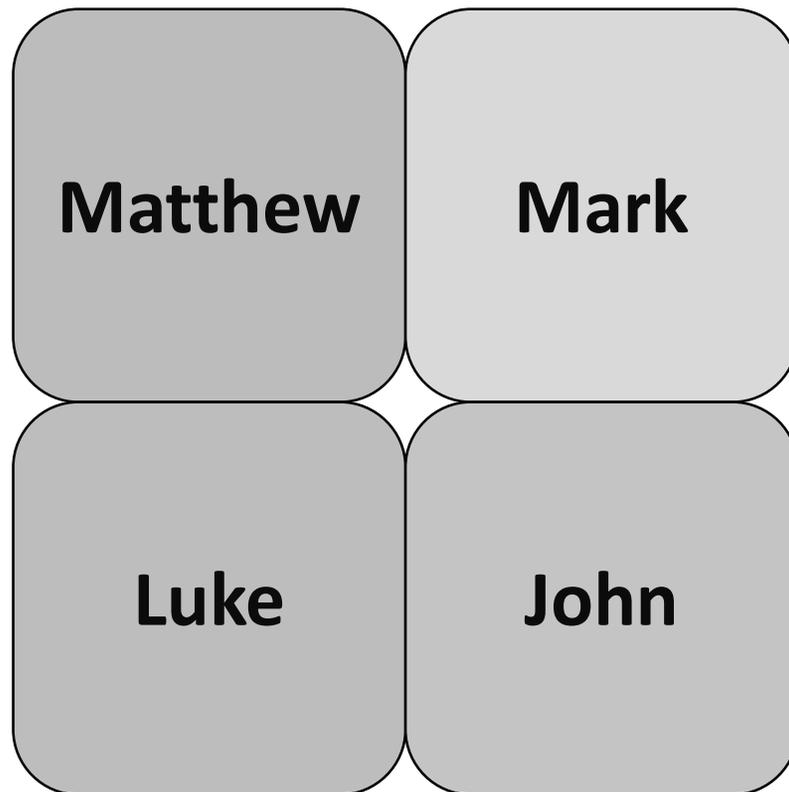
Matthew

Mark

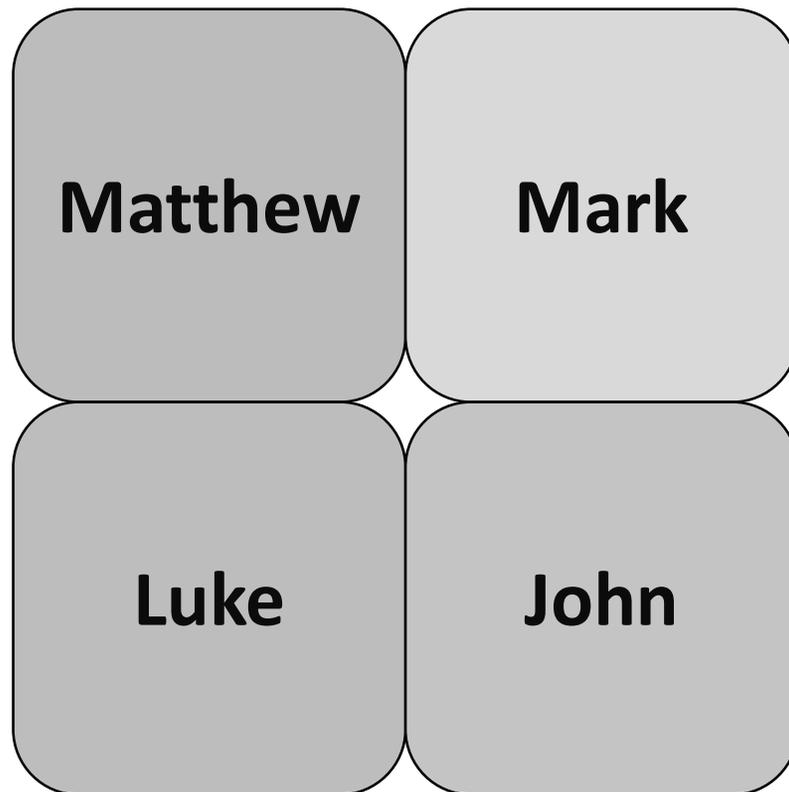
Luke

John

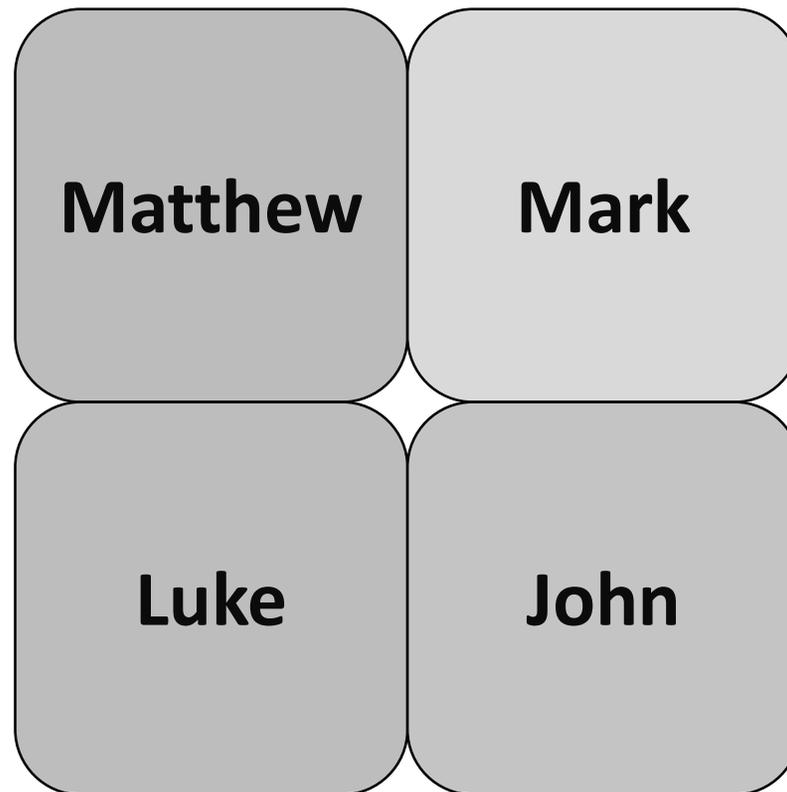
Weeping Mary Magdalene sees the "Gardener"



Great earthquake, angel in white rolls back stone



Two men in white at empty tomb



Risen Jesus helps disciples catch and eat 153 fish

Matthew

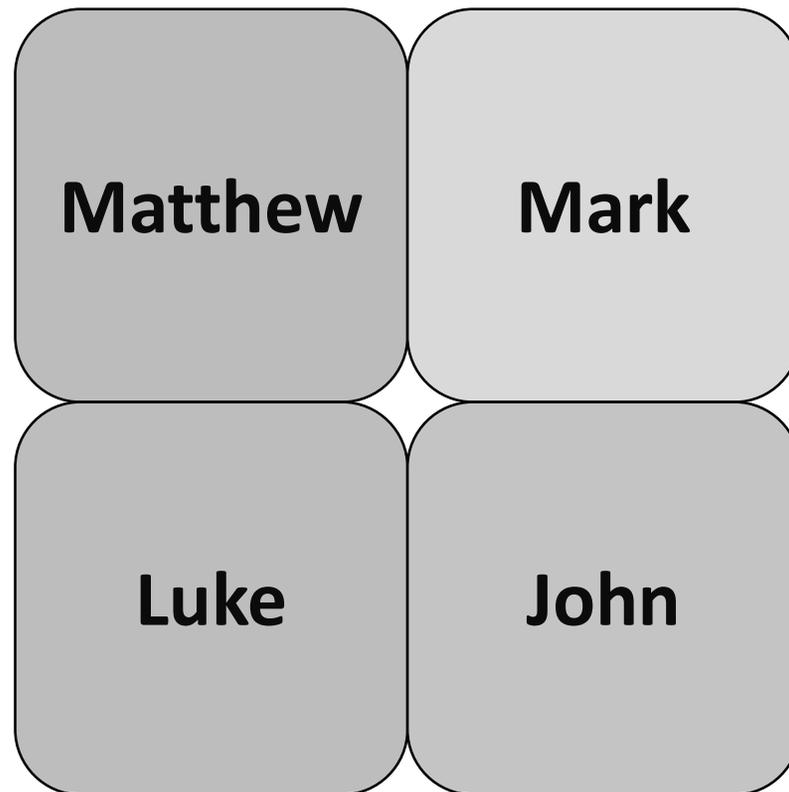
Mark

Luke

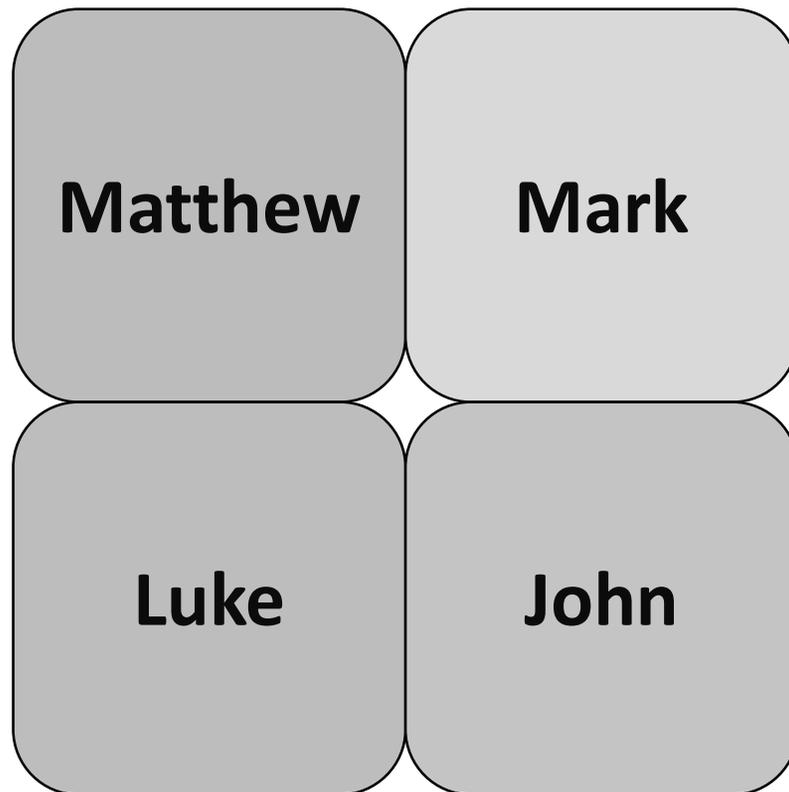
John



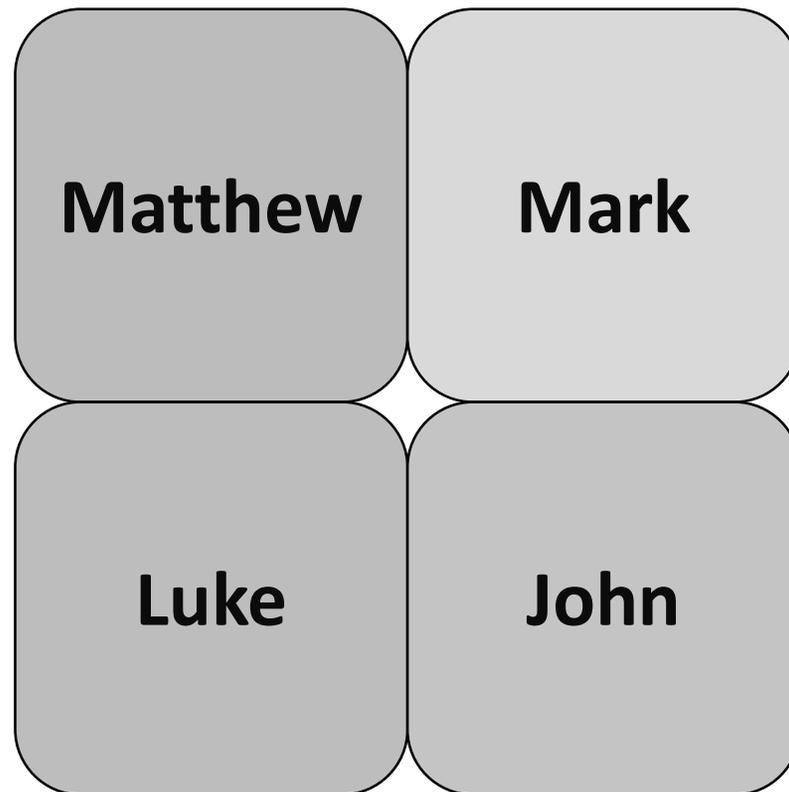
Jesus meets two people on the road



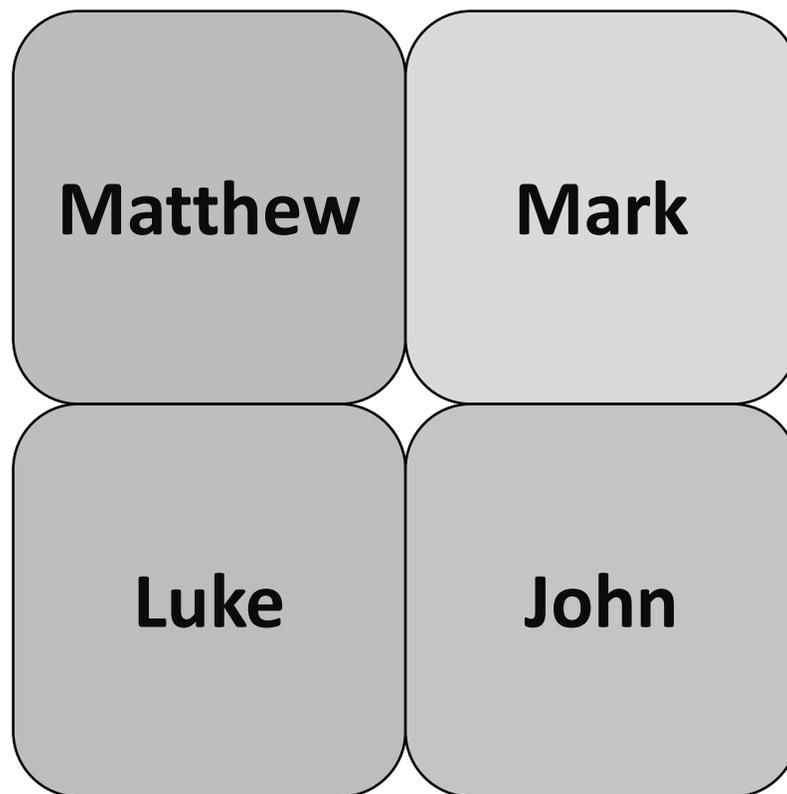
Jesus meets the two women and tells them to go to Galilee



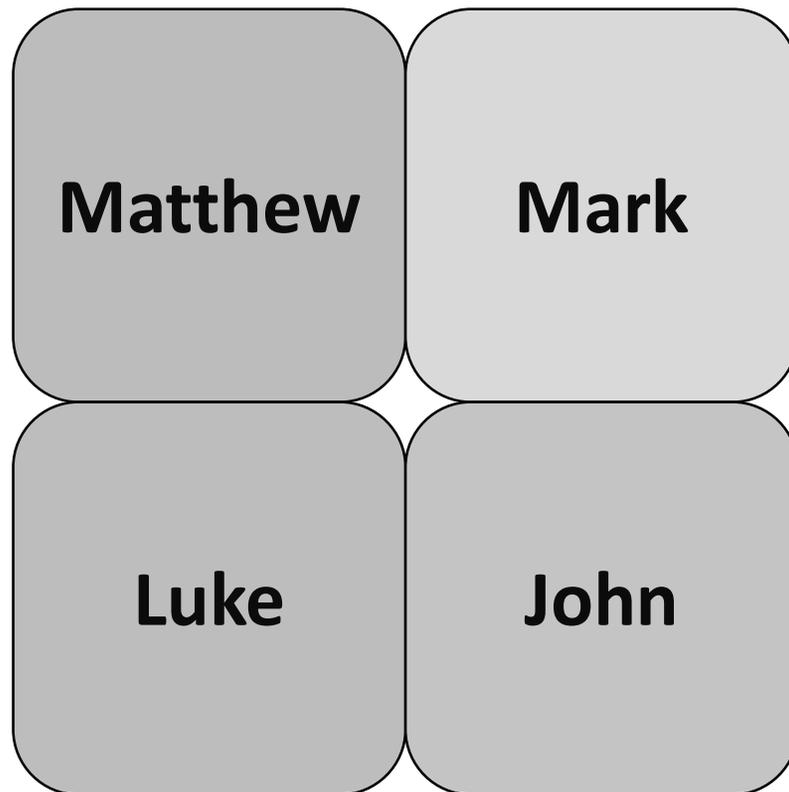
Authorities create conspiracy of stolen body



Jesus ascends



Jesus breathes Spirit = Pentecost



Characteristics of...

Mark

- **Tough on the disciples**
- **Emphasis on mystery and needing to revisit the mystery**
- **Jesus as tough teacher, model to follow (suffering servant, Christ)**
- **Jesus's outreach to Jews and Gentiles**

Matthew

- **Corrector of Mark**
- **Reverence for the Law**
- **OT as predictive; many direct citations**
- **Jesus as teacher with fewer rough edges: Emmanuel**
- **Jesus's outreach to Jews, not Gentiles (generally)**

Luke

- **Seamless storyteller (Israel - Jesus - Church); order!**
- **Continuity of God's promises**
- **Kinder toward disciples**
- **Jesus as prophet and Lord**
- **Jesus's outreach to Jews, Church to Gentiles**

Pastoral Lessons

- 1. Good theology/spirituality is done from different perspectives.**
- 2. Good theology/spirituality undergoes development, evolution.**
- 3. "Proof texting" can be dangerous and often doesn't consider context/perspective.**
- 4. Not having "the answer" sometimes helps us to formulate the questions and find better answers.**
- 5. There is a gospel of Jesus Christ *according to [your name]...***