

## BIB-030: Exploring God's Word

### Lifelong Learning Online Course Syllabus

**Instructor:** Dr. Rick Yohn  
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**Target Audience:** Students of God's Word  
**Course Access:** [ce-connect.fresno.edu](http://ce-connect.fresno.edu)

**Course Description:** If someone were to ask you why you believe the Bible is the revealed Word of God, what would you tell them? And if you were asked to put in the proper chronological order the following names: David, Moses, Isaac, Jeremiah, Daniel, Methuselah, and Caleb, how do you think you would do? Well, if you are like 99.5% of the Christian population, you would probably experience some anxiety and struggle in the process.

Many Christians know the New Testament fairly well, but for most, the Old Testament is a mystery. We all know the story of David and Goliath, Daniel in the Lion's den, Noah and the flood, and Jonah in the belly of the great fish. However, if we were asked to put the stories in their proper sequential order, we would most likely fall short of the challenge. Furthermore, though we are familiar with the Four Gospels and the Epistles, what about the Book of Acts? What's that all about?

After you have completed this course, you will be able to (1) Give a great defense for why you can trust your Bible (2) Think your way through the entire Old and New Testaments, and (3) Explain to others why we have the Book of Acts between the Gospels and Epistles.

No longer will you think in terms of individual stories in the Bible. After taking this course, you will be able to connect the dots and see the "whole" of God's Story from Genesis to Revelation.

In the second half of the course, you will learn how to study the Bible for yourself. You will learn the skills of observation, interpretation and application. You will understand what it means to develop a Biblical worldview, a personal quiet time with God, and strategies for winning the war against sin.

**Required Texts and Course Materials:** Other than a Bible, there is no required textbook for this course. There is a leader's guide, which is provided free with the course. It can be downloaded from the course itself. Relevant online resources that support the course content and encourage further investigation will be available throughout the course assignments. Active hyperlinks are utilized throughout the course and will link to the appropriate information when clicked. These include videos, podcasts, worksheets, online activities, journal articles and other resources.

**Course Dates:** Self-paced; students may enroll at any time and take up to one year, from the date of registration, to complete assignments.

## Course Student Learning Outcomes (C-SLO)

<b>Student Learning Outcomes for This Course</b>	
By the end of this course student will be able to:	
C-SLO 1	Identify several evidences for the authenticity of the Bible.
C-SLO 2	Describe three flows of thought that are found throughout the Old and New Testaments.
C-SLO 3	Summarize the major events of the Old and New Testament in chronological order.
C-SLO 4	Provide an overview of the four gospel accounts of Jesus' ministry.
C-SLO 5	Describe the organization of the books of the Old and New Testaments.
C-SLO 6	Recognize the flow of three major themes throughout the Old and New Testaments
C-SLO 7	Develop a personal quiet time with God.

## Topics, Assignments, and Activities

Module Title	Module Assignments and Activities
<b>Welcome Section</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction video</li> <li>• Course Syllabus</li> <li>• Introduce Yourself Forum</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 1 –</b> The Trustworthiness of the Bible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson 1 Overview</li> <li>• Review the Leader's Guide for Lesson 1</li> <li>• Watch Evidence #1 Biblical Manuscripts</li> <li>• Watch Evidence #2 Archaeology</li> <li>• Watch Evidence #3 Fulfilled Prophecy &amp; Statistics</li> <li>• Knowledge Check #1: Trustworthiness of the Bible</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 2 –</b> The Unifying Themes of the Bible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson 2 Overview</li> <li>• Review Leader's Guide for Lesson 2</li> <li>• Watch Theme 1: The Scarlet Stream of Sin</li> <li>• Watch Theme 2: The Crimson Tide of Blood</li> <li>• Watch Theme 3: The River of Life – Jesus Christ</li> <li>• Knowledge Check #2: The Three Flows of Thought</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 3 –</b> An Overview of the Old Testament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson 3 Overview</li> <li>• Review Leader's Guide for Lesson 3</li> <li>• Watch Part 1: Introduction to the Old Testament</li> <li>• Watch Part 2: The Story of Mankind</li> <li>• Watch Part 3: The Settlement of Israel</li> <li>• Watch Part 4: The Kingdom &amp; Exile Periods of Israel</li> <li>• Watch Part 5: The Triumphal Return of Israel</li> <li>• Knowledge Check #3: The Old Testament</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 4 –</b> An Overview of the New Testament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson 4 Overview</li> <li>• Review Leader's Guide for Lesson 4</li> <li>• Watch Part 1: An Overview of the Gospels</li> <li>• Watch Part 2: An Overview of Jesus' Ministry</li> <li>• Watch Part 3: The Story about Jesus &amp; His Church</li> <li>• Knowledge Check #4: The New Testament</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 5 –</b> Exploring the Bible Yourself	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson 5 Overview</li> <li>• Review Leader's Guide for Lesson 5</li> <li>• Watch Video 1: Why Study the Bible?</li> <li>• Watch Video 2: Requirements for Personal Bible Study</li> <li>• Watch Video 3: Inductive &amp; Deductive Bible Study</li> <li>• Watch Video 4 Observation Skills with God's Word</li> </ul>

Module Title	Module Assignments and Activities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowledge Check #5: Exploring the Bible Yourself</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 6 –</b> Exploring Deeper into God’s Word	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson 6 Overview</li> <li>• Review Leader’s Guide for Lesson 6</li> <li>• Watch Video 5: Interpretation Strategies</li> <li>• Watch Video 6: Context &amp; Cross-References</li> <li>• Watch Video 7: Understanding the Culture</li> <li>• Watch Video 8: Finding Applications</li> <li>• Knowledge Check #6: Exploring Deeper</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 7 –</b> Developing a Biblical Worldview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson 7 Overview</li> <li>• Review Leader’s Guide for Lesson 7</li> <li>• Watch Video 9: Introduction to Worldview</li> <li>• Watch Video 10: Biblical Worldview</li> <li>• Watch Video 11: Incorrect Worldviews in the Church</li> <li>• Watch Video 12: How to Develop a Biblical Worldview</li> <li>• Knowledge Check #7: Developing a Biblical Worldview</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 8 –</b> Meeting with God	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson 8 Overview</li> <li>• Review Leader’s Guide for Lesson 8</li> <li>• Watch Video 13: Why Develop a Quiet Time</li> <li>• Watch Video 14: Meeting with God</li> <li>• Watch Video 15: Resources for Your Quiet Time</li> <li>• Watch Video 16: Using the ACTS Acronym</li> <li>• My Walk with God Plan</li> </ul>
<b>Lesson 9 –</b> Winning the War	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lesson 9 Overview</li> <li>• Review Leader’s Guide for Lesson 9</li> <li>• Watch Video 17: Introduction to Winning the War</li> <li>• Watch Video 18: Dealing with Our Sinful Nature</li> <li>• Watch Video 19: Beating the World System</li> <li>• Watch Video 20: Defeating the Enemy</li> <li>• Knowledge Check #9: Winning the War</li> </ul>
<b>Course Wrap-up</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final Reflection Forum</li> <li>• Course Evaluation</li> <li>• Course Completion Checklist</li> <li>• Request a Certificate</li> </ul>

**Instructor/Student Contact Information:** This course does not provide direct instructor contact. Assignments are only included in the course to help students process the information learned.

**Requesting a Certificate of Completion:** When all work for the course has been completed, students will need to email [prof.dev@fresno.edu](mailto:prof.dev@fresno.edu) to request a Certificate of Completion. Please allow at least two weeks for the certificate to be sent.

**University Policies and Procedures:** Students are responsible for becoming familiar with and observe all policies and procedures related to their participation in the university community. A summary of university policies may be found on the university website at <https://ce.fresno.edu/lifelong-learning-policies-and-procedures>.