

God's newshounds

How did New Testament writers manage to remember Jesus' words?

Who of us can recall yesterday's conversations, let alone what was said last week?

First, communication back then was by word of mouth. People had no option but to rely on memory. If we had to do that, no doubt we'd remember much more than we ever thought possible.

Second, within the Jewish religion it was customary for disciples to learn their Rabbi's teaching by heart.

Third, Jesus' teaching method also helped. From our childhood many of us still remember his parable of the Prodigal Son even though we haven't heard that story for years. It's because we remember stories easily. They were “the TV ads” of Jesus' day.

Fourth, in his three-year ministry, Jesus possibly gave the same messages several times, which would further aid accurate recall.

Fifth, the disciples saw amazing miracles and heard astounding teaching. We may forget something said a few minutes ago, but accurately recall *vivid life events* from years back.

Sixth, Jesus promised his disciples supernatural aid: “the Holy Spirit . . . will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.” John 14.26.

God himself ensured his vital message would be preserved.

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The Bible is God's letter to us. Prayer is our letter to him.

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