



Evidence for Faith

Bible Fellowship Class

Travis Echols, Teacher 770.887.5699
Dr. Bob McCaughan, Director 770.205.5817

Sundays 9:15 am to 10:15 am
First Redeemer Church Coffee Lodge
2100 Peachtree Pkwy
Cumming, GA

The class is for people of all ages, married or unmarried, who want to explore together life's most important questions in an open and honest way. Through guided discussions, we will investigate relevant topics such as

- the philosophical foundations of truth and knowledge
- knowledge from God's universe (e.g., scientific discoveries and their implications)
- analysis and comparison of different worldviews and religions
- the intellectual defense of Christianity against today's critics
- the history of the Christian Scriptures and Church
- principles for proper Scripture interpretation and application
- knowledge from the Christian Scriptures (e.g., God, Jesus Christ, The Holy Spirit, humans, angels, demons, salvation, the church, spiritual growth, healthy relationships, evangelism, Christian fellowship, helping the needy, death, life after death, heaven and hell, and end-times prophecies).

We enjoy getting to know each other while discussing together these fascinating topics, but guests can rest assured that they will not be put on the spot to speak if they do not wish to.

New members can enter the class at any time. It is not necessary to wait for a new series to begin.

Our current series is ***The Bible: From Inspiration to Comprehension***

Course Description:

Course lectures and discussion will cover what every Christian should know about the origins, composition, inspiration, interpretation, canonicity, and transmission of the Bible. The emphasis throughout the course will be to discover the history and meaning of the biblical text as it was originally written and its relevance and proper application for us today.

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Teachers: Travis Echols and Bob McCaughan

Referenced Texts:

The following two books are the primary references used to construct this course. Class presentations and discussions each Sunday morning will follow closely the chapters in these books:

1. *An Introduction to Bibliology: What Every Christian Should Know About the Origins, Composition, Inspiration, Interpretation, Canonicity, and the Transmission of the Bible.* Author: Jeffrey Breshears. Publisher: Areopagus, 2014. (This book is available from www.TheAreopagus.org or Amazon.com in paperback. Also available at Amazon in Kindle format.)

2. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth.* Authors: Gordon D. Fee and Douglas Stuart. Publisher: Zondervan, 2014. (This book is available in paperback and Kindle format at Amazon.)

Recommended Book for Learners to Use in the Course:

The book by Gordon Fee: *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*

Course Outline

- Course Overview, Inerrancy, and Selected Definitions
- Introduction to Bibliology
- What Is the Bible?
- The Philosophy of the Bible
- Biblical Inspiration
- Biblical Hermeneutics (*How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*)
 1. Introduction: The Need to Interpret.
 2. The Basic Tool: A Good Translation.
 3. The Epistles: Learning to Think Contextually.
 4. The Epistles: The Hermeneutical Questions.
 5. The Old Testament Narratives: Their Proper Use.
 6. Acts: The Question of Historical Precedent.
 7. The Gospels: One Story, Many Dimensions.
 8. The Parables: Do You Get the Point?
 9. The Law (s): Covenant Stipulations for Israel.
 10. The Prophets: Enforcing the Covenant in Israel.
 11. The Psalms: Israel's Prayers and Ours.
 12. Wisdom: Then and Now.
 13. The Revelation: Images of Judgment and Hope
- Composition of the Bible and the Earliest Extant Manuscripts
- Biblical Canonicity
- Biblical Textual Criticism
- Defending Inerrancy
- Summary and Conclusions