GOALS

1. GET A GRASP OF THE BIBLE’S STORYLINE AND SEE IT THROUGHOUT

2. HAVE TOOLS TO READ WHOLE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE AND HANDLE DIFFICULT SECTIONS OF SCRIPTURE

3. EQUIP. FOR THE SAKE MISSION/PASSION/DEVOTION.
WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

- SUPERNATURAL SELF-REVELATION OF HIS STORY
- 66 BOOKS SHOWING GOD AS CREATOR - REDEEMER - KING
- MISSIONARY DOCUMENT.
- LUKE 24:27
Exegesis

What is God saying to us?

Exegesis vs. Eisegesis
Understanding the Story

Tools:

1. Prayer
2. Questions
3. Big Idea/Author’s Intent
4. God-Centered
5. What’s Our Role?
6. How Does This Change the World?
THE PENTATEUCH

FIVE BOOKS
GENESIS, EXODUS, LEVITICUS, NUMBERS, DEUTERONOMY

ONE STORY
Pentateuch as a Foundation

“These commandments... are to be upon your hearts. Impress them... Talk about them... Tie them... and bind them... Write them...” (Deut 6:6-9)

“Do not let this Book of the Law depart from your mouth; meditate on it day and night... Then you will be prosperous and successful” (Josh 1:8)

“But his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night... Whatever he does prospers” (Ps 1:2-3)
TORAH STORY

- God promises a people and a place (Gen. 12-15)
- Forms a people (Gen 21-50)
- Delivers the people (Exodus 1-15)
- Covenants with the people (Exodus 19- Numbers 10)
- The people rebel (Numbers 11-25)
- God is faithful in the midst of the people's faithlessness (Numbers 26-36)
- The covenant is renewed (Deuteronomy)

Pentateuch ends with God's people about to enter God's place
Pentateuch as a Framework

*Historical Framework*

- Genesis closes in Egypt with Jacob’s blessing on his twelve sons; Exodus opens with the twelve tribes in Egypt.
- Exodus closes with God’s presence filling the tabernacle at Sinai; Leviticus opens with God speaking to Moses from inside the tabernacle at Sinai.
- Leviticus closes with regulations for worship; Numbers opens with the tribes worshiping God at Sinai.
- Numbers closes with the Israelites in Moab; Deuteronomy opens with the Israelites in Moab.
PENTATEUCH: NARRATIVE

- NOT A COLLECTION OF MORALITY PLAYS
- NOT MERE HISTORY/CHRONOLOGY
  - THESE PAST STORIES ARE MEANT TO MEAN SOMETHING FOR US IN THE PRESENT
- NOT ALLEGORIES.

- WHOLE PENTATEUCH IS IN A SENSE ONE BIG NARRATIVE.
- WHAT PART DOES THIS PLAY IN THE STORY?
PENTATEUCH: NARRATIVE

- Usually more implicit than explicit

-Look for:
- Narrative prominence
- Direct/stylized speech
- Comments on the action
- Conclusions (i.e. Gen. 50:20)

- Who is the main character in the Pentateuch narrative? God is.
PENTATEUCH: LAW

-GENRE IS NOT UNIQUE, BUT THE AUTHOR IS.

HOW DO WE APPEASE THE GODS?

"MANKIND, EVERYONE THAT EXISTS—WHAT DOES HE KNOW? WHETHER HE IS COMMITTING SIN OR DOING GOOD, HE DOES NOT EVEN KNOW."

- A PRAYER TO EVERY GOD
PENTATEUCH: LAW

- The law is gracious.
- The law is not arbitrary but is rooted in the character of God (Lev. 11:44-45, 19:1)
- The law is given monotheistically.
PENTATEUCH: THE LAW TODAY

ANCIENT LAW

× THINK ABOUT PORK

MODERN PRACTICE

PRINCIPLE

CONCEPT OF GOD
PENTATEUCH: THE LAW TODAY

1 TIMOTHY 1:8-11
-TORAH IS GOOD, IF USED PROPERLY.
PENTATEUCH: LAW

GOD, WITHOUT NEED, INITIATES THE LAW AND BOUND HIMSELF TO THEM AS THEIR GOD.

THE LAW REVEALS HIMSELF, BRINGS HIS PRESENCE TO DWELL WITH THEM, AND ALLOWS FOR CONTINUING RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN GOD AND MAN.
PENTATEUCH: GENESIS

CREATION
- NOT HERE TO ARGUE MATERIAL ORIGINS
- RATHER, GOD IS SEEN WITH INTENTION AND SOVEREIGN ABILITY TO DWELL WITH HIS PEOPLE.

FALL (GEN. 3-11)
- HOW CAN IT BE REDEEMED?

ELECTION/COVENANT (GEN. 12-50)
- GEN 12:2-3
PENTATEUCH: EXODUS

EXODUS (EX. 1-14)
- NAME OF YHWH IS GIVEN.
- PLAGUES ATTACK PANTHEON OF EGYPTIAN GODS.
- A PEOPLE FORMING EVENT (GOD REMEMBERED, ALSO EX. 6:7)

SINAI (EX. 20-40)
- DECALOGUE
- TABERNACLE (GOD’S PRESENCE IS BACK)

KINGDOM AND PRIESTS: EX. 19:6

TALK ABOUT GOLDEN CALF IF TIME PERMITS
PENTATEUCH: LEVITICUS

ALL AT SINAI
- CENTER OF PENTATEUCH.

PRESENCE OF GOD IS MAIN THEME.
GOD’S PRESENCE IS PRESERVED THROUGH HOLINESS

SACRED SPACE, STATUS, TIME.

LEV. 26:3, 11-12
PENTATEUCH: NUMBERS

BEGIN JOURNEY TO PROMISE LAND

DISOBEDIENCE/REBELLION.
- FAITHLESSNESS. (NUM. 11-25)

GOD’S FAITHFULNESS
- SPARES NEXT GENERATION
- BALAAM
- CAUSES GROUP TO GROW

NUMBERS ENDS WITH PEOPLE OF GOD, 40 YEARS OLDER, STANDING ON EDGE OF PROMISED LAND.
PENTATEUCH: DEUTERONOMY

- SECOND LAW

-SHEMA (DEUT. 6:4-5)
  - THE HEART BEHIND ALL THE LAW

-INSTRUCTIONS FOR ENTERING PROMISED LAND

- DEUT. 29:13, 27:9
PENTATEUCH: SUMMARY

- Will God redeem the world?
- How will God redeem the world?

The Torah story is about YHWH revealing Himself so that people can enjoy His presence in the world, His temple.
PENTATEUCH: SUMMARY

- CREATION
- TABERNACLE/TEMPLE
- JESUS
- CHURCH
- NEW CREATION
PENTATEUCH: A COUPLE APPLICATIONS

- God is faithful. Redemption is his idea.
- YHWH alone is God.
- We need Jesus
- Holiness matters
- The Church as revelatory agent