





## Four Ancient Questions Connected to the Gospels

In this approach, each gospel is linked with an ancient human question posed around the world and in various contexts long before these authors created their work. By asking these questions individually and in community, humanity has discovered ways and wisdom to live through and thrive in complex and mysterious historical conditions.

There are four questions that are important in each gospel. The same four questions serve to guide transformation in every creative endeavor. The pattern of questions is repeated by artists and scientists, in social and civil dialogues. The ordered questions form the bones of rituals throughout the ages and around the world. Present in our Jewish roots, Christianity is replete with examples from baptism to our current Book of Common Prayer Eucharistic liturgies. A walk on a labyrinth and the steps of spiritual practices address the same wondering and follow the same order.

In real ways and contexts, these four questions are present in a linear, sequential, cyclical pattern whether consciously or not.

-  **Matthew** asks: How do we face change?
-  **Mark** asks: How do we move through suffering?
-  **John** asks: How do we receive the joy?
-  **Luke** asks: How do we mature in service?

Each gospel writer attempted to answer them in creating his unique story of Jesus.

