

Cultivate

Rule of Faith

1. Bible Study

How to study the Bible

2. Metanarrative

God's overarching story

3. Theology & Apologetics

Basic Christian beliefs

Rule of Life

4. Spiritual Formation

Putting faith into practice

5. Spiritual Disciplines

Putting faith into practice

6. Discipleship & Maturity

Growing in your faith



Plan & Purpose:

Cultivate is a 6-part course planned to provide foundational teaching on important truths for the Christian walk. The intent of this course is NOT just to provide more information but equip the Christian who wishes to grow in their faith and live out God's truth.

The class material is divided into two sections: "Rule of Faith" and "Rule of Life" which represent two ancient categories of the Christian faith. The Church's "Rule of Faith" is the standard for orthodox Christian belief represented in creeds for thousands of years. The "Rule of Life" is a rubric by which the Christian grows in maturity through Christian practice.

The class will cover a broad range of teaching, resources and practical applicational exercises. A commitment to participation in these exercises is required so that the entire class may fully engage in discussion.

It is our hope that this course will deepen your walk with God and give you greater hunger to know and apply his will to your life as you discover how he would have you use your many gifts and talents for his Kingdom work.

RULE OF FAITH



Bible Study

God's Story and how to study it

What the reformation changed:

It is a radical idea that anyone, whether pastor or plumber, teacher or mother, can study the Word of God for themselves.

But, can we really understand the Bible on our own?

C is for CONTEXT: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

In Christ From Beginning to End the authors point out the truth that the Bible must also be read in “close,” “continuing” and “complete” contexts. This refers to reading sections of the Bible in light of where it appears in the Bible, the authorial intent and its place in the overarching narrative and canon.

Context of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37):

What difference does it make to NOT read something in context?

If you wish to know God, you must know his Word. If you wish to perceive his power, you must see how he works by his Word. If you wish to know his purpose before it comes to pass, you can only discover it by his Word.

-Charles Spurgeon

Four Steps of Bible Study:

1. Prayer:

2. Observation (Dig):

3. Interpretation (Discover):

4. Application (Do):



Put it into Practice: Luke 11:37-44

1. Prayer: Have one person pray for the group and for understanding of God's Word through the Holy Spirit before starting your study.

2. Observation: Read Luke 11:37-44 out loud together and jot down any important things you notice (story details, characters, themes, repeated words etc.). Summarize the main events in your own words.

Observation Continued: What details from the account do you have questions about? What might you need to research for better historical or cultural context?

3. Interpretation: Briefly discuss what you observed from the account and what those details might mean. Why might this story

be in the Gospel of Luke? What does it say about God? About people?

4. Application: Do you see any parallels between this story and your life- if so, what might God be speaking to you about?

Homework: The Book of Jonah

1. Prayer: Pray for understanding of God's Word through the Holy Spirit before starting your study.

2. Observation: Read the book of Jonah out loud if possible and jot down any important things you notice (story details, characters, themes, repeated words etc.). Summarize the main events in your own words.

3. Interpretation: Look at the details you noted. Why might this story be in the Bible? Consider what the book of Jonah says about God. What does it say about people?

4. Application: Do you see any parallels between this story and your life- if so, what might God be speaking to you about?

Additional Resources:

Thebibleproject.com

Biblica.com

Denverseminary.edu/resources/free-online-courses

[Lord, Teach Me to Study the Bible](#) by Kay Arthur

[Living by the Book](#) by Howard G. Hendricks & William D. Hendricks

[How to Read the Bible for all its Worth](#) by Fee & Stuart

[Grasping God's Word](#) by J. Scott Duvall & J. Daniel Hays

[Introduction to Biblical Interpretation](#) by Klein, Blomberg & Hubbard