

I Know Absolutely Nothing About The Bible

By: Pastor Jim Hagen

An Introduction

A number of years ago a study showed that many of the people applying for acceptance into Luther Seminary did not know the basic stories of the bible. These were people who felt called to serve God but hadn't grown up in the church or who had little or no contact with the bible. In response Luther Seminary implemented a crash course that all students entering the Seminary had to complete and pass before their first year of study.

Many in the church assume people in the pews know their bibles. The reality is that many do not. People may have heard of the people and events that are recorded in the bible but they can't retell the stories. This study is designed to give you a general overview of some of the major players in the bible and what they did. It is not meant to teach you everything about every story. It is my hope that by giving you a quick glimpse your appetite will be wet for more.

Resources

The Bible: There are many different versions of the bible to choose from. Some are easier to read (The Good News Bible; TEV) than others (The King James Bible; KJV). For this study I will be using the version that Elim has in its pews (The New Revised Standard Version; NRSV). I personally also like the New International Version (NIV) and it is the bible that we give to our Sunday School students.

“Enter The Bible”: An online bible study produced by Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. A link to “Enter The Bible” can be found on Elim’s website.

The Elim Library: The church library has many commentaries on the bible that can help you in your study.