

The Olive Branch

BIBLE STUDY: More than just a Good Book: Learning to study the Bible

- When: Saturday mornings, 9:00am-1:00pm
Includes discussion over pizza lunch from 12-1pm.
- Where: TOB – Kids Branch Worship Room
- Who: Anyone and everyone!
GREAT opportunity for those just beginning Bible Study, but will benefit those who already read the Bible but would like to get more out of it.
- What: A walk through the Bible with some general guidelines for interpreting and applying the texts to our lives. (eg. How are we supposed to “not plow to the edge of our fields” when we aren’t even farmers?)
- Why: To equip ourselves to study God’s Word in order to better know God and his Mission and become His people!

The Plan:

Old Testament Survey

- Oct 15 Foundations – An Overview of the Bible
Nov 12 This is the Law! The Pentateuch (first 5 books)
Dec 10 Here’s how it happened – The Histories
Jan 14 Wisdom – Psalms and Proverbs
Feb 11 What ARE they talking about? Prophets

New Testament Survey

- March 3 Good News! The Gospels
April 14 Dear Church...Letters to the Churches
May 12 Blessed are those who hear it - Revelation

FAQ's

- 1. Who will be teaching?**
This study will be taught by Nancy Vamvakas (that's me). I am a Ministry Partner and Governing Board member of The Olive Branch. I am with you on my journey to study the Bible, and to continually increase my understanding and knowledge of God, His mission and what it means to be His people. I am currently working on my Masters in Theological Studies at Tyndale Seminary, and am excited to share with you some of what I have learned.
- 2. Will there be homework?**
Well, yes. Bible Study implies some time reading the Bible! There will be suggested Bible readings, plus some questions for personal reflection. It is suggested that a journal be kept for notes, questions and ideas for future study and thought. Finishing the suggested reading is not required for attending, but we do all benefit from each others learning, questions and thoughts.
- 3. What will this cost?**
No financial cost to attend, but it is strongly recommended that each person in the group have a good Study Bible. Other costs: time (daily reading, weekly meeting) and perhaps the odd snack (see below).
- 4. Will there be snacks?**
No promises here! Snacks will be provided on the generosity of the group members!! Pizza will be ordered for lunch at noon for us to enjoy over our discussion time.
- 5. Can I bring my young children? Will there be childcare?**
Unfortunately no. This group will be more focused on teaching then group discussion, so we can't really have children in the room with us. However, older teens are more than welcome to join if they are interested.
- 6. Will we start and end on time?**
Yes.
- 7. Can I bring a friend?**
*Absolutely! Whether or not they go to TOB, you are welcome to bring anyone and everyone who is interested in learning to study God's Word!
Corollary: Can I bring a friend unfamiliar to the God of the Bible?
Yes! I will do my very best to keep this accessible to those without any church background. That said, this study is geared to those who know the Bible to be God's Word, and so will start from a platform of believing in God, and accepting His Word as Truth.*
- 8. What if I miss a meeting?**
The course is design to flow one session to the next as we walk through history, so it you will gain the most from attending each session from the start. I would request that participants make a commitment to attend all of the sessions, however, life happens to us all, so I certainly understand if you have to miss now and then.