

AIM RESOURCES
2023-2025
FEB 2024

MAIN SERIES

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|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. New Testament Survey (Feb—Apr 2023)2. New Testament Interpretation (May—Jul 2023)3. Spiritual Life (Aug—Sep 2023)4. Holy Spirit/Doctrine (Oct—Dec 2023)5. Family Life (13 Jan—17 Feb 2024)6. Evidences / Evangelism (17 Feb—29 Jun 2024)7. Communicating Biblical Truth (Homiletics) (29 Jun 29—31 Aug 31 2024)8. Old Testament Survey (31 Aug 31—21 Dec 2024)9. Counseling & Psychology (11 Jan 11—8 Mar 2025) | <ol style="list-style-type: none">10. Old Testament Interpretation (8 Mar—10 May 2025)11. Church History (10 May 10—4 Oct 2025)12. Worldviews (4 Oct—14 Dec 2025) |
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AIM+

1. N.T. Interpretation—Hebrews
2. O.T. Interpretation—Amos
3. Christ & Culture

(1) NEW TESTAMENT SURVEY (Feb—Apr 2023)

Required:

1. **The entire N.T.** in a version that is *not* your preferred translation. Must be read in the 12 months before the conclusion of NTS.
2. **Book:** Douglas Jacoby, *A Quick Overview of the Bible*, chapters 16-23 (Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2019). Also available as an e-book (Kindle).
3. **Bible Project:** Watch 20 short videos (to be specified after you've registered for the course). Each video is 5-10 minutes long. Keep a log and take notes—to be presented to your instructor(s).
4. **iFaith:** Watch 135 minutes of iFaith video sermons from the New Testament. For example, nos. 2-9, 20-27, and 32-35. Note that the short introductory videos do not count (nos. 1, 19, 31, etc). Each video sermon is 13-15 minutes. Keep a log and take notes—to be presented to your instructor(s). The general link is <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLTipLYSAbo2OLLNjSZG43sIg4cYNjOqja>.
5. **Classes (virtual meeting) on Saturday 11 Mar 2023. Session 9:30-1:00.**
6. **Scripture location memory:** Learn the locations of 100 useful N.T. passages after watching this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txphCICeAHg>.

Recommended:

- **AIM** New Testament Survey classes (10 hours total).
- Craig **Blomberg**, *The Historical Reliability of the Gospels* (ISBN 0-87784-992-7).
- Daniel **deSilva**, *An Introduction to the New Testament: Context, Methods & Ministry Formation* (2nd ed.). Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2018.

- Robert **Gundry**, *A Survey of the New Testament*.
- Luke Timothy **Johnson**. *Jesus & the Gospels* (36 audio & book), in The Great Courses (Teaching Company).
- Craig S. **Keener**, *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 1994.

(2) NEW TESTAMENT INTERPRETATION (May—Jul 2023)

Required:

1. Gordon **Fee** & Douglas **Stuart**, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*, 4th ed. (Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1993)—only the sections pertaining to the New Testament.
2. Thomas A. **Jones** and Steve **Brown**. *The Kingdom of God, Vol. I: The Future Breaks In*. Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2011.
3. John Mark Hicks, *Searching for the Pattern: My Journey in Interpreting the Bible*, 2019.
4. **Classes (virtual meeting) on Saturday 6 May 2023. Session 9:30-1:00.**

Recommended:

- D. A. **Carson**, *Exegetical Fallacies* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996).
- C. K. **Barrett**, *The New Testament Background: Selected Documents* (New York: Harper & Row, 1961).
- D. A. **Carson**, *Exegetical Fallacies* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996).
- Daniel **Dorani**, *Getting the Message: A Plan for Interpreting and Applying the Bible*. Phillipsburg, NJ: Presbyterian and Reformed Publishing, 1996.
- Thomas A. **Jones** and Steve D. **Brown**. *The Kingdom of God, Volume 2: The Sermon and the Life*. Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2011 and Thomas A. Jones, *The Kingdom of God, Volume III: Learning War No More*. Spring, TX: IPI, 2020.
- Gordon **Fee** & Douglas **Stuart**, *How to Read the Bible Book by Book* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002), the half dealing with the New Testament).
- The Step Bible. <https://www.stepbible.org>

(3) SPIRITUAL LIFE (Aug—Sep 2023)

Required:

1. R. Kent **Hughes**, *Set Apart: Calling a Worldly Church to a Godly Life* (Wheaton: Crossway, 2003). ISBN 978-1-58134-491-2. A message the church desperately needs. Easy to read.
2. J. Oswald **Sanders**, *Spiritual Leadership: A Commitment to Excellence for Every Believer* (Moody 2007), ISBN: 0802482279, ISBN-13: 9780802482273. A classic, easy to read.
3. Helmut **Thielicke**, *A little exercise for young theologians* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1980, ISBN: 0802811981). Short but very meaty.
4. Watch the **12 classes**, available at AIM website.
5. **Classes (virtual meeting) on Saturday 23 September 2023. Session 9:30-11:30 am.**

Recommended:

- Edward J. **Anton**, *Repentance: A Cosmic Shift of Mind and Heart*. Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2005.
- Stephen **Arterburn** & Stoeker, Fred. *Everyman's Battle: Every Man's Guide to Winning the War on Sexual Temptation One Victory at a Time*. Colorado Springs, Colorado: WaterBrook Press, 2000.
- **Augustine**, *The Confessions*
- Roy F. **Baumeister** and John Tierney. *Willpower: Rediscovering the Greatest Human Strength*. New York: Penguin Press, 2011.
- Steve **Brown**, *A Scandalous Freedom: The Radical Nature of the Gospel*. West Monroe, Louisiana: Howard Publishing Co., 2004.
- John **Bunyan**. *The Pilgrim's Progress*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1967.
- D. A. **Carson**. *A Call to Spiritual Reformation: Priorities from Paul and His Prayers*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1992.
- Shane **Claiborne**. *The Irresistible Revolution: Living as an Ordinary Radical*. HarperCollins, 2006.
- Larry **Crabb**. *The Safest Place on Earth*. Thomas Nelson, 1999.
- Gene **Edwards**. *Crucified by Christians*, SeedSowers Publishing House, 1994.
- _____. *A Tale of Three Kings: A Study in Brokenness*. Tyndale House, 1992.
- Gordon **Ferguson**. *The Power of Gratitude*. Woburn, MA: DPI, 1999.
- _____. *The Power of Spiritual Thinking*. Woburn, MA: DPI, 2000.
- Garry **Friesen** and J. Robin Maxson. *Decision Making and the Will Of God: A Biblical Alternative to the Traditional View*. Multnomah, 1980.
- Michael J. **Gorman**, *Cruciformity: Paul's Narrative Spirituality of the Cross*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2001.
- Randy **Harris**. *Life Work: Confessions of an Everyday Disciple*. Abilene, TX: Leafwood, 2014.
- _____. *Soul Work: Confessions of a Part-Time Monk*. Abilene, TX: Leafwood, 2011.
- Roy **Hession**. *The Calvary Road*. CLC Publications, 1980.
- Charles E. **Hummel**, *The Tyranny of the Urgent*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1994.

- _____ . *Freedom from the Tyranny of the Urgent*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1997.
- Douglas **Jacoby**. *Thrive! Using Psalms to Help You Flourish*. Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2014.
- _____ . *When God is Silent: The Problem of Human Suffering*. Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2018.
- Thomas **Jones**, Ed., *A Man in All Seasons: A Handbook for Faithful Living, Volumes 1-2* (DPI, 2001).
- _____ . *Strong in the Grace: Reclaiming the Heart of the Gospel*. Billerica, MA: Discipleship Publications International, 2004.
- _____ and Michael Fontenot. *The Proudful Soul's Guide to Humility*. DPI, 1998.
- _____ and Sheila Jones. *Teach Us to Pray*. Woburn, MA: Discipleship Publications International, 1995.
- Thomas **Kelly**. *A Testament of Devotion*
- Thomas **à Kempis**, *The Imitation of Christ*. Wilmington, Delaware: Michael Glazier, Inc. 1984.
- Sam **Laing**, *Mighty Man of God: A Return to the Glory of Manhood* (DPI, 1999).
- _____ , *Be Still, My Soul: A Practical Guide to a Deeper Relationship with God* (DPI, 1998).
- _____ . *Mighty Man of God*. Woburn, MA: Discipleship Publications International, 1999.
- _____ . *The Seven People Who Help You to Heaven*. Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2017.
- William **Law**. *A Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life*. London: The Aldine Press, 1955.
- Brother **Lawrence**. *The Practice of the Presence of God*. New Kensington, PA: Whitaker House, 1982.
- Gordon **MacDonald**, *Ordering Your Private World* (Nashville: Oliver Nelson, 1985).
- Tyrone Marcus. *Unbeatable: Seven Pillars of Persona Excellence*. ISBN-10: 1709692987.
- Jim **McGuiggan**, *The God of the Towel*. Lubbock, TX: Montex, 1984.
- Calvin **Miller**. *Once Upon a Tree: Answering the Ten Crucial Questions of Life*. Howard Books, 2002.
- Henri **Nouwen**. *The Wounded Healer: Ministry in Contemporary Society*. New York: Doubleday, 1972.
- Larry **Osborne**. *Accidental Pharisees: Avoiding Pride, Exclusivity, and the Other Dangers of Overzealous Faith*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.
- Juan Carlos **Ortiz**. *Disciple*. Carol Stream, IL: Creation House, 1975.
- David **Platt**, *Radical: Taking Back Your Faith from The American Dream*. Colorado Springs: Multnomah Books, 2010.
- Francine **Rivers**. *And the Shofar Blew*. Tyndale House, 2004.
- Ronald **Rolheiser**. *Sacred Fire: A Vision for A Deeper Human and Christian Maturity*. New York, NY: Image, 2014.
- Richard **Taylor**, *The Disciplined Life: The Mark of Maturity* (Grand Rapids: Baker House, 2002).
- John **Ortberg**. *Eternity is Now in Session: A Radical Rediscovery of What Jesus Really Taught About Salvation, Eternity, and Getting to the Good Place*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House, 2018.
- Mike **Taliaferro**. *The Killer Within*. DPI, 1997.
- _____ . *The Lion Never Sleeps: Preparing Those You Love for Satan's Attacks*. Woburn, MA: Discipleship Publications International, 1996.
- Richard S. **Taylor**, *The Disciplined Life: The Mark of Christian Maturity*, 2002.

- Elizabeth Laing **Thompson**, *When God Says Wait: Navigating Life's Detours and Delays Without Losing Your Faith, Your Friends, or Your Mind*. Uhrichsville, Ohio: Imprint of Barbour Publishing, 2017.
- Phyllis **Tickle**, *The Divine Hours*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2007.
- Miroslav **Volf** and Matthew Croasmun. *For the Life of the World: Theology That Makes a Difference*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2019.
- Charlie **Walton**. *When There Are No Words: Finding Your Way to Cope with Loss and Grief*. Pathfinder, 1991.
- Rick **Warren**, *The Purpose Driven Life*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.
- Lanelle, **Waters**. *The One Another Way*. Gainesville, FL: 1979.
- Dallas **Willard**, *The Divine Conspiracy: Rediscovering Our Hidden Life In God*. New York: HarperCollins, 1998.
- _____. *Hearing God: Developing a Conversational Relationship with God*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1999.
- _____. *Renovation of the Heart: Putting On the Character of Christ (Designed for Influence)*. Tyndale House, 2002.

(3) HOLY SPIRIT/DOCTRINE (Oct—Dec 2023)

Required:

Books:

1. Douglas **Jacoby** and Joseph **Harris**, *Informed: Untangling Destructive Interpretations of Scripture* (Spring, Texas: Illumination Publishing, 2019).
2. Douglas **Jacoby**, *The Spirit* (Spring, TX: Illumination Publishing, 1998, 2005, 2010, 2015).
3. David W. **Berçot**, *Will the Real Heretics Please Stand Up: A New Look at Today's Evangelical Church in the Light of Early Christianity* (Scroll Publishing).
4. **Scripture**: Learn the locations of 24 useful passages on doctrine and the Holy Spirit.
5. **Audio**:
Listen to the entire [Messianic Judaism](#) series. Pay attention to the notes. (Alternatively, read the IPI book *Messianic Judaism*.)* And listen to *at least one*: [Sound Doctrine](#), or [Why I Am Not a Fundamentalist](#), or [Why I Am Not a Protestant](#), [Why I Am Not an Evangelical](#) (or am I?). [Speaking in Tongues](#) or [Decision-Making and the Will of God](#). (Or both, if you prefer.)
6. **Video**: Watch videos on Catholicism, Protestantism, Pentecostalism and Charismaticism, The Rapture, Miracles, and 50 Christian Denominations Compared
7. **Visit**: Neo-Pentecostal church
8. **Classes (virtual meeting) on Saturday 28 October 2023. Session 9:30am-1:00pm**
Q&A Session on on Saturday 18 November 2023. Session 10:00-11:00am

Recommended:

- Francis **Chan**, *Forgotten God: The Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit*. Colorado Springs, CO: David C. Cook, 2009.
- David **Bercot**. *In God We Don't Trust*. Amberson, PA: Scroll Publishing Co, 1950.
- David **Brakke**, *Gnosticism* (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- _____ and Ronald Herzman. *Francis of Assisi* (12 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- *Early Christianity: The Experience of the Divine* (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- Larry W. **Hurtado**, *How on Earth Did Jesus Become God?: Historical Questions About Earliest Devotion to Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing, 2005.
- Louis **Markos**, *The Life and World of C. S. Lewis* (12 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- Frank S. **Mead**, Samuel S. Hill, and Craig D. Atwood. *Handbook of Denominations in the United States*, 13th edition, 2010.
- Elliot **Miller** and Kenneth B. Samples. *The Cult of the Virgin: Catholic Mariology and the Apparitions of Mary*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1992.
- Joseph **Tkach**, *Transformed by Truth*. Sisters, Oregon: Multnomah Books, 1997.
- Leonard **Verduin**, *The Anatomy of Hybrid: A study in Church-State Relationships*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1976.
- B.B. **Warfield**, *Counterfeit Miracles*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1918.

[END OF YEAR 1]

(4) FAMILY LIFE (13 January—17 February 2024)

Required:

1. Douglas & Vicki **Jacoby**, *Principle-Centered Parenting: Christian Parenting in a non-Christian World* (Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2017). (This edition is a revision of *The Quiver*, 2005. Either book is permissible.)
OR
Sam & Geri **Laing**, *Raising Awesome Kids in Troubled Times*, Reloaded version (DPI, 2008).
2. Guy **Hammond**, *Caring Beyond the Margins: What Every Christian Needs to Know About Homosexuality*.
3. [Divorce & Remarriage series](#) (5 lessons, 2 hours)
4. **Classes (virtual meeting) 9:30-1:00 on Saturday 13 January 2024**
Q&A Saturday 3 Feb 2024, 10:00-11:00 am

Recommended:

- George **Barna**, *Generation Next: What You Need to Know About Today's Youth*. Regal, 1996.
- Joe **Beam** and Nick **Stinnett**. *Fantastic Families: 6 Proven Steps to Building a Strong Family*, 2008.
- Lee **Boger**, *But What About the Children?* Livermore, California: Bookshelf Press, 2005. ISBN 1-59594-008-1.
- Shmuley **Boteach**, *Shalom in the Home: Smart Advice for a Peaceful Life*. Des Moines: Meredith Books, 2007, ISBN 978-0-696-23507-8.
- David M. **Brodzinsky**, Marshal D. Schechter, and Robin Marantz Henig. *Being Adopted: The Lifelong Search for Self*. New York: Random House, 1992. ISBN 0-385-41426-9.
- Ross **Campbell**, *How to Really Love Your Teen*. Colorado Springs: Cook Communications, 2004. ISBN 0-7814-3913-2.
- Robbie **Castleman**, *Parenting in the Pew: Guiding Your Children into the Joy of Worship*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 2013. ISBN 978-0-8308-3777-9
- Dudley **Chancey** and Ron **Bruner**. *Owning Faith: Reimagining the Role of Church & Family in the Faith Journey of Teenagers*. Abilene, TX: Leafwood Publishers, 2017.
- Gary **Chapman** and Ross Campbell. *The Five Love Languages of Children*. Chicago: Northfield, 1997. ISBN 1-881273-65-2.
- Henry **Cloud** and John **Townsend**. *Boundaries in Marriage*.
- _____. *Boundaries with Kids*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2001. ISBN 0310243157.
- Andy **Crouch**, *The Tech-Wise Family: Everyday Steps for Putting Technology in Its Proper Place*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2017.
- Brent **Curtis** & John **Eldredge**, *The Sacred Romance: Drawing Closer to the Heart of God*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1997.
- James **Dobson**, *Love Must be Tough: New Hope for Families in Crisis*. Dallas: Word, 1996. ISBN 0-8499-1341-1.
- _____. *The New Dare to Discipline*. Carol Stream, Ill.: Tyndale, 1996. ISBN 0-8423-0506-8.

- _____. *The New Hide or Seek: Building Self-Esteem in Your Child*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001. ISBN 0-8007-5680-0.
- _____. *The New Strong-Willed Child*. Carol Stream, Ill.: Tyndale, 2001. ISBN 0842336222.
- _____. *Parenting Isn't for Cowards*. Dallas: Word, 1987. ISBN 0-8499-40140-1.
- _____ and Gary Bauer. *Children At Risk*. Dallas: Word, 1990. ISBN 084-9935-849.
- Debra **Evans**, *Kindred Hearts: Nurturing the Bond between Mother and Daughter*. Wheaton: Tyndale, 1997. ISBN: 1-5617-9437-6.
- Eva Marie **Everson** and Jessica **Everson**. *Sex, Lies, and the Media: What Your Kids Know and Aren't Telling You*. Life Journey. ISBN 6781441951.
- Steve **Farrar**, *King Me: What Every Son Wants and Needs from His Father*. Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2005. ISBN 0-8024-3319-7.
- Paul **Faulkner**, *Raising Faithful Kids in a Fast-Paced World*. West Monroe, Louisiana: Howard, 1995. ISBN 1-878990-52-7.
- Daniel **Goleman**, *Emotional Intelligence: Why It Can Matter More than IQ*. New York: Bantam, 1995), ISBN 0-553-37506-7.
- Willard F. **Harley**, *His Needs, Her Needs*.
- _____. *Love Busters: Overcoming Habits That Destroy Romantic Love*, 2013.
- Joshua **Harris**, *Boy Meets Girl: Say Hello to Courtship*. Colorado Springs, CO: Multnomah, 2000.
- _____. *I Kissed Dating Goodbye: A New Attitude Toward Romance and Relationships*. Colorado Springs, CO: Multnomah, 1997.
- Danielle **Hitchen** and Jessica **Blanchard** (pictures). *Holy Week: An Emotions Primer*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 2019. (Ages 0-4, although the book's material can easily be adapted for children many years older.)
- _____, *Psalms of Praise: A Movement Primer*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 2019. (Ages 0-4, although the book's material can easily be adapted for children many years older.)
- Kevin **Huggins**, *Parenting Adolescents: A Biblical Model for Parents*. Colorado Springs, CO: Navpress, 1989. ISBN 0891096973.
- _____ and Phil **Landrum**. *Guiding Your Teen to a Faith That Lasts: A Blueprint for Building a Relationship with God*, 1994.
- Lynda **Hunter**, *A Comprehensive Guide to Parenting on Your Own*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997. ISBN 0-310-21309-6.
- Tim **Konzen** & Dr. **Konzen**, Jennifer. *The Art of Intimate Marriage: A Christian Couple's Guide to Sexual Intimacy*. San Diego, CA: Konzen Publishing, 2016.
- Sam **Laing**, *The Five Senses of Romantic Love* (DPI, 2008)
- _____ and Geri **Laing**. *Friends and Lovers: Marriage As God Designed It*. Woburn, Mass: DPI, 1996.
- _____ and Elizabeth Laing **Thompson**. *The Wonder Years: Parenting Preteens & Teens*. Billerica, Mass.: DPI, 2001. ISBN 157782599.
- Elizabeth Laing **Thompson**, *Glory Days: Real Life Answers for Teens*. Woburn, Mass.: DPI, 1999. ISBN 1-57782-060-6.
- Paul **Lewis**, *40 Ways to Teach Your Child Values*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997. ISBN 0-3102-1699-0.

- Michael and Chuck **Misja**, *Thriving Despite A Difficult Marriage*. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 2009.
- *The One Year Book of Devotions for Kids #1*. Wheaton: Tyndale, 1993. ISBN 084235087X.
- *The One Year Book of Devotions for Kids #2*. Wheaton: Tyndale, 1995. ISBN 0842345922.
- *The One Year Book of Devotions for Kids #3*. Wheaton: Tyndale, 1997. ISBN 0842346627.
- David **Ramsey**, *Financial Peace Revisited*. New York: Viking, 2003, ISBN 0-670-03208-Ω.
- John **Rosemond**, *John Rosemond's New Parent Power!* Andrews McMeel, 2001.
- _____. *Making the "Terrible" Twos Terrific*, 1993.
- _____. *Parenting by The Book: Biblical Wisdom for Raising Your Child*, 2007.
- _____. *Teen-Proofing: Fostering Responsible Decision Making in Your Teenager*. Kansas City: Andrews McMeel Publishing, 2001. ISBN 978-0-7407-1021-6.
- Leonard **Sax**. *The Collapse of Parenting: How We Hurt Our Kids When We Treat Them Like Grown-Ups*, 2015.
- Laura **Schlesinger**, *Parenthood By Proxy: Don't Have Them If You Won't Raise Them*. New York: HarperCollins, 2000. ISBN 0-06-019125-2.
- Eric **Schlosser**, *Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal*. San Francisco: Harper Collins, 2002. ISBN 0-395-97789-4.
- Lois **Schmitt**, *Scriptures to Grow On: A Family Handbook*, 2000.
- Jeanie **Shaw**, *Jacob's Journey*. Billerica, Mass: Discipleship Publications International, 2001.
- Gary **Smalley**, *The Key to Your Child's Heart*. Dallas: Word, 1992. ISBN 0-8499-0947-3.
- Adam and Bethany **Smith**, *Singlehood Redefined*. Spring Hill, TN: Discipleship Publications International, 2012.
- Nick and Nancy **Stinnett**, and Joe and Alice **Beam**. *Fantastic Families: 6 Proven Steps to Building a Strong Family*. New York: Howard Books, 1999. ISBN 1-58229-080-6.
- Gary **Thomas**, *Sacred Marriage: What If God Designed Marriage to Make us Holy More Than to Make us Happy?* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2000.
- Paul David **Tripp**, *Age of Opportunity: A Biblical Guide to Parenting Teens*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 1997. ISBN 0-8755-2605-5.
- Tedd **Tripp**, *Shepherding a Child's Heart*. Wapwallopen, PA: Shepherd Press, 1995. ISBN 0-9663786-0-1.
- Nancy **Verrier**, *The Primal Wound: Understanding the Adopted Child*. Lafayette, California: Nancy Verrier, 1993. ISBN 0-9636480-0-4.
- Bruce H. **Wilkinson**, *Family Walk: 52 Weekly Devotions for Your Family*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1991. ISBN 0-310-54241-3.
- Tom and Lori **Ziegler**, *As For Me and My House: 50 Easy-to-Use Devotionals for Families*. Woburn, Mass.: DPI, 2003. ISBN 1-5778-2187-4.

Divorce & remarriage

- David **Instone-Brewer**, *Divorce and Remarriage in the Bible and in the Church*.
- Jerry **Jones**, *Marriage, Divorce & Remarriage: Seen Through the Character of God and the Mind of Jesus*, 2016.

- Rubel **Shelly**, *Divorce and Remarriage: A Redemptive Theology* (Abilene, Texas: Leafwood, 2007). ISBN: 978-089112-519-8.

Blended families

- Ron. L. **Deal**, *The Smart Stepfamily: 7 Steps to a Healthy Family* (rev. ed.) Bethany House, 2014.
- Gina. **Debrincat**, *Matrix of the Blended Family*. Word Alive Press, 2010.
- Steve and Donna **Houpe**, *Becoming One Family: Bringing Blended Families Together*. Tulsa: Harrison House, 2008.
- Maxine **Marsolini**, *Raising Children in Blended Families: Helpful Insights, Expert Opinions, & True Stories*. Kregel, 2006.
- Sandi **Patty**, *Life in the Blender: Blending Families, Lives and Relationships with Grace*. Thomas Nelson, 2009.

Laura **Petherbridge**, *101 Tips for the Smart Stepmom: Expert Advice from One Stepmom to Another*. Bethany House, 2014.

(5) EVIDENCES / EVANGELISM (17 February—29 June 2024)

Required:

Books

1. Francis S. **Collins**, *The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief*. New York: Free Press, 2006.
2. Douglas **Jacoby**, *Compelling Evidence for God & the Bible*. Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House, 2010. Also available as an e-book (Kindle).
3. Gregory **Koukl**, *Tactics: A Game Plan for Discussing Your Christian Convictions*. HarperCollins, 2009. ISBN 978-0-310-28292-1.
4. C. S. **Lewis**, *Mere Christianity: A Revised and Enlarged Edition*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1997.
5. **Classes (virtual meeting) 9:30-11:00 on Saturday 17 February 2024**
Special session with NT scholar Mike Licona, 9:30-1:00 on Saturday 27 April 2024

Read

1. Morality articles [A](#), [B](#), [C](#), & [D](#)
2. Suffering articles [A](#), [B](#), & [C](#).
3. God articles [A](#), [B](#), [C](#), and [D](#).
4. Science articles [A](#), [B](#), [C](#), [D](#), [E](#), and [F](#).
5. Jesus articles [A](#), [B](#), and [C](#)
6. Bible articles [A](#), [B](#), and [C](#)

Look

1. The debate: *Does God Exist*.
2. The [studies on Darwin](#) by Denis Lamoureux—and listen to at least one [Lamoureux lecture](#).
3. Explore these websites (spend at least 1 hour total): [ASA](#), [Biologos](#), [Gary Habermas](#), [Reasonable Faith](#), [Risen Jesus](#), [RZIM](#), and [Veritas](#).

Listen

1. [How the Bible Came to Be](#): listen to all 5 podcasts & report
2. Archaeology podcasts: [Old Testament](#) and [New Testament](#)
3. [Seven compact arguments](#) podcast—then create your own outline.

Note: This is a double unit. (We're taking our time.)

Recommended:

- **Abbot**, Edwin, A. *Flatland*. Oxford: Blackwell, 1875.
- J. N. D. **Anderson**, *Evidence for the Resurrection*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1984.
- Richard **Bauckham**, *Jesus and the Eyewitness: The Gospels as Eyewitness Testimony*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing, 2006.
- _____, *Jesus and the God of Israel: God Crucified and Other Studies of the New Testament's Christology of Divine Identity*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing, 2009.

- David **Berlinksi**, *The Devil's Delusion: Atheism and its Scientific Pretensions*. New York, NY: Perseus, 2009.
- Craig L. **Blomberg**, *The Historical Reliability of the Gospels*, 2007.
- Derrell L. **Bock** and Daniel B. Wallace. *Dethroning Jesus: Exposing Popular Culture's Quest to Unseat the Biblical Christ*. Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, 2007
- Robert **Bowman** and J. Ed Komoszewski. *Putting Jesus in His Place: The Case for the Deity of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 2007.
- F. F. **Bruce**, *Jesus and Christian Origins Outside the New Testament*. London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1974.
- _____. *New Testament Documents: Are They Reliable?* Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1984.
- James H. **Charlesworth**, *The Historical Jesus: An Essential Guide*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2008.
- C. John. **Collins**, *The God of Miracles: An Exegetical Examination of God's Action in the World*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2000.
- Francis S. **Collins**, *The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief* (ISBN 9-780743-286398).
- Philip Wesley **Comfort** (ed). *The Origin of the Bible*. Wheaton, Ill.: Tyndale, 1992.
- Paul **Copan**, *A Little Book for New Philosophers: Why and How to Study Philosophy*. Downers Grove IL: IVP Academic, 2016.
- _____. *Is Everything Really Relative?*
- _____. *Is God a Moral Monster? Making Sense of the Old Testament God*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2010.
- _____. *How Do You Know You're Not Wrong? Responding to Objections that Leave Christians Speechless*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2005.
- _____. *A Little Book for New Philosophers: Why and How to Study Philosophy*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2016.
- _____. *Loving Wisdom: Christian Philosophy of Religion*. Chalice Press.
- _____. *That's Just Your Interpretation: Responding to Skeptics Who Challenge Your Faith*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001.
- _____. *True for You but Not for Me*. Bethany House, 2009.
- _____. *When God Goes to Starbucks: A Guide to Everyday Apologetics*. Baker, 2008.
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- _____ and Kenneth D. Litwak. *The Gospel in the Marketplace of Ideas: Paul's Mars Hill Experience for Our Pluralistic World*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2014.
- William Lane **Craig**, *Reasonable Faith: Christian Truth and Apologetics, Third Edition*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2008.
- Michael J. **Denton**, *Nature's Destiny: How the Laws of Biology Reveal Purpose in the Universe*. New York: The Free Press, 1998.
- Dinesh **D'Souza**, *What's So Great About Christianity?* Washington, D.C.: Regnery Publishing, 2007.
- Craig A. **Evans**, *Fabricating Jesus: How Modern Scholars Distort the Gospels*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2006.

- Darrel R. **Falk**, *Coming to Peace With Science: Bridging the Worlds Between Faith and Biology*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2004.
- John S. **Feinburg**, *Can You Believe It's True? Christian Apologetics in a Modern & Postmodern Era*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2013. Advanced.
- Jack Finegan, *The Archeology of the New Testament: The Life of Jesus and the Beginning of the Early Church*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1992.
- Norman L. **Geisler** and Ronald M. Brooks. *When Skeptics Ask: A Handbook on Christian Evidences*.
- Gary R. **Habermas** and Michael R. Licona. *The Case for the Resurrection of Jesus*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 2004.
- Ron **Highfield**, *Christianity: Is It Really True? Responsible Faith in a Post-Christian Culture*. Los Angeles: Keledei, 2017.
- _____. *Lord Jesus Christ: Devotion to Jesus in Earliest Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing, 2003.
- Douglas **Jacoby**, *From Facts to Faith I: Evidences in Defense of the Faith* (audio lessons). Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2005, rev. 2011.
- _____, *Science & Faith: Enemies or Allies?* (DVD, 2013).
- _____. *Answering Skeptics: Sharing Your Faith with Critics, Doubters, and Seekers*. New York: Morgan James, 2017.
- _____. *Campus Core: How to Have an Impact on Your Campus, Get Good Grades, and Figure Out Your Future*. Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2018.
- _____. *Compelling Evidence for God and the Bible: Finding Truth in an Age of Doubt*. Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House, 2010.
- _____. *Does God Exist?* (DVD) Debate with Michael Shermer. (Many other debates are also accessible.)
- _____. *How the Bible Came to Be* (5 podcasts), at www.douglasjacoby.com. 2015.
- _____. *The Problem of Human Suffering* (DVD). Spring, TX: Illumination Publishing, 2013.
- _____. *Science and Faith: Enemies or Allies?* (DVD). Spring, TX: Illumination Publishing, 2014.
- _____. *When God is Silent: The Problem of Human Suffering*. Spring, TX: Illumination Pub, 2018
- _____ and Paul Copan. *Origins: The Ancient Impact and Modern Implications of Genesis 1-11*. Nashville: Morgan James, 2018.
- Timothy **Keller**, *The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism*. London: Dutton, 2008.
- Greg **Koukl**, *Street Smarts: Using Questions to Answer Christianity's Toughest Challenges*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2023.
- Peter **Kreeft** & Tacelli, *Handbook of Christian Apologetics*
- **Lamoureux**, Denis O., *The Bible and Ancient Science: Principles of Interpretation*. Tullahoma, TN: McGahan, 2020.
- **Lewis**, C. S. *Mere Christianity: A Revised and Enlarged Edition*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1997.
- N. T. Wright, *Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense*. New York: HarperCollins, 2006.
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- Neil **Lightfoot**, *How We Got the Bible*

- C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity: A Revised and Enlarged Edition*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1997.
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- _____ and Joanna Collicutt McGrath. *The Dawkins Delusion: Atheists Fundamentalism and the Denial of the Divine*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2007.
- McGrew, Lydia. *Hidden in Plain View: Undesigned Coincidences in the Gospels and Acts*. Chillicothe, OH: DeWard, 2017.
- McGuiggan, Jim. *If God Came: An Approach to Christian Evidences*. Lubbock: Montex, 1980.
- Morison, Frank. *Who Moved the Stone?* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1987.
- Murray, Michael J. (ed). *Reason for the Hope Within*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999.
- Neufeld, Thomas R. Yoder. *Recovering Jesus: The Witness of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Brazos Press, 2007.
- Olson, Roger E. *Questions to All Your Answers: The Journey from Folk Religion to Examined Faith*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.
- Philips, J. B. *Your God Is Too Small*. New York: Macmillan, 1997.
- Polkinghorne, John and Nicholas Beale. *Questions of Truth: Fifty-One Responses to Questions About God, Science, and Belief*. Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster John Knox Press, 2006.
- Price, Randall. *The Stones Cry Out: What Archaeology Reveals about the Truth of the Bible*. Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House, 1997.
- Roberts, Mark D. *Can We Trust the Gospels: Investigating the Reliability of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway Books, 2007.
- Rowland, Wade. *Galileo's Mistake: A New Look at the Epic Confrontation between Galileo and the Church*. New York: Wade Rowland, 2001.
- Satterthwaite, Philip E., Richard S. Hess, and Gordon J. Wenham, eds. *The Lord's Anointed: Interpretation of Old Testament Messianic Texts*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1995.
- Schaeffer, Francis A. *How Should We Then Live? (L'Abri 50th Anniversary Edition): The Rise and Decline of Western Thought and Culture*. Crossway, 2005.
- _____. *The Complete Works of Francis A. Schaeffer: A Christian Worldview (5 Volume Set)*, 1985.
- Sheler, Jeffery L. *Is the Bible True?: How Modern Debates and Discoveries Affirm the Essence of the Scriptures*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999.

- **Sire**, James W. *The Universe Next Door: A Basic World View Catalog, Third Edition*. Downers Grove, InterVarsity, 1997.
- **Sparks**, Kenton L. *God's Word in Human Words: An Evangelical Appropriation of Critical Bible Scholarship*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008.
- **Stott**, John R. W. *Basic Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1986.
- **Story**, Dan. *Defending Your Faith: How to Answer the Tough Questions*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1992.
- **Strobel**, Lee. *The Case for Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1998.
- _____. *The Case for a Creator: A Journalist Investigates Scientific Evidence That Points Toward God*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2004.
- _____. *The Case for Faith*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000.
- _____. *The Case for the Real Jesus: A Journalist Investigates Current Attacks on the Identity of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2007.
- **Ward**, Keith. *God, Chance and Necessity*. Boston: Element, 1996.
- **Willard**, Dallas. *The Allure of Gentleness: Defending the Faith in the Manner of Jesus*. New York: Harper One, 2015.
- **Winter**, David. *But This I Can Believe*. London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1980.
- **Wright**, N. T. *Evil and the Justice of God*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2006.
- _____. *Paul: A Biography*. San Francisco, CA: HarperCollins, 2018.
- _____. *Simply Christian: Why Christianity Makes Sense*. New York: HarperCollins, 2006.
- _____. *The Resurrection of the Son of God*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 2003.
- _____. *Who Was Jesus?* Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1993.
- **Philip Yancey**, *Disappointment with God: Three Questions No One Asks Aloud*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1997
- _____, *The Jesus I Never Knew*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995
- _____ *Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?* New York: HarperCollins, 2010
- _____ *Reaching for the Invisible God: What Can We Expect to Find?* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2000
- _____ *Where Is God When it Hurts?* Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1997.
- **Davis A. Young**, *The Biblical Flood: A Case Study of the Church's Response to the Extrabiblical Evidence*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995.
- **Zacharias**, Ravi. *Can Man Live Without God?* Dallas: Word, 1994.
- _____. *A Shattered Visage: The Real Face of Atheism*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1990.
- _____, *Deliver Us from Evil*

Creation & Evolution

- **Kathryn Applegate** and **J. B. Stump**. *How I Changed my Mind about Evolution: Evangelicals Reflect on Faith and Science*. Downers Grove, IL, 2016.
- **Henri Blocher**, *In the Beginning*. Downers Grove, IL.: InterVarsity Press, 1984.
- **Richard G. Colling**, *Random Designer: Created from Chaos to Connect with the Creator*. Bourbonnais, IL: Browning Press, 2004.

- Francis S. **Collins**, *The Language of God: A Scientist Presents Evidence for Belief*. New York: Free Press, 2006. (This is the same volume mentioned in the section above.)
- Charles **Darwin**, *The Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life*. London: Penguin, 1968.
- Michael J. **Denton**, *Nature's Destiny: How the Laws of Biology Reveal Purpose in the Universe*. New York: The Free Press, 1998.
- Darrel R. **Falk**, *Coming to Peace with Science: Bridging the Worlds Between Faith and Biology*.
- Gordon J. **Glover**, *Beyond the Firmament: Understanding Science and the Theology of Creation*. Chesapeake, Virginia: Watertree Press, 2007.
- Alan **Hayward**, *Creation and Evolution: Rethinking the Evidence from Science and the Bible*. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1995.
- Denis O. **Lamoureux**, *Evolutionary Creation: A Christian Approach to Evolution*. Eugene, Oregon: Wipf & Stock, 2008. Comprehensive; not for beginners.
- _____. *Evolution: Scripture and Nature Say Yes!* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2016. Compact.
- _____. Science & Religion 101 (online course). <https://www.douglasjacoby.com/excellent-science-religion-course-denis-lamoureux/>
- Kenneth R. **Miller**, *Finding Darwin's God: A Scientist's Search for Common Ground Between God and Evolution*. New York: Harper Perennial, 1999.
- Ronald L. **Numbers**, *The Creationists: The Evolution of Scientific Creationism*. Berkeley: University California Press, 1992.
- Davis A. **Young** and Ralph F. Stearly. *The Bible, Rocks and Time: Geological Evidence for the Age of Earth*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2008.

For more evidences books, see the "[Helpful Books](https://www.douglasjacoby.com)" document at <https://www.douglasjacoby.com>.

(6) COMMUNICATING BIBLICAL TRUTH (29 June 29—31 August 2024)

Required:

1. Haddon W. **Robinson**, *Biblical Preaching: The Development and Delivery of Expository Messages* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, Second Edition, 2001, ISBN: 0801022622)
2. Timothy **Keller**, *Preaching: Communicating Faith in an Age of Skepticism*. New York, NY: Penguin, 2015.
3. Practicum in Preaching/Teaching.
4. **Classes** (virtual meeting) 9:30-1:00 on Saturday 29 June 2024
Q&A 10:00-11:00 on Saturday 3 August 2024

Recommended:

- Graeme **Goldsworthy**, *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000).
- Brandon **Kelkey** and Joe **Hoagland**, *Preaching Sticky Sermons* (Rainer Publishing, 2016).
- Thomas G. **Long**, *The Witness of Preaching, 3rd Ed.* Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2016.
- D. Martyn **Lloyd-Jones**, *Preaching & Preachers* (Trafalgar Square, 2000, ISBN: 0340206624).
- John **Piper**, *The Supremacy of God in Preaching* (Baker Books, 1990, ISBN: 0801071127).
- John **Stott**, *Between Two Worlds: The Challenge of Preaching Today* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994, ISBN: 0802806279)—alternate subtitle: *The Art of Preaching in the Twentieth Century*.
- Robert Stephen **Reid** and Lucy Lind **Hogan**, *The Six Deadly Sins of Preaching: Becoming Responsible for the Faith We Proclaim*. Abingdon, 2012.
- Torrey W. **Robinson**. *It's All in How You Tell It: Preaching First-Person Expository Messages*, 2003.
- Lawrence O. **Richards** and Gary J. **Bredfeldt**, *Creative Bible Teaching*. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1998.
- John **Stott**, *Biblical Preaching Today* (includes *The Preacher's Portrait and Between Two Worlds*), 2001.
- Roger E. **Van Harn**, *For People Who Listen to Sermons: Pew Rights*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1992.

(7) OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY (31 August—21 December 2024)

Required:

1. Douglas **Jacoby**, *A Quick Overview of the Bible* (Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 2012 or Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2019) —chapters 1-15.
2. Douglas **Jacoby**, *Exodus: Night of Redemption* (Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2016)—entire book.
3. The entire OT, if you have not read it through completely at least once in the previous 3 years.
4. Visit synagogue or listen to presentation by rabbi.
5. Learn the locations of 100 useful O.T. passages
6. **Classes (virtual meeting) 9:30-1:00 on Saturday 31 August 31 2024**
Q&A 10:00-11:00 on Saturday 26 October 2024

Recommended:

- The OT Apocrypha, in the translation of your choice.
- Brevard **Childs**, *Introduction to the Old Testament as Scripture*. Minneapolis: Fortress Press, 1979.
- Hayim J. **Donin**, ed., *To Be a Jew: A Guide To Jewish Observance In Contemporary Life* (Revised ed.)
- Walter **Kaiser**, *Mission in the Old Testament: Israel as a Light to the Nations*.
- William **La Sor** et al., *Old Testament Survey* (Eerdmans)
- Tom **Olbricht**, *He Loves Forever* (Joplin, Missouri: College Press, 2000).
- John H. **Walton**, Victor H. Matthews, and Mark W. Chavalas. *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 2000.
- Michael **Wise**, Martin Abegg, Jr., and Edward Cook. *The Dead Sea Scrolls, A New Translation*. San Francisco: Harper, 1996.

[END OF YEAR 2]

(8) COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGY (11 January—8 March 2025)

Required:

1. Henry **Cloud** and John **Townsend**, *Boundaries: When to Say Yes, When to Say No, To Take Control of Your Life* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992).
2. Peter **Scazzero**, *The Emotionally Healthy Church* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003) or *The Emotionally Healthy Church, Expanded Edition: A Strategy for Discipleship That Actually Changes Lives*. 2010.
3. **Classes (virtual meeting) 9:30-1:00 on Saturday 11 January 2025**
Q&A 10:00-11:00 on Saturday 8 February 2025

Recommended:

- Arbinger Institute. *The Anatomy of Peace: Resolving the Heart of Conflict*. Oakland: Berrett-Koehler, 2015.
- Stephen **Arterburn** and Jack **Felton**, *Toxic Faith: Experiencing Healing from Painful Spiritual Abuse*. Colorado Springs, CO: WaterBrook Press, 1991.
- Gene **Edwards**, *Exquisite Agony: Healing for Christians Who Have Been Hurt by Other Christians*. Jacksonville, FL: The SeedSowers, 1995.
- Edwin H. **Friedman**, *Generation to Generation: Family Process in Church and Synagogue* (New York, NY: The Guilford Press, 1985).
- Roberta M. **Gilbert**, *Extraordinary Relationships: A New Way of Thinking about Human Interactions* (Minneapolis, MN: Chronimed Publishing, 1992).
- John **Gray**, *Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus*. New York, NY: HarperCollins Publishers Inc., 1992.
- Archibald **Hart**, *Coping with Depression in the Ministry and the Other Helping Professions* (Dallas: Word, 1984).
- Timothy R. **Jennings**, *The God-Shaped Brain: How Changing Your View of God Transforms Your Life*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2013.
- _____. *The God-Shaped Heart: How Correctly Understanding God's Love Transforms US*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2014.
- M. Scott **Peck**, *People of the Lie: The Hope for Healing Human Evil*. 1998.
- R. Paul **Stevens** and Phil **Collins**, *The Equipping Pastor: A Systems Approach to Congregational Leadership* (Bethesda, MD: Alban Institute, 1993).
- Mike **Shapiro** and Mary **Shapiro**, *Rejoice Always: A Handbook for Christians Facing Emotional Challenges* (DPI, 2000).

(9) OLD TESTAMENT INTERPRETATION (8 March—10 May 2025)

Required:

1. **Fee & Stuart**, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth, Chapters. 5, 9-12*, Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.
2. Douglas **Jacoby** and Paul **Copan**, *Origins: The Ancient Impact and Modern Implications of Genesis 1-11*. Nashville: Morgan James, 2018.
3. **Classes (virtual meeting) 9:30-1:00 on Saturday 8 March 2025**
Q&A 10:00-11:00 on Saturday 12 April 2025

Recommended:

- D. A. **Carson**, *Exegetical Fallacies* (Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996)—only if not read for NTI.
- Gordon **Fee** & Douglas **Stuart**, *How to Read the Bible Book by Book* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002), SKIM pp. 1-268 (the half dealing with the Old Testament only).
- Philip **Yancey**, *The Bible Jesus Read* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1999).

(11) CHURCH HISTORY (10 May—4 October 2025)

Required:

1. Bruce **Shelley**, *Church History in Plain Language*, Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1996.
2. Gary Holloway and Douglas Foster, *Renewing God's People* (Abilene Christian University Press).
3. *Early Church History* (DVD set, Bercot/Jacoby/Staten/Harris 2008). About 11 hours in length.
4. **Classes (virtual meeting) 9:30-1:00 on Saturday 10 May 2025**
Q&A 10:00-11:00 on Saturday 2 August 2025

Recommended:

- Peter **Brown**. *The Rise of Western Christendom*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell Publishers Inc., 1996.
- F. F. **Bruce**, F. F. *The Spreading Flame: The Rise and Progress of Christianity from its First Beginnings to the Conversion of the English*. Carlisle, U.K: The Paternoster Press, 1958.
- Joel A. **Carpenter**. *Revive Us Again: The Reawakening of American Fundamentalism*. New York: Oxford University Press, 1997.
- Phillip **Cary**. *Augustine: Philosopher and Saint* (12 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- Jean **Comby**, *How to Read Church History*: Tim Dowley, *Introduction to the History of Christianity*, rest of the book.
- William **Cook**. *The Lives of Great Christians* (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- F. L. **Cross**, *The Oxford Dictionary of the Christian Church*. Oxford. 2005.
- _____, *The History of Christianity* (36 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- Philip **Daileader**, *How the Crusades Changed History* (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)

- Melvin E. **Dieter**, *The Holiness Revival of the Nineteenth Century, 2nd edition*. Lanham, Maryland and London: Scarecrow Press, 1996.
- Tim Dowley, *Introduction to the History of Christianity* (Fortress Press).
- William R. **Estep**, *The Anabaptist Story*. Cambridge, UK: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1995.
- Douglas Foster, *A Life of Alexander Campbell*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2020.
- John **Foxe**, *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker. 1999.
- Michael **Holmes**, *The Apostolic Fathers*
- Peter **Hoover**, with Sergei Petrov V. *The Russians' Secret*. Shippensburg, Pennsylvania: Benchmark Press, 1999.
- Richard T. **Hughes**, *Reviving the Ancient Paths: History of the Churches of Christ in America* (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1996).
- Luke Timothy **Johnson**. *The Apostle Paul* (12 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- Thomas A. **Jones**, *In Search of a City*, Spring Hill, TN: DPI, 2007.
- J.N.D. **Kelly**, *The Oxford Dictionary of Popes*. Oxford, NY: Oxford University Press, 1986.
- Scott Kenneth **LaTourette**, *A History of Christianity: Beginnings to 1500 Volume 1*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2005.
- _____. *Volume 2*. London: Les Editions du Cerf, 1986.
- Mark A. **Noll**, *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2001.
- *From the Beginning to the Fifteenth Century, Volume 1*. London: Les Editions du Cerf, 1984.
- _____ and Diarmaid **MacCulloch**, *How to Read Church History: From the Reformation to the Present Day*,
- *The History of Christianity (A Lion Handbook)*. Chariot Victor Publishing. 1990.
- Edward **Peters**, *Heresy and Authority in Medieval Europe*. University of Pennsylvania Press Philadelphia, 1980
- Foster **Stanback**, *Into All Nations: A History of the International Churches of Christ* (Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2005).
- David **Wilmshurst**, *The Martyred Church: A History of the Church of the East*. London: East & West Publishing, 2011.
- G.A. **Williamson**, *The History of the Church from Christ to Constantine*. Middlesex, England: Dorset Press, 1965.
- Morris M. **Womack**, *The Church Through the Ages (2 volumes)*. Austin TX: R.B. Sweet Co. Inc., 1965.

Early Church

- *Early Church History* (DVD), with Berçot, Harris, Jacoby, and Staten. Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2008.
- David **Berçot**, *The Kingdom That Turned The World Upside Down*. Tyler, TX: Scroll Publishing Co, 2003
- _____. *Let Me Die in Ireland: The True Story of Patrick*. Tyler, TX: Scroll, 1999.
- _____. *The Pilgrim Road*. Tyler, TX: Scroll Publishing Co, 1991.
- _____. *Will the Real Heretics Please Stand Up?* Scroll, 1994.

- Maire B. **De Paor**, *Patrick: The Pilgrim Apostle of Ireland*. New York: HarperCollins, 1998. Advanced.
- Craig A. **Evans**, *From Jesus To the Church*. Louisville, Kentucky: Westminster John Knox Press, 2014.
- Robert M. **Grant**, *Augustus To Constantine: The Rise and Triumph of Christianity in the Roman World*. San Francisco, CA: Harper & Row Publishers, 1970.
- *The Ante-Nicene Fathers* (10-volume set), ISBN-13: 978-1565630826 and ISBN-10: 1565630823
- Robert M. **Grant**, *Augustus To Constantine: The Rise and Triumph of Christianity in the Roman World*. San Francisco, CA: Harper & Row Publishers, 1970.
- Andrew **Gray**, *The Origin and Early History of Christianity In Britain*. California: Artisan Sales, 1991.
- Michael **Green**, *Evangelism in the Early Church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1970.
- Robert C. **Gregg** and William A. **Clebsch**, *Athanasius: The Life of Antony and The Letter to Marcellinus*. Mawah, New Jersey: Paulist Press, 1980.
- Henry **Hill**, *Light from the East: A Symposium of the Oriental Orthodox and Assyrian Churches*. Toronto: Anglican Book Centre, 1988.
- **Justin** Martyr & Mark Felix. *We Don't Speak Great Things—We Live Them*. Tyler, TX: Scroll Publishing Co, 1989.
- J. B. **Lightfoot** and J.R. **Harmer** (tr). *The Apostolic Fathers* (2nd Edition).
- Ralph P. **Martin**, *Worship in the Early Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1964.
- Wayne A. **Meeks**, *The First Urban Christians: The Social World of the Apostle Paul*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press, 1983.
- W. M. **Ramsay**, *The Letters to The Seven Churches*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1904.
- Cyril C. **Richardson**, *Early Christian Fathers*. New York: Macmillan, 1979.
- Richard E. **Rubenstein**, *When Jesus Became God: The Struggle to Define Christianity during the Last Days of Rome*. Orlando: Harcourt, 2000.
- W. Brian **Shelton**, *Quest for the Historical Apostles: Tracing Their Lives and Legacies*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2018.
- John **Skinner**, *The Confession of Saint Patrick*. New York: Doubleday, 1998.
- Maxwell **Staniforth**, *Early Christian Writings*. Baltimore: Penguin Books, 1968.
- Rodney **Stark**, *The Rise of Christianity: A Sociologist Reconsiders History*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1996.
- J. **Stevenson**, *A New Eusebius*. London: The Camelot Press, 1957.
- S. **Thelwall**, *A Glimpse at Early Christian Church Life*. Tyler, TX: Scroll Publishing Co, 1991.
- William **Wilson**, *Clement of Alexandria: The One Who Knows God*. Tyler, TX: Scroll Publishing Co, 1990.

Protestantism

1. Roland H. **Bainton**, *Here I Stand: A Life of Martin Luther*. 2013.
2. Scott Kenneth **LaTourette**, *Reformation to the Present Volume 2*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2005

3. Jason K. **Lee**, *The Theology of John Smyth: Puritan, Separatist, Baptist, Mennonite*. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 2003.
4. Martin **Luther**. *Christian Liberty*. Fortress Press, 1957
5. Richard **Marius**, *Martin Luther: The Christian Between God and Death*. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1999.
6. Eric **Metaxas**, *Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2010.
7. _____, *Martin Luther: The Man Who Rediscovered God and Changed the World*. New York, NY: Viking, 2017.
8. Holmes **Rolston**. *John Calvin versus the Westminster Confession*. Richmond, VA: John Knox Press, 1932.
9. Lyndal **Roper**, *Martin Luther: Renegade and Prophet*. Deckle Edge, 2017.
10. Alec **Ryrie**, *Protestants: The Faith that Made the Modern World*. New York: Viking, 2017.
11. Thieleman J. **Van Braght**, *Martyrs Mirror* (full title: *The Bloody Theater, or Martyrs Mirror of the Defenseless Christians Who Baptized Upon Confession of Faith, and Who Suffered and Died for the Testimony of Jesus, Their Savior, From the Time of Christ to the Year A.D. 1660*). Scottdale, Pennsylvania: Herald Press, 1938.

Restoration Movement

- Leonard C. **Allen**, *Things Unseen: Churches of Christ In (and After) the Modern Age*. Siloam Springs, AR: Leafwood Publishers, 2004.
- William R. **Baker**, *Evangelicalism & the Stone-Campbell Movement*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2002.
- J.E. **Choate**, *Roll Jordan Roll*. Nashville: Gospel Advocate Company, 1968.
- Douglas A. **Foster**, *A Life of Alexander Campbell*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2020.
- _____. *The Story of the Churches of Christ*. Abilene, TX: ACU Press, 2013.
- W. Dennis **Helsabeck**, Gary **Holloway**, and Douglas A. **Foster**. *Renewal for Mission: A Concise History of the Christian Churches and Churches of Christ*. Abilene, TX: ACU Press, 2009.
- Gary **Holloway** and Douglas A. **Foster**. *Renewing God's People: A Concise History of Churches of Christ*. Abilene, TX: ACU Press, 2006.
- Richard T. **Hughes**, *Illusions of Innocence: Protestant Primitivism in America, 1630-1875*. Chicago and London: The University of Chicago Press, 1988.
- _____. *Reviving the Ancient Paths: History of the Churches of Christ in America*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996.
- Thomas A. **Jones**, *In Search of A City*. Spring Hill, TN: DPI, 2007.
- Mark G. **Tolouse**, Gary **Holloway**, and Douglas A. **Foster**. *Renewing Christian Unity: A Concise History of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)*. Abilene, TX: ACU Press, 2011.

(12) WORLDVIEWS / EVANGELISM (4 October—13 December 2025)

Required:

1. Charles E. **Farhadian**, *Introducing World Religions: A Christian Engagement*, Grand Rapids: Baker, 2015. [read sections on Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islam and choose 1 of (Jainism or Sikhism or Taoism/Confucianism)].
2. M. A. S. Abdel **Haleem**, *The Qur'an (Oxford World's Classics)* (selections: half the actual pages in your version of the Qur'an).
3. Douglas **Jacoby**, *Jesus & Islam*. Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2009.
4. James **Sire**, *The Universe Next Door: A Basic Worldview Catalog, 5th Edition* (if you already own a different edition, that's fine).
5. Visit a Hindu or Buddhist temple or a mosque.
6. Learn the locations of the useful Worldviews passages.
7. **Classes (virtual meeting) 9:30-1:00 on Saturday 4 October 2025**
Q&A 10:00-11:00 on Saturday 8 November 2025

Evangelism

- Francis **Chan** and Danae **Yankoski**, *Crazy Love: Overwhelmed by a Relentless God*, 2008.
- Robert E. **Coleman**, *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1963.
- Jason **Georges**, *The 3D Gospel: Ministry in Guilt, Shame, and Fear Cultures*. Timē Press, 2017.
- Michael **Green**, *Evangelism in the Early Church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1970.
- Bill **Hybels** and Mark **Mittelberg**, *Becoming a Contagious Christian*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1994.
- Douglas **Jacoby**, *Campus Core: How to Have an Impact on Your Campus, Get Good Grades, and Figure Our Your Future*. Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2018.
- _____. *Till the Nets Are Full: An Evangelism Handbook for the 21st Century* (formerly *Shining Like Stars*, 1987-2017). Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2018.

Recommended:

- **Beaver**, R.P. *Eerdmans' Handbook to the World's Religions*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1982.
- **Bradley**, David G. *A Guide to the World's Religions*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall, 1963.
- *Eerdmans' Handbook to the World's Religions*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1982.
- **Farhadian** (entire book).
- **Goldsmith**, Martin. *What About Other Faiths?* London: Hodder & Stoughton, 1999.
- **McDermott**, Gerald R. *Can Evangelicals Learn from World Religions?: Jesus, Revelation & Religious Traditions*. Downers Grove, Intervarsity, 2000.

Ancient religion

- Lucilla **Burn**, *Greek Myths (Legendary Past)*, 1990.
- Bob **Brier**, *The History of Ancient Egypt* (48 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- Jane F. **Gardner**, *Roman Myths (Legendary Past)*
- George **Hart**. *Aztec and Maya Myths (Legendary Past)*, 1997.
- Glenn **Holland**, *Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean World* (48 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- Karl **Taube**, *Aztec and Maya Myths (Legendary Past)*, 1993.

Islam

- Abu **Atallah**, and Kent A. **Van Til**. *From Cairo to Christ: How one Muslim's Faith Journey Shows the Way for Others*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2017.
- Ayaan Hirsi **Ali**, *Infidel*. New York, NY: Atria, 2007.
- Eamonn **Gearon**, *The Islamic Golden Age* (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- Norman **Geisler** and Abdul Saleeb. *Answering Islam: The Crescent in Light of the Cross*.
- Al **Ghazoli**, Mohammed. *Christ, Muhammad and I*
- M. A. S. Abdel **Haleem**, *The Qur'an (Oxford World's Classics)* (selections: half the actual pages in your version of the Qur'an).
- Tom **Holland**, *In the Shadow of the Sword: The Battle for Global Empire and the End of the Ancient World*. London: Abacus, 2012.
- Douglas **Jacoby** and Aziz Abu **Sarah**, *Jesus & Islam*. Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2009.
- Erwin W. **Lutzer**, *The Cross in the Shadow of the Crescent: An Informed Response to Islam's War With Christianity*. Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 2013.
- John **Man**, *Saladin: The Life, the Legend, and the Islamic Empire*. London: Corgi, 2015.
- Steven **Masood**, *Into the Light*
- *The Qur'an: A Translation from Tahrike Tarsile Qur'an*, 2001.
- Nabeel **Qureshi**, *Answering Jihad: A Better Way Forward*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2016.
- _____. *No God but One: Allah or Jesus?: A Former Muslim Investigates the Evidence for Islam and Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2016.
- _____. *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus: A Devout Muslim Encounters Christianity*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2016.
- Aaron D. **Taylor**, *Alone With a Jihadist: A Biblical Response to Holy War*
- Mosan Hassan **Yousef**, *Son of Hamas*

Judaism

- Shmuley **Boteach**, *Judaism 101*
- Isaiah **Gafni**, *The Beginnings of Judaism* (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- Hayim J. **Donin**, ed. *To Be a Jew: A Guide To Jewish Observance In Contemporary Life (Revised ed.)*

Eastern Religions

- **Confucius**, *The Analects*
- Grant **Hardy**, *Great Minds of the East* (36 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company). *Sacred Texts of the World* (36 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- James W. **Sire**, *The Universe Next Door: A Basic Worldview Catalog* (4th Edition). Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2004.
- Ravi **Zacharias**, *Jesus Among Other Gods: The Absolute Claims of the Christian Message*. HarperCollins, 2002.

Mormonism

- John M. **Oakes** and Douglas A. **Jacoby**. *Mormonism: What Do the Evidence and Testimony Reveal?* Spring, TX: Illumination Publishing, 2013.
- Joseph **Smith**, *The Book of Mormon*. Salt Lake City, Utah: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 1830.
- Jerald and Sandra **Tanner**, *The Changing World of Mormonism: A Behind-the-Scenes Look at Changes in Mormon Doctrine and Practice*. Wheaton: Moody, 1979.

[END OF YEAR 3—which is the end of the program]

AIM +

(1) N.T. INTERPRETATION—HEBREWS

Required:

1. View the 12 video lessons on Hebrews.
2. Neil R. **Lightfoot**, *Everyone's Guide to Hebrews*.
3. Reflection papers

Recommended:

- F.F. **Bruce**, *The Epistle to the Hebrews, Revised edition*. New International Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990.
- Edward **Fudge**, *Our Man in Heaven*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1973.
- N. T. **Wright**, *Hebrews for Everyone*, Westminster John Knox Press; 2nd edition, 2004.

(2) O.T. INTERPRETATION — AMOS

Required:

1. View the 12 video lessons on Amos.
2. The Book of Amos (in at least 2 biblical translations/versions).
3. Douglas **Jacoby**, *The Lion Has Roared: An Exposition of Amos*. Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2016.
4. Reflection papers

Recommended:

- Francine **Rivers**, *The Prophet: Amos* (Tyndale House Publishers, Inc., July 24, 2006).
- Fred **Wood**, *Amos*. CrossBooks, June 5, 2009.

(3) CHRIST AND CULTURE

(TBD: COURSE WILL BE UPDATED WITH NEW MATERIAL)

(4) PRACTICAL MINISTRY BIBLIOGRAPHY

Read as many of these books over the summer as you are able (at least 2):

Highly recommended:

- Jim **Collins**, *Good to Great* (New York: HarperCollins, 2002).
- Rick Warren, *The Purpose Driven Church: Growth Without Compromising Your Message & Mission* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995).
- Gordon **Ferguson** and Wyndham **Shaw**, *Golden Rule Leadership* (DPI, 2001).
- Douglas **Jacoby**, *Till the Nets Are Full: An Evangelism Handbook for the 21st Century* (formerly *Shining Like Stars*, 1987-2017). Spring, TX: Illumination Publishers, 2018.
- John **Piper**, *Brothers, We Are Not Professionals: A Plea to Pastors for Radical Ministry*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2002.

Recommended:

- Patrick **Allit**, *The Art of Teaching* (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
- Ron **Clark**, *Emerging Elders* (Abilene, Texas: Leafwood, 2008). ISBN: 0891125698.
- Stephen R. **Covey**, *The Speed of Trust: the One Thing that Changes Everything*
- Gordon **Ferguson**, *Prepared to Answer: Restoring Truth in an Age of Relativism*.
- Edwin **Friedman**, *A Failure of Nerve: Leadership in the Age of the Quick Fix* Michael **Green**, *Evangelism in the Early Church* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1970, ASIN: 0802816126).
- Jim **Putnam** and Bobby **Harrington**, *DiscipleShift: Five Steps That Help Your Church to Make Disciples Who Make Disciples*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013.
- F. LaGard **Smith**, *Who Is My Brother? Facing a Crisis of Identity and Fellowship* (Nashville: Cotswold Publishers, 1997), ISBN 0-9660060-0-3.
- A. W. **Tozer**, *Whatever Happened to Worship?* (Eastbourne, UK: Kingsway, 2005).
- ITS 2006, *Who Is My Brother?* (audio and DVD, 2007).
- Frank **Viola**, *Rethinking the Wineskin: the Practice of the New Testament Church*. Present Testimony Ministry, 2001.

Elders & Deacons

- Alexander **Strauch**, *Biblical Eldership: An Urgent Call to Restore Biblical Church Leadership* (Littleton, Colorado: Lewis & Roth, 1995).
- _____, *The New Testament Deacon: Minister of Mercy* (Colorado Springs: Lewis & Roth, 1992)

(5) MISSIONS/CHURCH PLANTING (OPTIONAL READING)

Read as many of these books over the summer as you are able (at least 2):

1. David **Berçot**, *Let Me Die in Ireland: The True Story of Patrick* (Scroll, 1999).
2. Larry **Osborne**, *Sticky Church (Leadership Network Innovation Series)*. HarperCollins, 2008.
3. Thom S. **Rainer**, *Breakout Churches* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005).
4. _____ and Eric **Geiger**. *Simple Church: Returning to God's Process for Making Disciples*. Broadman & Holman, 2011.
5. Andy **Stanley**, *Deep and Wide: Creating Churches Unchurched People Love to Attend*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.
6. K.P. **Yohannan**, *Revolution in World Missions*. Gospel for Asia, 1994.