

New Adult Bible Classes

When I return next week I will be starting two new Bible studies. I would encourage you to read the descriptions below and consider participation in these uplifting studies.

Sunday Morning Adult Bible Class

Theme: *The Second Coming and Afterlife*

Purpose: To understand biblical teachings on the Second Coming of Jesus and the afterlife, and to find encouragement in the promises associated with this important theme.

Description: This study will consider specific Bible passages that, on the surface, appear to deal with the Second Coming of Christ and the afterlife. From those passages the study will branch out to consider a variety of topics as they relate to the theme, for example:

Heaven	Resurrection
Hell	Judgment
Hades	The End of Time
Eternal life	The Last Days
Eternal condemnation	

The study will include instruction on identifying and understanding terminology associated with these topics. Providing a rich source of instruction on the Second Coming and afterlife, relevant prophecy, parables, and biblical poetry will be addressed in relation to the theme.

This study will be of value to everyone. The fundamental teachings will be accessible to those young in the faith, yet there will also be more challenging material for those who have

been Christians for many years. And just so you know, there may be a few surprises.

You can begin your preparation by reading 1 Corinthians 15 and by thinking about specific passages that address the Second Coming and the afterlife.

Sunday Evening Adult Bible Study

Theme: *Jesus: Rabbi, Messiah*

Description:

What is the 'abomination of desolations'? Why did Jesus use *parables*? What are *beatitudes* and what do they mean to us today? How can we use the temptations of Jesus to equip ourselves?

This will be a study of the Gospel of Matthew. Like all gospel writers Matthew set out to show that Jesus of Nazareth was the Son of God. However, unique to Matthew is the focus he gives to Jesus as Rabbi and prophesied Messiah. Writing to a Jewish audience steeped in scripture, many assumptions of the religious elite were challenged, not by a 'sage on the stage,' but rather, a humble stranger from Nazareth who taught as much through his daily walk as through his spoken word. What message will carry forward from the Master Teacher to us today?

Prepare for this class by reading the first several chapters of Matthew in one sitting.

Mark Stinnett