

Office of Evangelization  
Diocese of Metuchen

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# Bible Study

## *RESOURCE DIRECTORY*



# Office of Evangelization

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## Diocese of Metuchen

### Our Mission

*The Mission of the Diocese of Metuchen is to evangelize all people, at all times, and in all places. We are to proclaim the MESSAGE of Jesus; to teach His TRUTH; to extend His LOVE to people of all ages.*

### About this Directory

This Bible Study Resource Directory lists resources to assist parishes in the work of evangelization through Scripture study. We have categorized the studies according to two criteria: 1. the level of experience with studying the Bible 2. themes or topical studies. We hope that this will help you locate the study most appropriate for your needs.

### Resource Lending

Bible study materials may be borrowed from the Office of Evangelization for parish use as availability permits. Please contact us for further details as to the loan policy.

### Contact Info.

Office of Evangelization: 732-562-1990 x 1634 or at [evangelization@diometuchen.org](mailto:evangelization@diometuchen.org)

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*These studies are recommended for people who have little or no experience with Bible study. The materials are easy to follow and implement.*

## Foundational Studies

*These studies are recommended for people who need to establish their basic knowledge of the Biblical story line as it begins in the Old Testament and continues into the New. It is important that they be done sequentially.*

## Intermediate Studies

*These studies are best for people who have laid the foundation in the underlying story of the Bible and would like to study other books within this context.*

## Advanced Studies

*These studies are recommended for people who have adequate knowledge of the narrative story of salvation history and sufficient experience with Bible study and wish to go deeper in a particular book.*

## Thematic/Topical Studies

*These studies focus on a particular theme or topic in the Bible instead of a specific book.*

## Teen Studies

*Bible Studies designed for teens (junior and senior high school age)*

## Kid's Studies

*Bible studies written for pre-school and elementary school age children*

## Study Bibles

*Study Bibles provide insightful commentaries and footnotes and some also contain discussion questions*

## Bible Study Tools/Training Courses

*Helpful resources for forming and training Bible Study leaders and facilitators*

# Entry-Level

*These studies are recommended for people who have little or no experience with Bible study. Materials are easy to follow and implement.*

## A Quick Journey through the Bible

Ascension Press

**Length: 8 sessions (DVD based)**

Jeff Cavins

This eight-part DVD study provides an excellent and meaningful overview of salvation history as an introduction to the narrative story of the Bible. Jeff Cavins briefly covers the same information taught in the 24 part *Bible Timeline* study in a series of eight, half-hour talks that are complemented by group discussion questions, useful maps and charts, and brief assignments for home study. This is a great way to “get your feet wet” and learn how to begin authentic Catholic Bible study.

## COME AND SEE SERIES

Emmaus Road Publishing

*About the Series: Especially designed for families to do together, “Come and See” Catholic Bible Study series presents the rich heritage of the Catholic Faith in clear and simple language. With its practical direction for leaders, easy-to-use workbook format, and appealing design, this Bible study series is ideal for use in the classroom, home study, or parish catechesis.*

## The Gospel of John

Ponessa and Manhardt

**Length: 22 sessions (book-based)**

The Scripture scholarship of Father Joseph Ponessa and the teaching expertise of Laurie Manhardt have again combined to produce an exceptional Catholic Bible study, *The Gospel of John*. The authors employ both inductive and deductive teaching methods to provide the reader with a thorough understanding of the gospel. They take nothing for granted as they open this gospel and the teaching of the Church in a manner both didactic and inspirational.

## Genesis

Ponessa and Manhardt

**Length: 22 sessions (book-based)**

*GENESIS* presents the 50 chapters of Genesis in a 22 chapter format. The intriguing adult commentary offers a view of creation with respect to natural science, biological science, geology and anthropology. Pope Benedict XVI’s writings augment the commentaries.

## The Synoptics

Majernik, Ponessa and Manhardt

**Length: 22 sessions (book-based)**

*The Synoptics* invites you on a journey through the Holy Land and the **Gospel texts of Matthew, Mark, and Luke**. Drawing insights from biblical archeology and the writings of the early Church Fathers, this study compares parallel passages from the three Synoptic Gospels to construct a vivid picture of the life and mission of Jesus Christ. This study is especially designed for families to do together by using clear and simple language. With its practical direction for leaders, easy-to-use workbook format, this Bible study series is ideal for use in the classroom, home study, or parish catechesis.

## Moses and the Torah

Ponessa and Manhardt

### Length: 22 sessions (book-based)

“Come and See, Catholic Bible Study” **Moses and Torah** covers the Old Testament books of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. Study the ways in which God reveals Himself to Moses, delivers His chosen people from slavery in Egypt, and gives the law.

## Acts and Letters

Ponessa and Manhardt

### Length: 22 sessions (book-based)

How do the Letters of Saint Paul connect to the history of the Acts of the Apostles? What was the structure and governance of the Apostolic Church? How should the Catholic interpret the difficult passages in Paul’s writing? Find the answers to these and many other questions in the pages of *Acts and Letters* in the popular “Come and See” Bible study series. This study uses modern study tools—inductive and deductive learning, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, and the writings of popes and saints—to unlock an ancient treasure and show its current application.

# Foundational

*These studies are recommended for people who need to establish a basic knowledge of the biblical story line as it begins in the*

## ASCENSION PRESS BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM

**About the Program:** *The Great Adventure Bible* system from Ascension Press begins with the story that ties all Scripture together and provides a narrative context for Bible reading and study. Each component covers the same ground in a new way, reinforcing and building on what was learned in the previous step. They are: 1.Home preparation 2.Small group discussion 3.DVD lecture 4.Review of Study Set Responses

### Step 1

## 24 Week Great Adventure Bible Timeline

Jeff Cavins

### Length: 24 sessions (DVD based)

*The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation* is a fascinating study that takes you on a journey through the entire Bible by studying 14 books in chronological order. Go deep into each period of salvation history and discover the amazing story woven throughout all of Scripture. Using a unique color-coded system, you will learn the major people, places, and events of the Bible and see how they all come together to reveal the remarkable story of our faith. A leader’s manual and participant’s manual are necessary for this study.

### Step 2

## Matthew: The King and His Kingdom

Jeff Cavins

### Length: 24 sessions (DVD based)

Building directly on the foundation laid in *The Great Adventure Bible Timeline*, Step Two in *The Great Adventure Bible Study Program*, *Matthew*, shows how Jesus builds on the foundation laid in the Old Testament to inaugurate the Kingdom of Heaven on earth. For this reason, it is an ideal follow-up study to the basic narrative of Scripture taught in *The Bible Timeline* course. Leaders and participants manuals are necessary for this study.

### Step 3

## Acts: The Spread of the Kingdom

Jeff Cavins

### Length: 20 sessions (DVD based)

Step three builds on The Bible Timeline and Matthew by showing how Christ's Kingdom on earth is empowered to carry out his work in the world. The book of Acts shows the Church, enlivened by the Holy Spirit, teaching, preaching, healing, and restoring outcasts in the same way that Jesus did on earth. The Acts of the Apostles provides an historic framework for understanding the rest of the New Testament. Paul's letters in particular come alive in a new way when they are read within the context of the Acts narrative. Leaders and participants manual are necessary for this study.

# Intermediate

*These studies are best for people who have laid the foundation in the underlying story of the Bible and would like to study other*

## ASCENSION PRESS BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM

*About the Program:* The Great Adventure Series also offers in-depth studies on individual books of the Bible. The format is the same but studies assume participants have already completed the foundational studies listed previously. All studies require purchase of participant and facilitator manuals.

## Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come

Jeff Cavins

### Length: 10 sessions (DVD based)

In this intriguing look at one of the most talked-about books in Scripture, Jeff Cavins explores Revelation to demonstrate how the Kingdom established by Christ in His Church is intimately connected with the Kingdom of Heaven, especially through the celebration of the Mass. You will also learn what all the mysterious figures and images of Revelation represent, as well as what will happen during the Second Coming of Christ, what has already happened, and what is happening now in salvation history.

## Exodus: Called to Freedom

Dr. Tim Gray

### Length: 10 sessions (DVD based)

The Exodus can be viewed as the defining moment in Israel's history, for it was then that God called Israel out of slavery in Egypt and to a life of freedom as His people. *Exodus: Called to Freedom* looks through the lens of Christ and the Church to show that, more than just seeking to free His people from the domination of Pharaoh, God desired to free His people from the far more sinister tyranny of sin, so they could live the authentic freedom that belongs to children of God.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians: The Church and the Christian Community

Dr. Tim Gray

### Length: 10 sessions (DVD based)

The conflicts of the early Christians in Corinth were in many ways similar to our struggles today as Christians. With divisions, immorality, persecution, and other trials of the faithful, the message of St. Paul to the Corinthians is a much-needed message for our own times.

## James: Pearls for Wise Living

Dr. Tim Gray

**Length: 10 sessions (DVD based)**

For anyone who has struggled to live a truly Christian life, James offers a wealth of practical solutions for handling and even sanctifying everyday circumstances.

## Psalms: The School of Prayer

Jeff Cavins and Dr. Tim Gray

**Length: 11 sessions (DVD based)**

With *Psalms: The School of Prayer*, the Great Adventure moves from telling the Story to making it personal. While the historical books of the Bible recount God's creative and redemptive acts in history, the Psalms reveal Israel's response to God's covenant offer and serve as a model for our response to Him. Indeed, one could say that the historical books tell the "outside" of the story of Israel by giving an historical perspective, while the Psalms tell the "inside" story, which comes from the deeply personal perspective of one who is seeking God. Our communication with God is enhanced by a deeper understanding of the book of Psalms and of the individual psalms that reside in each of our hearts

## HEARTS AFLAME BIBLE STUDIES

Emmaus Road Publishing

### Genesis *Part 1: God and His Creation* (Chapters 1-11)

Gayle Somers with Sarah Christmeyer

**Length: 10 sessions (book-based)**

A natural starting point for Bible study, *Genesis, Part I: God and His Creation* debunks theories claiming that the Book of Genesis is only ancient history or even a myth. Ten lessons explore how chapters 1–11 of Genesis are a “blueprint for the rest of salvation history,” covering themes of temptation, sin, grace, redemption, human sexuality, family, and covenant. Memory verses and study questions make each lesson easy to follow and applicable to everyday life. A comprehensive leader's guide assists readers in their responses to lesson questions, especially if encountering new or unfamiliar concepts—making Genesis ideal for customizing group Bible study to individual participants.

### Genesis *Part II: God and His Family* (Chapters 12-50)

Gayle Somers with Sarah Christmeyer

**Length: 10 sessions (book-based)**

*Genesis II: God and His Family* explores chapters 12–50 of Genesis, uncovering the rich details of the life of Abraham and the history of Abraham's descendants, the very human family through whom God promised to eventually right all that had gone wrong in creation. In this study of Genesis you will encounter the infinitely tender love of God for humanity and observe His relentless initiative to do whatever it takes for men to know and love Him as He originally intended—demonstrating that nothing will impede God's plan for His creation. Come to understand Jesus and the Gospel better by the study of Genesis. See how the Catholic Church has taken seriously every word of truth in this book and enables us to remain connected to God's original design for His creation. Get ready to be amazed!

*About the Series: Especially designed for families to do together, “Come and See” Catholic Bible Study series presents the rich heritage of the Catholic Faith in clear and simple language. With its practical direction for leaders, easy-to-use workbook format, and appealing design, this Bible study series is ideal for use in the classroom, home study, or parish catechesis.*

## The Prophets and Apostles

Fr. Joseph Ponessa and Laurie Watson Manhardt

**Length: 22 sessions (book-based)**

*“Come and See”:* *Prophets and Apostles* will help you hear the Word of God as spoken by Daniel, Nehemiah, Joel, Habbakuk, Micah, the Apostle James, and other lesser-known biblical figures—bringing their teachings home to the modern-day Christian. Ever wonder what it would be like to encounter an Old Testament prophet? Or to hear one of the apostles preach a sermon? Authors Fr. Joseph Ponessa and Laurie Watson Manhardt help bring the Word of God as preached by the prophets and apostles home to the modern Christian. Each chapter gives historical background to these books of the Bible to help set the works in historical context. Questions with each chapter encourage us to let the Scriptures lead us to repentance and conversion.

## David and the Psalms

Joseph Ponessa and Laurie Watson Manhardt

**Length: 22 sessions (book-based)**

*David and the Psalms* begins with the Book of Ruth, and continues through 1 and 2 Samuel and the Book of Psalms. Study the lives of Ruth, Samuel, Saul, and David as well as the psalms and canticles, which were associated with their lives and have continued to be associated with the life of Jesus Christ and of His Church.

## Wisdom

Fr. Jan Liesen and Laurie Watson Manhardt

**Length: 22 sessions (book-based)**

*Wisdom* covers the wisdom literature of the bible found in the Old Testament -- Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, the Song of Solomon, Wisdom and Sirach. This study uses modern study tools -- inductive and deductive learning, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and the writings of popes and saints—to unlock an ancient treasure and show its current application.

## Ezekiel and Hebrews

Andreas Hoeck and Laurie Watson Manhardt

**Length: 22 sessions (book-based)**

Authors Father Andreas Hoeck and Laurie Watson Manhardt unlock the mysteries of some of the most difficult and controversial books of the Bible—Ezekiel, Hebrews, and Revelation. Probe the prophet Ezekiel, the most visual of the prophets, and discover the significance of his numerous visions and symbolic style of writing, and how he influences the book of Revelation. The Apocalypse (Revelation) is filled with symbolism and code language derived from the Old Testament that was intended to mislead outsiders who might stumble on the book. Learn its true meaning by comparing it with Old Testament precedents, and be fascinated by what God really is saying to you in Revelation. And discover why the book of Hebrews offers a profound and unique image of Jesus found nowhere else in the New Testament.

## Isaiah

Monsignor Charles Kosanke, STD

**Length: 22 sessions (book-based)**

God’s people have rebelled; they have become a sinful nation. But God calls His people back, through Isaiah, with a message of judgment, consolation, and hope. Isn’t this how God calls all sinners? Move with the “Greatest of the Prophets” deeply into the mystery of God and the beauty of His truth.

# Advanced

*These studies are recommended for people who have adequate knowledge of the narrative story of salvation history and sufficient experience with*

## **CATHOLIC SCRIPTURE STUDY INTERNATIONAL**

**About the Program:** Catholic Scripture Study (CSS) offers Bible Studies with commentaries by leading Scripture scholars and authors, and each study contains references to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, papal encyclicals, and writings of the early Church Fathers and the saints. The program and Study Leader Kit provide all the tools so one need not be an experienced catechist to implement and lead a CSS class.

### **PROGRAM STUDIES**

*The following are designed specifically for a 20-28 week class format and include a Program Manual, DVD lecture series, and online resources.*

#### **Genesis**

##### **Length: 28 sessions**

In the study of this book, one will also discover the answer to those age-old questions: Where did I come from? Why am I here? What is the purpose of my life? The answers to these questions and many more are found in this in-depth study. Genesis also sets the stage for God's plan of redemption and plants the seeds of many important doctrines and Christian teachings that unfold in the rest of the Bible. Without Genesis, the Bible is incomprehensible, which makes this a "must" study!

#### **The Book of Exodus**

Authors: Dr. Scott Hahn & Mark Shea

##### **Length: 28 sessions**

Exodus is an amazingly eye-opening book, especially for Catholics! Learn how the Eucharist is prefigured by the Passover; the symbolism of the parting of the Red Sea and more. This book has it all: "murder, betrayal, plagues, idolatry, miracles" and it's all true! Best of all, it is life changing: it is the Word of God. Lectures by Fr. Patrick Winslow.

#### **The Gospel According to Matthew**

Authors: Dr. Scott Hahn & Mark Shea

##### **Length: 28 sessions**

One of the best-loved books of the Bible, the Gospel of Matthew focuses on the divine fatherhood of God, and it sets the stage for Jesus' establishment of the Church as the kingdom of heaven on earth. Lectures by Fr. Matthew Kauth.

#### **The Gospel According to John**

Authors: Dr. Scott Hahn & Mark Shea

##### **Length: 28 sessions**

John is known as "the apostle whom Jesus loved" (John 20:2), and one of the three considered to be in the "Inner Circle" of Jesus' friends, along with Peter and James. His tenacity showed as John was the only apostle who was there at the foot of the cross when our Lord was crucified. Through the expert exegesis of Scott Hahn and Mark Shea you will be led through the multi-layered writings of St. John and discover much more than you probably ever realized about this Gospel. Lectures by Fr. Patrick Winslow.

## The Acts of the Apostles

Author: Steve Ray

### Length: 28 sessions

This is the Birth of the Church - the completion of the story of Jesus as manifested in the life of the early Church - Christ's Mystical Body on earth. Some highlights of this book include Jesus' Ascension, replacing Judas; Pentecost; Peter's primacy; miracles and the spread of the Gospel by the Apostles; growth of the first Christian community around Peter; Stephen, the first Christian martyr; Saul the persecutor of Christians and his miraculous conversion; the first Church council; the mission. Lectures by Fr. Patrick Winslow

## 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians

Author: Steve Ray

### Length: 28 sessions (combined)

In Paul's Letters to Corinthians he addresses ongoing problems experienced in the Church at Corinth. These problems included dissension, immorality, lawsuits, liturgical abuses and their tendency to fall prey to "false teachers". Paul tackles each of these problems with his typical spiritual zeal, strengthening their faith and commitment to build up the Body of Christ. Two thousand years later, as we struggle with much the same problems, Paul's words of wisdom are both pertinent and valuable

## Paul's Letter to the Romans

Authors: Dr. Scott Hahn & Mark Shea

### Length: 25 lessons (book based with DVD lecture)

This is probably the most difficult of all St. Paul's letters as well as the single most disputed Biblical book between Catholics and Protestants. This book written by St. Paul is the book from which Martin Luther built his doctrine of "justification by faith alone". Luther twisted St. Paul's words to fit his own false teaching and even added (in his Lutheran Bible) the word "alone" to Romans 3:28 in his attempt to further enhance his doctrine of "Sola Fide" (meaning that by faith alone we are saved).

## The Book of Revelation

Authors: Dr. Scott Hahn & Mark Shea

### Length: 20 sessions

The last book of the New Testament is also probably the most difficult and misunderstood book of the Bible. Our Revelation study includes a 5-lesson supplement series on the book, 'Will Catholics Be 'Left Behind' by Carl E. Olson, which examines the false notion of a secret "rapture," and the best-selling "Left Behind" books. Learn the true story about the theories promoted by this popular phenomenon. Lectures by Fr. Matthew Kauth

## SHORTER STUDIES

*The following are short studies designed for individual or group use and do not include online resources. These studies vary in length and may or may not have a DVD component.*

## Hebrews

Authors: Dr. Scott Hahn & Mark Shea

### Length: 16 lessons

Hebrews is written to Jewish converts, who, because of persecutions, as well as fear and doubts about their Christian faith, are tempted to revert back to traditional Judaism and its Temple-centered worship. This epistle aims to keep these Jewish Christians in the fold by stressing the failure of the Old Covenant; that the rituals of sacrificing animals has been replaced by the superiority of the New Covenant of Jesus Christ who is the true sacrificial lamb who shed His blood for us. The New Covenant does what the Old Covenant could not do: free us from sin. Lectures by Fr. Mitch Pacwa.

## James

Authors: Dr. Scott Hahn & Mark Shea

### Length: 12 lessons

The epistle of James deals with a variety of themes, with an emphasis on practical aspects of the Christian life. Some topics covered in this epistle include how to handle trials and temptations, understanding the relation between faith and works, how to tame our tongues, being a friend of God rather than a friend of the world, and the value of humility, patience and prayer. James challenges followers of Christ to not just "talk the talk" but to "walk the walk". This epistle also shows that faith alone cannot save us because it is not verified by the works that always accompany true faith. Lectures by Fr. Scott Courtney.

## Paul's Letter to the Ephesians

Authors: Dr. Scott Hahn & Mark Shea

### Length: 10 lessons (book based)

Many say that there is no other New Testament epistle that expresses Christian truths in such a majestic way. The instructions to husbands and wives in Ephesians 5:21-33 is a topic of much confusion and consternation in modern times. Find out how this challenging teaching is not only liberating, but is a portrait of the Church's participation in the life of the Blessed Trinity.

## Amos

Author: Cindy Morales

### Length: 6 lessons (book based)

Amos would have probably referred to himself as a "nobody". He was a fruit picker and shepherd who lacked any formal or religious education, yet he was called by God for an important mission. Just when Israel thought they were doing great and living the "good life", God had Amos deliver a message of impending doom and gloom. Find out how very relevant that same message is to us today and what changes we might need to make in our own lives. This study has 6 chapters/lessons and includes a separate set of answers to study questions.

# Thematic Topical

*These studies focus on a particular theme or topic in the Bible instead of a specific book.*

## ADVENT STUDIES

Catholic Scripture Study International

### Advent Preparing for Christ Cycles A, B, C (3 separate studies)

Cindy Morales & Fr. Mitch Pacwa

### Length: 4 lessons per year (book with DVD)

The four weeks leading up to Christmas mark the beginning of the Western Church's liturgical year. The Church stresses that Advent is a time of reflection, meditation and preparation. This study will follow the Catholic Scripture Study format but will concentrate on the Sunday lectionary readings and incorporate the ancient method of Lectio Divina (praying the scriptures). To prepare each participant will read the Sunday readings along with the "Points to Ponder" commentary, answer the study questions and "pray the scriptures". During Advent we should be focused on preparing ourselves for the coming of Christ. Are we ready for the King? Are our hearts ready to receive our Savior?

## LENTEN STUDIES

### 7 Last Words of Christ

Word Among Us Press

**Length: 7 Sessions (book based)**

Rich Cleveland

This Bible study plunges into the deeper meaning and significance of each of the words uttered by Jesus as he hung on the cross. In doing so we gain perspective on the similar challenges we face in our won lives. It is an excellent resource to use during Lent or at any time of the liturgical year.

### Repentance and Forgiveness

Twenty Third Publications

**Length: 8 sessions (book based)**

Denise McGonigal

This study is an excellent resource for faith-sharing groups who desire to enrich their Lenten experience. Trace the themes of Repentance and Forgiveness through the Old and New Testaments. Allow God's grace and forgiveness to move you to forgive others. Travel the journey of personal repentance, and discover the wonder of God's mercy and forgiveness.

### Jesus' Passion: The Story of Redemptive Suffering

Catholic Scripture Study International

**Length: 5 lessons (book based with DVD option)**

Jennifer Phelps

Jesus' Passion: The Story of Redemptive Suffering is divided into five parts (5 lessons). In a group setting these five lessons would ideally be done one lesson per week. It examines the Scriptural basis of Mel Gibson's movie, The Passion of the Christ, and looks at how this powerful portrayal of the suffering and death of Jesus relates to the Bible and the teachings of the Catholic Church. Designed to be used alone or in conjunction with the movie, Jesus' Passion is suitable for individual or group study. If used in conjunction with a DVD of the movie, the study book includes instructions about how to do this, including where to stop the movie each week to correspond to the lesson.

### Lent the Road to Redemption

Catholic Scripture Study International

**Length: 6 lessons (book based with DVD)**

Six week Study based on the Sunday readings during Lent, featuring video lectures by Fr. Mitch Pacwa, SJ. Every year on the first Sunday of Lent, the Gospel reading is about Jesus going off to the wilderness, or desert, for forty days. On Ash Wednesday, we begin our own forty days in the desert. This penitential season of Lent is an intense time of spiritual renewal. The Church especially invites us to pray, fast and give alms as means of expressing our utter dependence on God who through the waters of Baptism shares His very life with us.

## MEN'S STUDIES

### Be A Man

Catholic Scripture Study International

**Length: 10 lessons (book based)**

Fr. Larry Richards

Men are rediscovering the importance of the spiritual life and Father Larry Richards is helping them do it. While some writers apply a one-size-fits-all approach to the Christian life, Father Richards draws on his many years of ministry and his own experience as a man to inspire other men. Scripture and Catechism study format.

### Boys to Men

Emmaus Road Publishing

**Length: 9 sessions (book based)**

Tim Gray & Curtis Martin

**Boys to Men** is a wonderfully thought-out study guide on the transforming power of virtue. The authors blend a variety of life experiences along with solid support gathered from Sacred Scripture and the catechism. It will help Catholic men recover the virtuous life and become authentic men of God.

## Crossing the Goal: Playbook on the Virtues

Emmaus Road Publishing

**Length: 9 sessions (book based with DVD)**

Ambramowitz, Herbeck, Patrick, Martin

Based on the tv show of the same title this series will help Catholic men grow in virtue. Not so much a Bible study per se as much as a men's group study. It shows that you are meant for greatness, but it takes strength to get there. It provides real solutions to the spiritual challenges that face men.

## WOMEN'S STUDIES

### Courageous Series

Emmaus Road Publishing

**Length: 8 sessions per study (book based)**

Stacy Mitch

Intended for individual or group study, the Courageous series examines the teaching of Sacred Scripture on women and the feminine pursuit of holiness for women of all ages and walks of life. There are four book-based studies currently available: **Courageous Women; Courageous Love, Courageous Virtue and Courageous Generosity**. Each book includes a leader's guide and study questions to help promote and direct discussion. Participants use both the Scriptures and the Catechism of the Catholic Church. Most questions are objective, leading the student to know and appreciate the teaching of the Catholic Church. Author also includes subjective matter that will encourage the reader to a healthy examination of conscience and to real-life applications

## OTHER STUDIES

### Sacraments in Scripture: Salvation History made Present

Tim Gray

**Length: 8 sessions (book based)**

This study delves into the biblical foundations of the sacraments, the seven masterpieces of God's love. You will be guided the Gospels, showing Christ's deliberate acts to inaugurate these sacred signs of the New Covenant. With review questions at the end of each chapter, this study is ideal for both groups and individual use and is perfect for learning how to answer contemporary objections to the sacraments

### Sharing Christ's Priesthood

Mike Aquilina

**Length: 6 sessions (book based)**

This Bible study shows how all Christians are sharers in Christ's priesthood. It opens the door for laity and clergy alike to grow in faith and understand their priestly role during Pope Benedict's Year for Priests. Follow Scripture's path of the natural priesthood, Jesus as the high priest and then Biblical priesthood today with the masterful weaving of history, Scripture, Tradition, and insightful discussion questions

# Teen Studies

*These studies are specifically designed for youth  
(junior and senior high school age).*

## ASCENSION PRESS BIBLE STUDY PROGRAM

**About the Program:** *The Great Adventure Bible Teen Timeline system is intentional in its layout and systematic in its communication of the Scriptures. Its unique approach—coupled with an engaging DVD video presentation and interactive workbook materials—insures that your teens' experience of the Bible will be anything but ordinary. Recorded live before a studio audience of Catholic teens and young adults, the DVDs are packed with relevant insights for young believers who are immersed in a culture of relativism and desperately in need of God's truth.*

### T3: The Teen Timeline

Mark Hart

#### **Length: 10 sessions**

Dynamic teen presenter Mark Hart makes the Bible come alive for Catholic teens by unpacking God's Word in a way they can relate to. T3 teaches teens the Bible by showing them the "big picture" of salvation history. When young students of the Bible first understand the "story," they are eager to learn more. The net result: teens begin to wrap their minds and hearts around the Scriptures. They come to see the Bible as a relevant part of their lives.

### T3 Matthew: Thy Kingdom Come

Mark Hart

#### **Length: 10 sessions**

Thy Kingdom Come picks up where The Teen Timeline left off, as Mark takes teens on an in-depth journey into the heart of God. Follow along as the group encounters the authentic Jesus of the gospels. Experience Jesus' ministry unfold through His miracles and parables. Be there as our Lord triumphantly enters into Jerusalem on His way to the cross, tomb, and resurrection.

### T3 Acts: The Keys and the Sword

Mark Hart

#### **Length: 10 sessions**

T3 Acts: The Keys and the Sword equips teens with a foundational understanding of the main characters, doctrines, events, and journeys that make up this incredible "gospel of the Holy Spirit." Your teens will forever be changed when they encounter the heroic lives of the holy men and women who dedicated their lives to spreading the good news of Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.

### T3 Revelation: The Lion and the Lamb

Mark Hart

#### **Length: 10 sessions**

In T3 Revelation: The Lion and the Lamb, Mark Hart calms the concerns and unpacks the myths about Revelation, the end times, the mark of the beast, and so much more. T3: Revelation gives your teens an invaluable foundation for understanding the book of Revelation, while pointing out its modern significance, practical application, and daily relevance to a teenager's life.

# Kid's Studies

*These studies are written for pre-school  
and elementary school children.*

## COME AND SEE SERIES

Emmaus Road Publishing

**About the Series:** Especially designed for families to do together, “Come and See” Catholic Bible Study series presents the rich heritage of the Catholic Faith in clear and simple language. With its practical direction for leaders, easy-to-use workbook format, and appealing design, this Bible study series is ideal for use in the classroom, home study, or parish catechesis. Each chapter contains:

- a Bible story
- a memory verse
- an illustration to color
- perforated pages for easy removal
- a simple craft

### Kids Friends of God

Laurie Manhardt

**Length: 23 sessions (book based)**

“Come and See” **KIDS Friends of God**, written for pre-school and early elementary school children, is fun and easy to use. The content is biblical and solidly Catholic, and teaches the Ten Commandments as well as some traditional Catholic prayers.

### Kids In the Beginning

Laurie Manhardt

**Length: 23 sessions (book based)**

**KIDS In the Beginning**, written for pre-school and early elementary school children, is fun and easy to use. The content is biblical and solidly Catholic. Follow the lives of famous Genesis biblical characters, from Adam and Eve to Noah, from Abraham to Isaac, from Jacob to Joseph.

### The Life of Jesus

Laurie Manhardt

**Length: 23 sessions (book based)**

Bring the Bible to life for young children! **The Life of Jesus**, written for pre-school and early elementary school children, is fun and easy to use. It is instructional and solidly Catholic and includes helpful aids for parent or teacher.

## ASCENSION PRESS

### The Great Adventure Kids Pack

Jeff & Emily Cavins, and Sarah Christmyer, Illustrated by Eileen McCook

**Length: 12 Time periods covered**

**Great Adventure Kids** is a dynamic new learning system designed to teach children the story of the Bible in a fun and interactive manner. This system is based on the very popular *Great Adventure* line of adult Bible study materials, which have helped hundreds of thousands of people all over the world grow in love for Sacred Scripture and make reading it a part of their daily lives. **The Great Adventure Kids Pack** contains five items (Chart, Game Set, Bible Story Coloring Book, Bookmark, and Prayer Beads) which are based on the color-coded system of the *Great Adventure* and will aid in teaching children the narrative story of salvation history. Through play, memorization, prayer, and interaction, these learning tools bring familiar Bible stories into a system where children can relate them to their own life.

# Study Bibles

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*Study Bibles provide insightful commentaries and footnotes which assist in one's understanding of the text. Some also contain study questions which are useful for individual or*

## Ignatius Study Bible (RSV version of Sacred Scripture)

Dr. Scott Hahn and Curtis Mitch

Using the Revised Standard Version Second Catholic Edition, the volumes of the Ignatius Catholic Study Bible series lead readers through an in-depth study of the books of the Bible by providing insights and commentary from Scripture scholars Scott Hahn and Curtis Mitch. In order to further deepen your personal study of God's holy Word, these volumes also **contain topical essays, word studies, study questions and charts.**

## St. John's Gospel (A Bible Study Guide and Commentary)

Stephen K. Ray

This book can serve as a basic Bible study guide for working through the Gospel of John by helping the student plumb the depths of St. John's marvelous and deeply spiritual Gospel. The study provides extensive "text boxes" with detailed information that helps students discover the cultural, religious, historical, and other information on the specific passage they are studying. It utilizes quotes for a wide range of scholars, historians, and specialists to instruct the student and give valuable insights into the background and meaning of the text. It is excellent for use by individual or groups, for families, or for schools.

## The Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture (RSV version of Sacred Scripture)

There is an increasing hunger among Catholics to study the Bible in depth and in a way that integrates Scripture with Catholic doctrine, worship, and daily life. In October 2008, a meeting of the world Synod of Bishops scheduled by Pope Benedict XVI focused on "The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church." Coinciding with that meeting was the launch of the Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture (CCSS), a series that responds to the desire of Catholics to access the living Word of God. The Gospel of Mark is the first of seventeen volumes, which will cover the entire New Testament. Written by trusted Catholic biblical scholars, these commentaries interpret Scripture in the light of Catholic tradition. Accessibly written yet substantive, the CCSS fills a gap in the available literature by offering commentaries that cover more than brief study guides but are less daunting than scholarly commentaries.

## The Catholic Study Bible (NAB version of Sacred Scripture)

The New American Bible is the translation approved by the conference of Catholic Bishops in the USA and what is in use in the liturgy. This version of the NAB comes with introductory sections to each book of the Bible. It provides maps, articles of interest and plentiful footnotes to aid the reader in understanding the literal meaning of the Sacred Scriptures.

## Bringing the Gospel of Luke to Life, Insight and Inspiration

George Martin

This book employs common sense vocabulary and concepts as the author focuses on what Luke's words meant when he wrote them, with an eye toward their meaning for our times. Special features include:

- Brief orientations preceding each section of Scripture, providing a context for understanding the biblical text.
- Lists of parallel passages in the other Gospels and related Old Testament passages for each section of Scripture.
- Questions interspersed throughout the text that indicate ways a reader might ponder and apply the Scriptures.
- Background information concerning the social, economic, political, and religious aspects of Luke's Gospel.

# Bible Tools/ Training Courses

*Helpful resources for  
forming and training Bible  
Study Leaders and*

## Prepare to Lead: Bible Study Leader's Training Course

Office of Evangelization

**Length: 9 monthly sessions (September-May)**

The Prepare to Lead Course is taught in this diocese annually. It is designed to form Bible study facilitators by offering a basic introduction to the Sacred Scriptures. The classes lay a foundation in the Catholic approach to reading and interpreting the Word of God so as to equip the participants for their work in Bible study facilitation. The topics covered in this course include: The Origins and Structure of the Bible, The Senses of Scripture, The Literary Genres, Key Old and New Testament Concepts, The Geography of the Bible, Interpretation, Inspiration and Inerrancy, the Canon of Scripture, The Narrative Approach of Scripture, Lectio Divina, Bible Study Tools, etc. **Course locations, registration information and schedules can be obtained by contacting the Office of Evangelization.**

## The Light and The Lens: Understanding Scripture and Tradition

Ignatius Press

**Leader's and participant's books plus reproducible CD**

Mark Shea and Diane Erickson

Despite the fact that the Church teaches that "access to sacred Scripture ought to be wide open to the Christian faithful," many Catholics feel intimidated, skeptical, or even a bit fearful to begin a serious study of the Bible and don't know how to start. Catholics are taking to Scripture in greater numbers. As they do, they make the surprising discovery that the Bible is a thoroughly Catholic book!

In The Light and the Lens Leader's Guide in the Catholic Faith Explorers series, participants will learn:

- how revelation has been handed down in both written and unwritten form: Scripture and Tradition
- where we got the Bible
- how the covenants in the Old Testament lead us to the new and everlasting covenant of the New Testament – Jesus Christ
- about the role of Scripture in the Church and guidelines for sensible scripture reading, and that
- Scripture is vital to our life as disciples of Jesus Christ.

## The Invitation: An Introduction to the New Testament

Fr. James P. O'Bryan

**Length: 6 sessions (leaders and participant books & audio CDs)**

**St. Joseph Society for the Propagation of the Word**

This is a lecture series which provides a wealth of information that a new Bible study student/facilitator will find informative. As a summary it hits the high points. It contains the complete lectures as well as summary notes and lesson questions.

# Bible Study References

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## Dei Verbum

Pope Paul VI

*Dei Verbum* is the official Vatican title for the Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation. *Dei Verbum*, translated from Latin, literally means God's Word. It is one of the principal documents of the Second Vatican Council. In it, the Council Fathers present Church teaching concerning ways in which God has chosen to reveal Himself to mankind; the nature of Sacred Scripture and sacred Tradition; and the manner in which God has provided for the interpretation and preservation of His revelation without error for all time.

## Verbum Domini

Pope Benedict XVI

*Verbum Domini*, translated from Latin, literally means the Word of the Lord. It is a post-synodal apostolic exhortation which deals with how the Catholic Church should approach the Bible. It was issued following the XII Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops to discuss "The Word of God in the Life and Mission of the Church."

## The Catechism of the Catholic Church

The Catholic Church

The Catechism is a complete summary of what Catholics throughout the world believe in common. It draws on the Bible, the Mass, the Sacraments, Church tradition and teaching, and the lives of saints. It comes with a complete index, footnotes and cross-references for a fuller understanding of every subject. Using the tradition of explaining what the Church believes (the Creed), what she celebrates (the Sacraments), what she lives (the Commandments), and what she prays (the Lord's Prayer), the Catechism of the Catholic Church offers challenges for believers and answers for all those interested in learning about the mystery of the Catholic faith.

## Catholic Bible Dictionary

Dr. Scott Hahn

A Biblical reference guide, written specifically for Catholics by Scott Hahn, internationally recognized theologian and Biblical scholar. It contains more than five thousand clear and accessible entries and covers a wide range of people, places, and topics. From Genesis to Revelation, the whole of salvation history is presented and explained in smart, easy-to-understand prose.

## Dictionary of the Bible

Fr. John McKenzie, S.J.

A single-volume Catholic dictionary of the Bible written by respected Catholic Biblical scholar John L. McKenzie S. J. It is a standard reference work, providing concise descriptions of biblical characters, terms, and places, as well as pertinent illustrations and charts.

## The Didache Series: Understanding the Scriptures Semester Edition

Dr. Scott Hahn, Midwest Theological Forum

This book presents a Catholic approach to Scripture, highlighting the theme of covenant. Tracing a path through salvation history, the book explains the various books of the Bible and the importance of each event in salvation history. Understanding the Scriptures: Semester Edition will provide an understanding of Sacred Scripture so critical to the Catholic Faith.

### **The Didache Series: Faith and Revelations Semester Edition**

**Dr. Scott Hahn, Midwest Theological Forum**

This book presents a basic understanding of Sacred Scripture as the inspired Word of God. It examines both the Old and New Testaments with particular attention focused on the Gospels as the message of Jesus Christ. This text also explains how to read and reference the Bible.

### **Inside the Bible**

**Kenneth Baker**

An introduction to each of the 73 books of the Bible designed to help the reader grow in the knowledge and love of God's Word. The introduction to each book includes the time frame and author, the theme, a summary of the contents and some comments about the context in which it was written, the theology of the book, an outline, and a prayer taken from the book. By giving this concise introduction to each book of the Bible, Fr. Baker provides quick access to essential information the daily or occasional reader of sacred scripture should find helpful.

### **The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible**

**Dr. James Strong**

A classic word-and-verse reference for more than a century, Nelson's improved edition sets the standard. It's completely updated with easy-to-read modern type and extra Bible study aids, including a 200-page topical index, the famous Hebrew and Greek dictionaries, and convenience features such as pronunciation guides, the words of Christ emphasized, and Nelson's Fan-Tab Thumb Index System.

### **Pocket Guide to the Bible**

**Dr. Scott Hahn**

This guide is a perfect how-to for easy and fast Scripture reference and comprehension. Using straightforward, accessible language, Scott Hahn explains the nuts and bolts of the Bible, how it came to be, the types of literature found within it, and the thrust of each book in a handy, yet thorough way that demystifies the Bible and simplifies understanding. This resource is also available as a pamphlet under the "Faith Charts" series from Our Sunday Visitor.