


Bible Study Resources for Adult Education and Formation



The **Focus Bible Series** is designed for individual or group study and reflection as well as adult classes, small groups and midweek Bible study. Each of the studies' twelve sections begins with a brief synopsis of the passage and a *Find the Facts* section, which can help in preparation to study the scripture. Commentary is offered for background and contextual information and suggestions for personal reflection or group discussion on a variety of levels is offered:


- *Interpretation*: What is the author's meaning in the passage?
- *Application*: How does the author's message apply to contemporary Christianity?
- *Reflection*: How is this God's message to me? to my family? to our community?

Books in the series:

- **Focus on John** by Dr. Stanley H. Purdam & Kathleen Mulhern
- **Focus on Luke** by The Rev. Robert J. O'Neill & Carol Cheney Donahoe
- **Focus on Matthew** by Carol Cheney Donahoe
- **Focus on Mark** by Robert L. Schwenk

From ***Living the Good News***


http://www.morehouseeducation.org/ep_adults.htm




Living the Good News is a lectionary-based program that is available in RCL and Episcopal (BCP) versions. Leader's Guides and Adult Scripture Journals provide activities, readings and suggestions for enrichment often based on fine art, music and literature. The Journals provide an opportunity to prepare at home to share the scripture readings when gathered weekly in a session. Posters and an Enhanced CD set contains an Audio Disc with music keyed to lesson materials and an Interactive Disc with scripture backgrounds, power-point meditations with music and on-line links to graphics, viewable fine art and more. Each of the Sunday readings (OT, Psalm and Gospel) is included in each weekly session.

From ***Morehouse Education Resources***

<http://www.morehouseeducation.org>






Conversations with Scripture (Anglican Association of Biblical Scholars) is a study series that focuses on exploring the historical and critical background of a book of the Bible, as well as how the text which was written centuries ago can still speak to us today. Written in accessible language and sensitive to those who have little or no experience in reading the Bible, each book in the series is written by a different biblical scholar. For individual or group reading and study, each book has study questions for each chapter and further reading suggestions.


- **Revelation** (Frederick W. Schmidt) explores the meaning of “revelation” in three chapters and then delves into The Revelation of John for the remaining three.
- **The Law** (Kevin A. Wilson) explores the first five books of the Bible with fresh insights on how God’s Torah speaks contains guidelines for ethical behavior and helped shape a covenant community as told in Exodus and Leviticus that can have meaning for us today.
- **The Gospel of John** (Cynthia Briggs Kittredge) encourages an open and inclusive reading of this paradoxical Gospel that stresses boundaries while also lifting up the meaning of community.
- **The Parables** (William Brosend) explores the beauty and richness of Jesus’ parables for 21st century Christians by looking at them in categories of growth, seeking, judgment and decision.
- **The Gospel of Mark** (Marcus Borg) to be released in Fall 2008

From **Church Publishing Inc.**
<http://www.churchpublishing.org>



Synthesis CE is a weekly resource that includes well-researched commentary on all aspects of the Episcopal Sunday liturgy including exegesis, tradition, culture, hymnody and postscript that offers theological reflection. Patterned after Synthesis, a weekly resource for sermon preparation in the Episcopal tradition.

From **Synthesis**
<http://www.synthesispub.com/index-2.html>



The Bible Workbench is a lectionary Bible study that involves exploration of the Sunday's readings through commentary, parallel readings from literature, questions and journaling exercises. Purchased by subscription (individually or bulk-rate) quarterly or annually, it is hole-punched and ready to be placed in a notebook. For individual or group study, exercises include art response choices.

From **The Educational Center** in St. Louis, Missouri
<http://www.bibleworkbench.com>



The Kerygma Program was founded in 1977 with one course of study and has continued to provide quality resources for those who wish to stimulate their faith and challenging their mind. Together, participants and leaders:

- Learn the basics and complexities of the Bible
- Develop skills for interpreting Scripture
- Apply learning from the Bible to personal and corporate life in today's world

Kerygma studies are for all learners, from beginning to advanced, depending on the topic and course of study chosen. The Leader's Guide is designed to create opportunities that stimulate discussion and illuminate the Biblical material through small group encounters with informed personal study between sessions. Courses come in a variety of lengths, from yearlong studies to short term studies of 4-8 sessions. Some examples:

- *Year long:* Discovering the Bible, The Bible in Depth, The Bible and Theology
- *Short term:* The Acts of the Apostles, Amos & Hosea, Beginnings (Genesis), Blessed are You (Beatitudes), The Commandments, Exodus, God is Faithful (themes of the Bible), Job, Handel's Messiah & the Bible and more

From **Church Publishing Inc.**
<http://www.churchpublishing.org>



Lesson Plans for Small Congregations is a simple, free, downloadable lectionary based lesson plan curriculum that usually follows the Gospel of the day. Background information and a list of discussion questions for adults are given.

From **The Episcopal Church**
www.ecusa.anglican.org/50534_ENG-HTML.htm

