**VANCOUVER CHINESE EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT**

**ADULT SECTION**

COURSE OUTLINE

Course: The Bible and How to Read It

Objectives: *The Bible and How to Read It* is the first course for reading the Bible for understanding. It consists of two parts. The first part examines the nature of the Bible (the Old and the New Testaments) itself—addressing the topics on what is Bible, who wrote it, and how was the Bible transmitted to us, etc. In the light of its very nature, the second part explains how the Bible should be read for understanding, as Apostle Paul instructs Timothy [that he]*: “. . .correctly handles the word of truth.” (2Ti 2:15).* As the Bible is an ancient literature that was written over two thousands of years ago, under the providence of the Holy Spirit, modern readers must approach it with humility and deference.

Reference:

1. Bruce, F. F., *The Book and the Parchments*, Old Tappan: New Jersey, Fleming H. Revell Co., 1963.
2. Robert A. Traina, *Methodical Bible Study*, Asbury Theological Seminary, 1952.
3. R.C. Sproul, *Knowing Scripture*, Downers Groves IL: Inter Varsity Press, 1977.
4. Gordon Fee, Douglas Stuart, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*, Grand Rapids: Academie Book, 1982.
5. Dyck, Elmer ed., *The Act of Bible Reading*, Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1996.
6. Gordon Fee, *New Testament Exegesis*, Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1983.
7. John H. Hayes, Carl R. Holladay, Biblical Exegesis: A Beginner's Handbook, Atlanta: John Know Press, 1987.
8. Peter Leithart, *Deep Exegesis: The Mystery of Reading Scripture,* Waco, Texas: Baylor University Press, 2009.
9. John J. O'Keefe and R. R. Reno, *Sanctified Vision: An Introduction to Early Christian Interpretation of the Bible*, Baltimore, Maryland Johns Hopkins University Press, 2005.
10. Hill, Edmund O. P., trans., *Teaching Christianity* (*De Doctrina Christiana*), in *Works of St. Augustine*, *A Translation for the 21st Century* I/11 edited by John E. Rotelle. Hyde Park, NY: New City Press, 1996.
11. Oletta Ward, *The Joy of Discovery in Bible Study*, Revised Edition, Augsburg, Minneapolis, 1975.
12. Hall, Christopher A., *Reading Scripture with the Church Fathers*, Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1998.
13. Kevin J. Vanhoozer, Gen. Editor, *Theological Interpretation of the Old Testament: A Book-by-Book Survey*, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Academic, 2008.

Term: Fall, 2021.

 Session Topic

1. Sep 05 Introduction and How was the Bible Written and Transmitted
2. Sep 12 Biblical Languages
3. Sep 19 The Two Testament and the Form of the Bible
4. Sep 26 Canonicity
5. Oct 03 Septuagint (The Greek Old Testament)
6. Oct 10 Apocrypha
7. Oct 17 Translations and Paraphrases
8. Oct 24 The Reader
9. Oct 31 An Outline of the Exegetical / Hermeneutical (Bible study)

 Process

1. Nov 07 Historical Context
2. Nov 14 Literary Context
3. Nov 21 Observations and Grammatical Analysis
4. Nov 28 Interpretations and Summarization