

This week Dr. Baucom shares his vision of allowing God to bring together the many disparate elements of Columbia to “Ignite Passion for Jesus Christ from Metro Washington to the World,” through his sermon, **Signs and Synergies**, based on **Mark 16:20** and **Romans 8:28**.

1. Synergy...how would you describe **synergy**?
2. Have you been a part of an organization or movement that you felt was very synergistic? Share your experience with your IG.
3. What are your favorite signs? How are they effective to give you direction or tell you what you need to know? Why are signs helpful?
4. **Read and reflect on Romans 8:28**. Sit with the verse for several minutes. Read it again, slowly and reflectively. Listen to what God might say to you in your reflection. Ask Him to reveal to you a time when He has worked in your life this way.
 - How does this verse speak to you about how God works?
 - How have you seen God work “*all things together*” in your life?
 - Can you visualize a time in your life when you watched God pull many things together in your life to bring about His purpose? Be ready to share your image.
 - How easy is this to see while it is happening? Does God use our reflections on past circumstance to teach and work through us today?
5. With both synergy & sign in mind, **read and reflect on Luke 2:22-40**, noting how God used this moment both synergistically and as a sign.
 - What and who came together?
 - What were the results?
 - How would Mary and Joseph be able to understand this moment, these encounters, as a sign?

6. **Read and reflect** on the following passages:
 - Luke 15:10-17**
 - Mark 6:33-44**
 - Matthew 15:29-38**
 - Matthew 14:14-21**
 - How might you understand this as a synergistic moment in Jesus’ ministry?
 - What were the different elements that came together? How did God use this miracle as a sign to the people present? Those who heard about it later?
7. Focusing on God’s synergy of drawing many things together to reveal Himself, **read and reflect** on the following verses.
 - Matthew 9:1-7**
 - Luke 5:18-26**
 - Mark 2:1-13**
 - How do you see this event as God’s synergy and movement?
 - What does God reveal about Himself -- and how He often works -- in this event?
8. Can you remember a time when you experienced God’s synergy around you -- when many “things” came together to fulfill God’s purpose in your life? Or the life of a friend?
 - Take a moment to share your humble gratefulness to Abba for His handiwork in your life.
 - Reflect on how God used this moment to show you Himself. What did you learn about God? His power? His provision?
 - Be prepared to share this experience with your IG, if appropriate.