

“Through The Bible Basics”
Loris First Baptist Church

Introduction

“*Through The Bible Basics*” course on Wednesday nights at Loris FBC is meant to serve as:

- 1) An encouragement to read through the Entire Bible (Book by Book) in the span of one year.
- 2) A “discussion group” where each week the MAJOR THEMES of the Books of the Bible will be reviewed and questions answered as to their contribution to the whole of Scripture.

Objectives

Upon completion of one year in this course, my prayer is that every student will:

- 1) Know why it is important to simply READ the Bible on a regular basis.
- 2) Know how many books are in the entire Bible, the Old Testament, and New Testament.
- 3) Memorize the order of the books in the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.
- 4) Learn the MAJOR THEMES, key verses, and central messages of each book of the Bible.
- 5) Learn how each book in the Bible is organized, how it came into being, and its contributions to the entirety of the Bible Story.
- 6) Learn how to ANALYZE each book in the Bible, identify its most significant chapters, where to find its central purpose, which verses in that book are important to know/memorize.
- 7) Understand how each book in the Bible describes, glorifies, and/or points to Jesus Christ.
- 8) Develop a lifelong LOVE and HABIT of Reading the Bible every day!

Joshua 1:8 *“Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.”*

Psalms 1:1-3 *“Blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked or stand in the way of sinners or sit in the seat of mockers. But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither. Whatever he does prospers.”*

2Timothy 2:15 *“Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.”*

2Timothy 3:16-17 *“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”*

Requirements for “Success”

1. Try to attend every class for the next 52 weeks (or at least keep up with reading & homework!).
2. Read the book(s) of the Bible assigned for each week and complete homework assignment.

Note (1): Read each day whether you FEEL LIKE IT or not!

Note (2): Try to get in the HABIT of reading at the same time every day!

Note (3): Try READING ONLY in the morning and then ANSWERING questions at night.

3. Mark your Bible with key references from one Scripture to another.
4. Take notes in class and participate in group discussions on what Holy Spirit revealed as you read.
5. Make a “Vow to the Lord” (and ask for His help to KEEP IT!) to READ the Bible every day!

Tools To Bring To Bible Study Class

1. At least “1” Holy Bible (Good Translation): KJV, NKJV, NASB, NIV, etc.
2. Your homework assignment and pen. VERY IMPORTANT!!!
3. Desire to have life changed by God through the Power of His Word!!!

Sources For Course Material Used For Bible Study (don't need to purchase!)

Baily, Waylon and Hudson, Tom. Step By Step Through The Old Testament. Lifeway Church Resources, Nashville, TN.

Barber, Wayne and Rasnake, Eddie and Shepherd, Richard. Life Principles From The Old Testament. AMG Publishers, Chattanooga, TN.

LaHaye, Tim. How to Study the Bible For Yourself. Harvest House Publishers, Eugene, OR.

Richards, Lawrence. The Bible Readers Companion. Scripture Press Publications, USA.

Stringfellow, Alan B. Through The Bible In One Year. Hensley Publishing House, Tulsa, OK.

The Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible. Leadership Ministries Worldwide, Chattanooga, TN.

To save on buying some of these Christian Books & Reference Materials:

Call Christian Book Distributors (1-800-CHRISTIAN) or (www.Christianbook.com)

Loris First Baptist Church
“Through The Bible Basics”

Introduction to The Holy Bible

Updated Version (7/20/21)

1. The word *Bible* comes from the Greek word *biblos*, meaning “a book”.
2. The Bible is also called:
 - a. “The Holy Scriptures” (Rom 1:2; 2Tim 3:15)
 - b. “The Scriptures” (1Cor 15:3-4; Matt 21:42, 22:29; Luke 24:32; John 5:39; Acts 8:32, etc.)
 - c. “The Word of God” (1Thess 2:13; Hebrews 4:12)
3. The Bible (“Word of God”) did not originate in the mind of man, but the man of God (2Pet 1:20-21).
4. The Bible is not technically “a book” as most understand books. Rather, it is a “collection” of sixty-six (66) books written by over 40 authors over a time period of more than 1500 years.
5. God chose authors from different nations, professions, and classes of society to write down His Holy Words. Their different backgrounds included- kings, soldiers, peasants, farmers, scholars, priests, statesmen, prisoners, etc., etc. Amazingly, they all consistently point to Jesus Christ!
6. The Bible consists of two major divisions called “Testaments”:
 - a. The Old Testament – (first 39 books in the Bible)
 - b. The New Testament – (last 27 books in the Bible)
7. The word “Testament” means a “covenant” (or solemn agreement) between two parties. Therefore:
 - a. The Old Testament presents God’s covenant with mankind BEFORE Jesus Christ came to earth.
 - b. The New Testament presents God’s covenant with mankind AFTER Jesus Christ came to earth.
8. The Old Testament is divided into 5 major “divisions”:
 - a. The Law (5 books): “Torah” (Hebrew); “Pentateuch” (Greek)
 - (1) Genesis – The Book of Beginnings,
 - (2) Exodus – The Book of Deliverance,
 - (3) Leviticus – The Book of Worship,
 - (4) Numbers – The Book of Wanderings,
 - (5) Deuteronomy – The Book of Preparation
 - b. History (12 books): Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther
 - c. Wisdom (5 books): Job, Psalm, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes; Song of Solomon

- d. Major Prophets (5 books): Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel
 - e. Minor Prophets (12 books): Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi
9. The New Testament has 27 books which are divided as follows:
- a. Four Gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, John
 - b. History of Church: Acts
 - c. Fourteen Pauline Epistles: Romans, 1 & 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews (*probably, according to Heb 13:23*)
 - d. Seven General Epistles: James, 1 & 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude
 - e. One Prophetic Book: Revelation

2Timothy 3:16-17 *“All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.”*

- 10. The original manuscripts (i.e. books of the Bible) of the Old Testament were written primarily in Hebrew and some small parts in Aramaic.
- 11. The original manuscripts (i.e. books of the Bible) of the New Testament were written primarily in Kooinio Greek (i.e. language of the “common” people in Jesus’ day).
- 12. The Old Testament was translated from Hebrew to Greek around 250-150 B.C. This is called the “Septuagint” (Symbolized by the letters LXX for the supposed 70 men involved with translating). Important advancement is that, in this Hebrew to Greek translation of the Bible, the lines of Hebrew “letters” were translated into lines of Greek “words”. Also, within the “Septuagint”, the first five books of the Bible began being called the “Pentateuch” (which means 5 books in the Greek Language).
- 13. About 400 A.D., Jerome translated the Old & New Testaments into the Latin language. This version is called the *“Latin Vulgate”* and was used as the primary Bible for over 1000 years.
- 14. During the Reformation Period, there were numerous versions of the Bible with various structural changes that were presented:
 - a. 1227 - The Archbishop of Canterbury, Stephen Langton, began separating the lines of Latin (AD) “words” in the Bible into specific “chapters” to emphasize various themes and thoughts of connecting Bible sentences. He did this to increase better understanding by those reading and teaching the Scriptures.
 - b. 1382 – John Wycliff translated the Bible from Latin into English for the first time. It was also the (AD) first Bible that separated the Scriptures into “chapters” (based on Bishop Langton’s work).
 - c. 1448 - A prominent Jewish rabbi by the name of Nathan began dividing the Hebrew Old

- (AD) Testament into verses (with each chapter of the O.T.).
- d. 1525 – William Tyndale’s New Testament was an English Translation from the original Greek.
(AD)
- e. 1555 – A French news printer (and strong protestant believer) by the name of Robert Estienne
(AD) (also known by the pseudonym, Stephanus), began separating the New Testament sentences within chapters into verses for the first time. Published his results for his Bible study group. Spread quickly and was widely accepted by Bible readers.
- f. 1559 - The Geneva Bible (first book mass produced on a printing press) was published with
(AD) words, verses, and chapters that are almost identical to what we now have in our current modern versions of the Bible.
- g. 1600’s – Martin Luther translated Bible from Latin into the German language.
(AD)
- h. 1603 – The King James English Bible was first published. (*Note: Caused major uproar!!!*)
(AD)
15. Today there are numerous translations of the Bible into most of the languages & dialects of the world.
16. BIG DIFFERENCE between a “translation” of the Bible and a “transliteration” of the Bible:
- a. “Translation” – attempt at almost word for word, sentence by sentence, conversion from one language to another language (i.e. KJV, NKJV, NASB, NIV, NRSV, etc.)
- b. “Transliteration” – one person’s attempt at converting the original “thoughts” of the Bible to more understandable “thoughts”, based on the language used.