

Holy Trinity, West Palm Beach

“Indeed, the word of God is living and active”

- Hebrews 4.12

Sundays, 11am via Zoom

Understanding the Bible

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Class Objective

To Understand the Bible's:

- History
- Structure
- Reliability
- Purpose
- Meaning

In order that we might more fully engage with the Bible's
Message and Importance for our lives.

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Why Bother?

- Good News!
- Example:

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

- Jesus, John 3.16-17

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Review: *What is the Bible?*

- A Library, not a Book
- The story of a God who loves us enough to create us, walk with us, rescue us, sustain us and give us eternal life.
- 2 Main Sections: Old Testament (pre-Jesus) and New Testament (Jesus & Early Church)

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Old Testament

- 39 Books, written between 1200-300BC
- 5 Sections:
 - Pentateuch (Books of Moses) - 5 books
 - History - 12 books
 - Poetry & Wisdom Literature - 5 books
 - Major Prophets - 5 books
 - Minor Prophets - 12 books
- Last Week: Pentateuch

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Twelve History Books

- Joshua
- Judges
- Ruth
- 1&2 Samuel
- 1&2 Kings
- 1&2 Chronicles
- Ezra
- Nehemiah
- Esther

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Twelve History Books

- Exit from Desert and Crossing of Jordon River
- Entering and Conquering of Promised Land (Canaan)
- Battle of Jericho
- Rule of the Judges
 - Debra, Samson
- Call of Samuel and Prophets
- Institution of Monarchy
- Saul, David, Solomon
- Building of Temple

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Twelve History Books

- Continued Rebellion of People
 - Judges is particularly saucy
- Bathsheba
- Idol Worship
- Division of the Kingdom
- Assyrian Exile
- Babylonian Exile
- Destruction of Jerusalem and Temple

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Twelve History Books

- Return to Jerusalem
- Rebuilding of the Temple
 - But not as good as before
 - “2nd Temple Judaism”

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Five Wisdom & Poetry Books

- Job
- Psalms
- Proverbs
- Ecclesiastes
- Song of Solomon

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Five Major Prophets

- Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Lamentations
- Ezekiel
- Daniel

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Twelve Minor Prophets

- Hosea
- Joel
- Amos
- Obadiah
- Jonah
- Micah
- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

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What is a Prophet?

Some one who speaks for God to God's people - sometimes about the present, sometimes about the past, sometimes about the future, sometimes all at once.

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What is a Prophet?

Example:

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel.

- Isaiah 7.14

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