



Description of Roots Classes:

Roots Core Classes:

Introduction to the Old Testament Story - This class is a survey of the Old Testament story, its major themes, books, and the theology that we take from it. The idea of the course is to give us a framework and helpful resources for the future study of the Old Testament.

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Core Christian Beliefs - Whether you are new in your faith or have been following Jesus for years, this class is for you. The student will be connected to the core of our Christian beliefs through scripture, community, and discussion, giving foundation and strength to their love of and relationship with Jesus.

Introduction to Church History - This class is a survey of the story of Christianity, and how the church has been used by God through out history. We can only know who we are if we understand where we came from. We will travel through history taking a look at major cultural shifts, church changes, and influences to see that our faith is an ancient and grounded one. **Intro to Spiritual Formation** - This class will focus on our journey toward spiritual formation. Formation, like the forming of a pot from clay, brings to mind shaping and molding . . . helping something with potential become something actual. From the Christian perspective, formation refers to the process by which the inner-life of a believer becomes more like Christ.

Holy Spirit Living - Many times the Holy Spirit seems to be a part of our faith that seems elusive, hard to recognize in our life at times. Yet we want to be followers of Jesus that are guided by his Spirit. Join in with us for this class as we use scripture to understand better the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives and how we can live Spirit filled lives.

How to Live Your Life on a Mission - To follow Jesus is to be on a mission. Jesus' last words to us was to go unto all the world and make disciples. However we have allowed ourselves to be deceived into believing that this is for the "professionals" and not for us. This class will help us see ourselves as missionaries while giving us real tools to live on a mission in all of our lives.

Sacred Pathways: Discovering Your Soul's Path to Better Connect with God - Do you feel like you have a hard time spending time with God? Do you feel like your spiritual life is dry and unfruitful? Do you find yourself envious of the way that some other people connect with God? This Roots Class will help you understand all the different ways that people can connect to God, and show you the value of each and every path. Instead of trying to imitate another person's walk with God, you should focus on bettering your own "sacred pathway." This class is based on the book, *Sacred Pathways*, written by Gary Thomas.

Money Matters- This class will present easily understood and biblically-based concepts regarding money and budgeting, including its place in the lives of Christ-followers. Participants should come prepared with an accurate count of their income, monthly and expected one-time expenses, and all debts.

Being a Peacemaker: Living a Reconciled Life - This course uses *The Peacemaker* by Ken Sande to guide participants through practical biblical guidance for conflict resolution, leading to living lives of reconciliation.

Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts - God has given each of us gifts to be used for his plan and for the encouragement of his church. However, many of us don't know what those gifts are, or what it means to have spiritual gifts. In this class we will explore the truth of God gifting us for his work, and take steps to know how each of us are individually gifted.

Roots Growth Classes

Roots Growth classes will vary in subject and material, for the purpose of learning to follow Jesus in all of life. Watch for the growth classes offered and take advantage of opportunities to grow.

Examples of Growth classes offered:

Parenting the Early Years: 10 Biblical Traits Your Kids will Remember you For.

Many parents today are wondering, "Do I have what it takes to be a good parent?" A lot of times parents need help, but nobody likes to ask for help. This class delves deeper than simply trying to get your kids to eat their broccoli and clean their room. It takes a Biblical approach into the traits parents want their children to have and the traits parents want their children to see modeled in themselves. This study includes biblical and practical advice for all parents, whether you are a married couple, single parent, or in a blended family.

Spiritual Parenting

It's hard enough to train kids to behave, but good behavior isn't what Jesus calls for in the Bible. He wants hearts and souls that are shaped in vibrant faith and love toward God and others. How can parents cultivate this in their children? Join us as we learn from scripture on how to be parents that help grow our children spiritually.

The Bible and Human Sexuality.

What does the Bible have to say about human sexuality? About culturally hot topics like homosexuality? How and why does the Bible shape our culture's expectations around sexual behavior today? This course will explore both Testaments in their contexts in antiquity on such issues as the expression and meaning of sexuality, marriage, and same-sex relationships.

Lectio Divina: The Practice of Centering Prayer

The ancient practice of praying the Scriptures is being rediscovered and renewed in our time. Known as *Lectio Divina* (Divine Reading), it is one of the great treasures of the Christian tradition of prayer. Join as we use scripture to teach us how to pray through the word of God.