

select Learning

theological exploration for all

DVD & Online Course Catalog
2020-2021

HOW WE GOT THE NEW TESTAMENT



**Exploring Scripture and
Engaging God's World**

During the Corona Virus Pandemic and beyond...

Select Learning would like to support your efforts to continue learning and drawing your faith community together. Select Learning has excellent resources in streaming format available, and we have a guide for doing education via video conferencing. We also host online courses for even more in-depth study (see page 37 of this catalog).

In our website store under the category “Streaming Resources” you will find:

- “We Must Plant the Church”: The Story of Lutherans in America
- An Introduction to the New Testament
- Biblical Stewardship: Our Duty and Delight
- By What Authority: Rethinking Early Christian History
- Down and Out: Where Grace Takes You
- Earthbound: Created and Called to Care for Creation
- Equipping Households of Faith
- Faith Out Loud: Talking about What Matters Most
- Good God Questions Volumes 1 & 2
- How Can I Keep from Singing: The Life and Legacy of John Carl Ylvisaker
- How Lutherans Interpret the Bible
- How We Got the New Testament
- Knowledge to Power: Understanding and Overcoming Addiction
- Learning Luke: The Apostolic Gospel
- Reformation Roots
- Service and Learning
- St Paul: From Saul of Tarsus to the Apostle of the Lutheran Reformation
- The American Protestant Experience: A Free Market of Faith
- The Dramatic Presentation of Paul’s Letter to the Galatians

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additional information & online ordering

New in 2020

Scholars and church pundits alike have told us that the church of today is more like the church of the first 4 centuries, than the church of the past 1600 years! But what was that church like? What questions were they trying to answer? Select Learning produced two new resources to help you learn from those pioneers of the faith.

“By What Authority? Rethinking Early Christian History”

Since Jesus didn’t return as quickly as believers assumed, they had to figure out how to live faithfully in a secular world. They ended up inventing the church. How might their experience inform us as we try to reinvent the church in the 21st century? Just a few of the questions covered in this course include:

- How do we know if our lives are in line with what Jesus taught?
- How much diversity can we tolerate?
- How do we fund our community?

How We Got the New Testament

Today the Christian church is so familiar with a Bible that has an Old and New Testament, that it rarely, if ever crosses our minds that this wasn’t always so. But it wasn’t. Jesus never heard of the New Testament. Neither did Paul. So, when and how did our New Testament get formed? This 5-session course will open the historical window to this fascinating and faithful process.

Who or What is Select Learning?

Select Learning is a lifelong learning partner of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Using some of the best seminary and college instructors, Select Learning combines high-quality DVD-based video courses, customized study materials, proven textbooks and online learning to create effective and flexible theological exploration opportunities.

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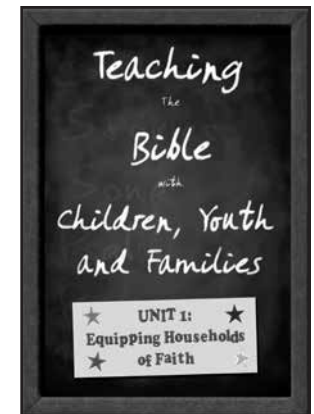
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Equipping Households of Faith



Equipping Households of Faith is based on research, scripture and an understanding of Baptism that inform us that the home is the primary place for experiencing God's Story and practicing our Christian faith. This course will help congregations build a strong and vital partnership with households for a common mission. Children, youth and adults of all ages, and families in all stages, will be encouraged and equipped to practice their faith in daily life. This course was designed with the lay person in mind as well as the church professional. The presenters are people who know the research, are passionate about faith formation across the generations and engage with scripture in their own homes and congregations. The heart, mind and hands of the participant are engaged through personal stories, Biblical references, and practical "how-to's." Four 20-25 minute sessions explore key aspects of sharing faith:



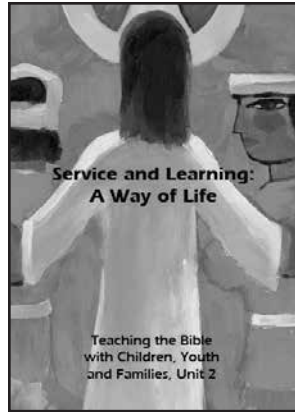
- Session 1. Foundations for Creating Households of Faith
- Session 2. Connecting Church and Home
- Session 3. Faith Practices in the Home
- Session 4. Placing in Your Hands the Holy Scripture

Hosted by Linda Staats, featuring Dr. Dick Hardel, Marilyn Sharpe, Andrea Fieldhouse, Dr. Dawn Allitz, Liz Otteson, Rev. Richard Staats and Rev. Cora Aguilar.

DVD Course: \$39.95
Streaming Format : \$29.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Service and Learning



Service projects and mission trips are increasingly popular within households, congregations and youth groups. Yes, it feels good to serve! Yet, for service to lead to transformed, faith-filled lives, it needs to be informed and intentional. This unit offers approaches to Service and Learning as a way of life based on our call to serve our neighbor as Christ loved and served us. Participants will be engaged and equipped through hearing God’s story, presenters’ personal experiences, a theology for serving, research and examples of “how-to’s” and things “not-to-do.”

This course was created with the lay person in mind as well as the church professional.

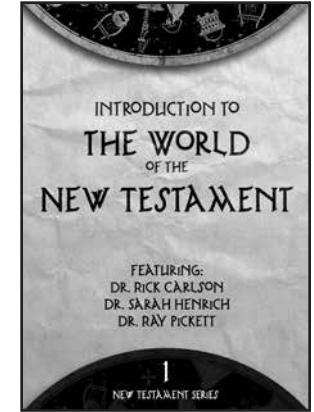
Each of the six sessions is designed for 50-60 minutes of interaction. Includes a comprehensive study guide for the facilitator and participant that enable viewers to apply what they are viewing to their own ministry setting.

Hosted by Linda Staats, featuring Rev. Sunitha Mortha, Dr. Marcia Bunge, Dr. David Ellingson, Mark Jackson, Peggy Hahn, and Eugene Roehlkepartain.

DVD Course: \$39.95
Streaming Format : \$25.95

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additional information & online ordering

Introduction to the World of the New Testament



This course has been remastered from Select Learning’s larger *Introduction to the New Testament* with a study guide written specifically for congregational use. The 4-session course gives excellent grounding for in-depth Bible study, preparing participants to become more confident Bible readers and interpreters. Dr. Ray Pickett, Dr. Sarah Henrich, and Dr. Rick Carlson introduce participants to the world of the text, the world behind the text, and the world in front of the text. The fourth session of the course creates the space for participants to work on reading and interpreting a text together, using Mark 10: 46-52. The study guide provides structure for a 60 minute class session.

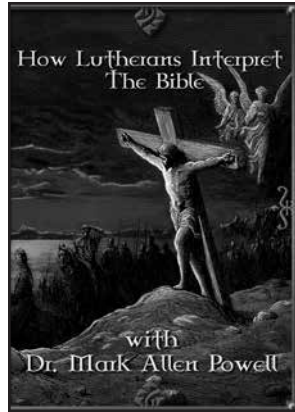
- Gathering, Opening Prayer, and Setting the Scene for the Day (10 minutes)
- View Video (20-25 minutes)
- Discussion Questions (20-25 minutes)
- Closing (5 minutes)

Session 1: New Testament Literature & New Testament Canon
Session 2: Greco-Roman World
Session 3: The Jewish Context of Early Christian Literature
Session 4: Interpretation

DVD Course: \$29.95

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additional information & online ordering

How Lutherans Interpret The Bible



Lutherans are unique in their approach to theology. Despite the theological divisions between the Lutheran denominations, Lutherans share a significant body of agreement on issues of biblical interpretation.

Dr. Mark Allen Powell, a Lutheran pastor and Bible Professor at Trinity Lutheran Seminary presents how Lutherans interpret the Bible. Dr. Powell's insights on the Bible are

shared through seven sessions and offer views for Bible studies and interpretations for multiple denominations of the Christian faith.

This seven-session course is great grounding for a congregation's journey in the Book of Faith initiative. A robust study guide supports the video material.

1. The Word of God (20 min.)
2. What Lutherans Say About the Bible (26 min.)
3. Where the Bible Comes From (23 min.)
4. Interpreting the Bible in Context (29 min.)
5. Determining Right from Wrong (27 min.)
6. The Many Meanings of the Bible (26 min.)
7. Devotional Bible Reading (26 min.)

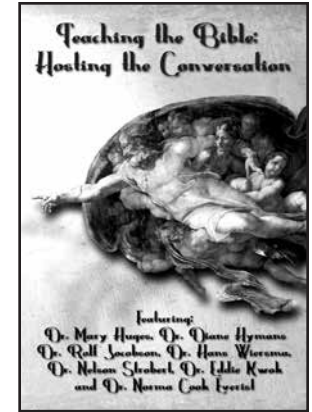
DVD Course: \$44.95

Streaming Format : \$30.95

www.selectlearning.org
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Teaching The Bible, Hosting The Conversation

Are you a rostered minister? A Book of Faith Advocate? A Christian Ed Director? A small group study leader? Looking for material to enhance your teaching skills or support others who are teachers?



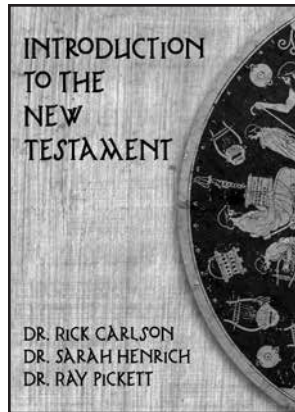
Teaching and learning the Bible is one of the primary faith formation practices for Christians. This course helps support the development of teaching skills, by exploring the many facets of the church's ministry of teaching, especially as it relates to the Bible. Focusing primarily on teaching adults, individual sessions examine the dynamics of adult learning, methodology, designing teaching/learning experiences, pastoral implications of teaching the Bible, multi-cultural considerations in exploring biblical texts, and the use of media in teaching. The course consists of six units, with four 20-minute sessions per unit.

1. Teaching as Conversation: Where Do We Begin?
2. Teachers and Learners: Relationships Matter
3. Adults as Learners: What Does the Brain Tell Us?
4. How We Teach Matters as Much as What We Teach
5. Hearing Other Voices: Multi-Cultural Encounters with the Bible
6. From Creche to the World Wide Web: Using Visual Media to Teach the Bible

DVD Course: \$89.95

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additional information & online ordering

Introduction To The New Testament



The New Testament is a diverse collection of accounts, letters and prophetic literature. These texts are nuanced, sophisticated and sometimes seemingly at odds in their witness to God in Christ. Instructors Dr. Ray Pickett, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, Dr. Sarah Henrich, Luther Seminary, and Dr. Rick Carlson, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, help viewers tease out the rich themes and subtext of these core scriptures for disciples of Jesus.

Learners are introduced to key themes and issues in the study of the New Testament, and learn basic skills to equip them to be competent and creative interpreters of New Testament texts. This course presents a model for interpreting Scripture that emphasizes the importance of reading New Testament texts in their cultural and literary contexts with a view to relating them to contemporary cultural and ministry contexts. Focus is given to the practice of interpreting New Testament texts. Students will use the models and insights from the presentations to explore questions raised by the study of specific New Testament texts and then discuss how these texts continue to shape our faith and practice in today's world.

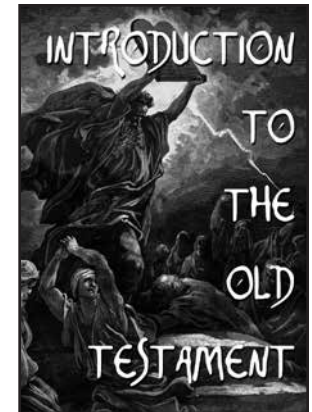
Each of the ten units in this course has four 20-minute sessions.

DVD Course: \$179.95

Online Registration (Fall 2020): Add \$180

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additional information & online ordering

Introduction To The Old Testament



The vast majority of the Bible is the Old Testament, yet it is often the least understood part of God's Word. Ancient names. Distant places. Harsh words of judgment and violence. Unlikely historical events. A mish-mash of wisdom, poetry, stories, prophecy and chronicles. Many think of it either as "The Law" or as a warm-up act for "The Gospel" found in the New Testament. Yet God's fingerprints of grace and hope are all over the Old Testament, and with a little expert help, the mysteries and riddles of this vast witness can be unraveled and made accessible. And that's exactly what this course does. Each of the ten units in this course has four 20-minute sessions. It introduces students to the high points of the Old Testament:

- The Primeval History in Genesis
- The stories of Sarah and Abraham
- Exodus-Deuteronomy
- Deuteronomistic History (Joshua-Kings)
- Amos and Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Job
- Psalms

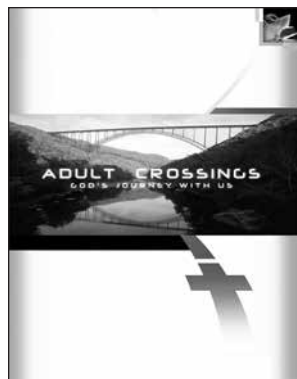
Lecturers are Dr. Ralph W. Klein, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, and Dr. Katheryn Schifferdecker, Luther Seminary.

DVD Course: \$179.95

Online Registration (Winter 2021): Add \$180

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Adult Crossings: God's Journey with Us



The Bible contains hundreds of stories – thousands of names. How does a person begin to understand and remember it all?

Adult Crossings is a unique Bible overview. It explores what many scholars consider the eight core stories of the Bible. This is what theologian Walter Brueggemann calls “the primal narrative – that most simple, elemental, and non-negotiable story line that lies at the heart of biblical faith.” This study is perfect for a whole-congregation Bible emphasis, small group study, or new member classes. The core stories include: God’s Call; The Exodus; Sinai Covenant; Promised Land; Davidic Rule; Jesus’ Life; The Cross; and Resurrection Life.

By studying these ancient stories we can begin to see how God continues to act, here and now, in us and through us.

Starter Pack includes: 1 Participant Journal; 1 Leader Guide; and Crossings Adult Study DVD (includes eleven 20-minute sessions)

Invite top biblical scholars into your group discussion. The first six segments focus on the Hebrew Scripture and are presented by Dr. Mark A. Throntveit. The final five segments on the New Testament are presented by Dr. Thomas G. Long.

DVD Course Starter Pack: \$137.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Learning Luke: The Apostolic Gospel

Learning Luke explores the third gospel to learn how God calls the church into a new era of apostolic mission.

Your congregational groups, lay leadership program, and pastoral team will learn together as you seek a richer understanding of what Luke’s whole story means to you, using as many of the twelve sessions as you choose. The sessions are designed to appreciate Luke’s unique telling of the story of Jesus, to mark how deeply Luke’s account is grounded in the scriptures of Israel, and to learn from the evangelist’s conviction that God’s Messiah is alive. Jesus turned his disciples (learners) into apostles to carry the word and work of his reign into the world God so loves. *Learning Luke* could have a similar effect for you.



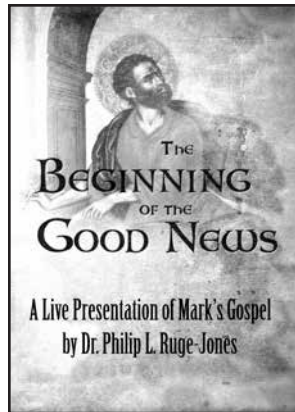
Learning Luke consists of twelve 20-30 minute sessions. It also includes a comprehensive study guide designed for multiple levels of learning, and a complete reading of the Gospel of Luke in MP3 format.

One of the church’s finest teachers, Dr. David Tiede, invites you to join a diverse team of laity and clergy in a lively learning venture. He is known for his career as President and Professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary, and as Bernhard M. Christensen Professor of Religion and Vocation at Augsburg College.

DVD Course: \$89.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

The Beginning of the Good News: A Live Presentation of Mark's Gospel

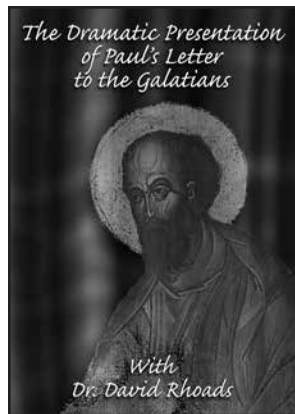


The first Christians heard the stories about Jesus; they didn't read them. This presentation allows 21st century Christians to experience the gospel just as the early Christians would have: in performance.

Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones, Associate Professor of Theology at Texas Lutheran University, and member of the Network of Biblical Storytellers, presents the entire Gospel of Mark from memory. Included with two-hour performance is a study guide correlative to the 16 chapters of the Gospel of Mark.

DVD Course: \$39.95 (Reduced price!)

The Dramatic Presentation of Paul's Letter to the Galatians



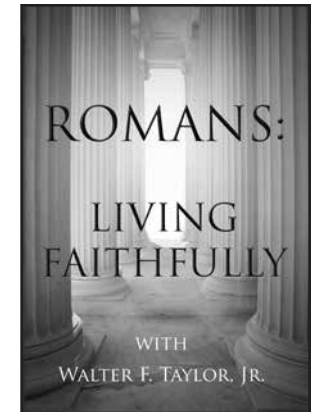
Presented by Dr. David Rhoads, Professor of New Testament at Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, this course contains the 77-minute performance of Galatians, a segment on the orality of scripture, background on the church at Galatia and a bonus feature on justification in Galatians. A 3-session study guide is also included.

DVD Course: \$39.95 (Reduced price!)
Streaming Format : \$28.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Romans: Living Faithfully

This course contains a 12-minute introduction and twelve 30-minute sessions. It explores the great themes from Romans through study of specific passages. The person who completes the course will gain a solid overall understanding of the flow of this important letter. The participant will also gain insight into what Paul meant by the bad news of human sin and the good news of justification – how God makes humanity right with God, others, and ourselves.



DVD Course: \$89.95

Is This The Time? Interpreting the Mystery of Revelation

This seven-session course provides a much-needed, truly biblical perspective on what is arguably the most difficult book of the Bible.

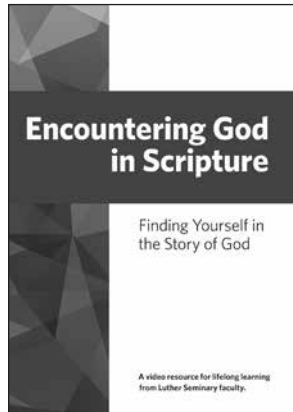
Presented by Dr. Craig Koester, Professor of New Testament at Luther Seminary, this course helps us discover Revelation's message of God's love and hope for the world, shrouded in symbolism, prophecy, conflict and fear.



DVD Course: \$69.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Encountering God in Scripture: Finding Yourself in the Story of God



This informative and engaging course features ten teachers of the church from Luther Seminary who help us understand this book as an encounter with the living God. They will lower our anxiety and raise our expectations. Listen as they grapple with questions; then join with these leaders as they lead studies of this amazing story of God's action in the world. The course includes 10 Big Questions and 5 Bible studies.

DVD Course: \$89.95

Isaiah: Visions of Promise



These easy-to-use interactive video studies combine an engaging presentation on DVD with small-group Bible study and discussions led by a local facilitator. Each session includes a segment on developing related discipleship skills. Questions and text for the bible studies and discussions, along with guidance for the facilitator, are on the CD.

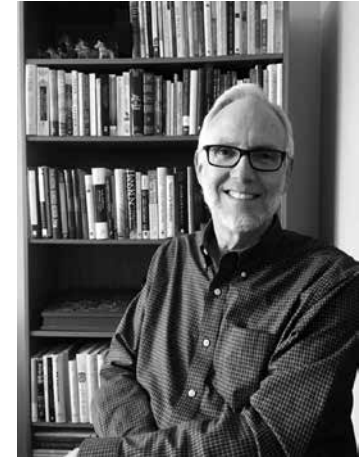
DVD Course: \$39.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

An Introduction to the New Testament with James Aageson

Developed by the Northern Rockies Institute of Theology, Montana Synod ELCA

The New Testament documents are central to the Christian faith and to historic Christianity. By ecumenical consensus among all Christian traditions, the New Testament is central to the faith, life, and worship of the church. It is the word of God and it conveys the word of God. Even as the New Testament is central to all Christian traditions, interpretations of these texts often vary widely. This makes for a rich and fascinating tapestry



of readings in the history of New Testament interpretation. This course is an introduction to the New Testament designed for a general audience and for lay people who may be preparing themselves for congregational leadership.

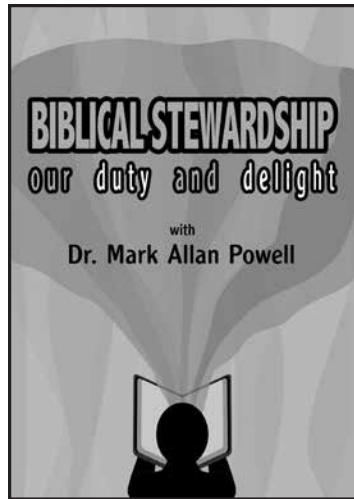
1. Introduction (11:14 minutes)
2. Preliminary Considerations (50:56)
3. The New Testament Gospels in Preview (34:37)
4. Mark's Narrative of Jesus: Important Points and Junctures (1:01:55)
5. Paul the Pauline Letters in Preview (38:51)
6. Selected Pauline Tests: Important Claims (36:32)
7. Acts: The Church in Motion (30:41)
8. Other New Testament Epistles: A Brief Survey (17:44)
9. Patmos and the Revelation of John (36:29)
10. Conclusion: Final Comments (12:05)

This resource is in a streaming format. The format allows you to watch in any time increment you choose and also allows you to return to sections you've already watched or go back and forth between sessions. Once you have purchased the course you will be sent directions on how to access the videos.

Online Streaming Course: \$75

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Biblical Stewardship: Our Duty and Delight



Stewardship means “belonging to God” – all that we are and all that we have comes from God. We are grateful to God for it all, and responsible to God for how we use it. There is a connection between stewardship and spirituality: generous giving as a spiritual discipline helps us to grow in Christ.

“Duty and delight” are both motivating factors for giving –

doing what we ought to do as responsible church members, and making cheerful sacrifices out of love for God. The overarching theme of this course is, “This is good news!”

This course features seven 20-minute video sessions on DVD with Dr. Mark Allan Powell, and a comprehensive study guide and participant handouts.

Introductory Session: For Church Leaders

Session 1: Belonging to God

Session 2: What is a Steward?

Session 3: Treasures and Hearts

Session 4: Motives for Giving

Session 5: Duty and Delight

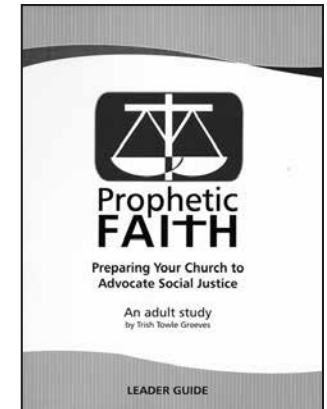
Session 6: Cheerful Sacrifices

DVD Course: \$49.95

Streaming Format : \$38.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Prophetic Faith: Preparing Your Church to Advocate Social Justice



Many churchgoers steer away from controversy. They come to church to be comforted and comfortable; not stirred up. Others feel strongly about community and social issues but are afraid of causing conflict in the church. Prophetic Faith can help you transform your congregation from a culture of conflict avoidance into one of respectful dialog, engagement, and even church renewal.

This 7-session adult study and DVD establishes a basis for planning and action related to social justice ministry. It supports discussion and reflection, raises awareness, and builds communication and advocacy skills.

Prophetic Faith begins with four simple ideas:

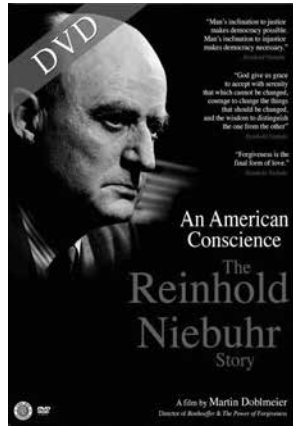
1. Churchwide ownership of social justice ministry takes time.
2. The relationship between faith and politics is critical for social justice ministry.
3. Discussing social justice issues can be faith enhancing, healing, and life giving for Christian congregations and the communities they serve.
4. Effective social justice ministry belongs to the whole church.

Starter Kit includes: 1 Participant Book; 1 Leader Guide; and 1 DVD (eight 10-minute sessions)

DVD Course: \$89.59

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

An American Conscience: The Reinhold Niebuhr Story



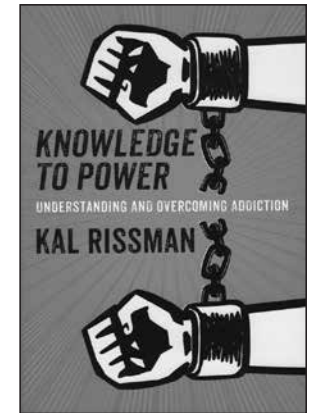
Although he may be best remembered today as the author of the famed “Serenity Prayer,” Reinhold Niebuhr — an outspoken American-born pastor, writer, and political activist — remains one of the most influential public theologians of our time. Presidents from Barack Obama to Jimmy Carter have credited his impact on their thinking, as well as John McCain, countless historians, theologians, political thinkers, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who cited Niebuhr in his “Letter from a Birmingham Jail.”

Niebuhr rose from a small Midwest church pulpit to become the nation’s moral voice — an American conscience — during some of the most defining moments in recent history. His books, *Moral Man and Immoral Society* (1932), *The Nature and Destiny of Man* (1941–43) and *The Irony of American History* (1952), continue to influence theological and political thinking. An American original, his unique insights into human nature and its relationship to political movements and social justice propelled him to speak openly, and often critically, to an America consumed by moral certainty. For Niebuhr the priority was always justice, his guiding principle was hope in a redeemer God, and his weapon was an extraordinary gift for clarity of thought that made him a leading voice of conscience for his time.

DVD Course: \$19.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Knowledge to Power: Understanding and Overcoming Addiction



There is not one congregation and probably not one family that has not been affected tragically by the disease of addiction, whether that is by drugs, alcohol, tobacco, food, gambling, sex or computer/game/I-phone addiction. There is now an understandable, yet comprehensive treatment of this problem in this DVD, *Knowledge to Power: Understanding and Overcoming Addiction*. The presenter is Rev. Kal W. Rissman, who has worked with addictions his entire career as addiction counselor, nicotine dependency counselor, hospital chaplain and parish pastor. The series is comprised of 21 sessions of about 18 minutes each on everything from the disease to codependency to intervention and to the role of religion in recovery. This resource includes a study guide with synopsis of each topic and discussion questions.

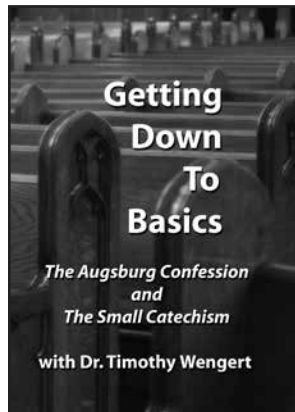
This resource is very usable for Bible studies, men’s groups, women’s groups or special congregational education. It also can be used by pastors for continuing education credits.

Knowledge to Power offers not only hope for those afflicted with the disease, but also for those affected by the disease in their family. It also includes some very practical solutions for this baffling problem.

DVD Course: \$79.95
Streaming Format: \$54.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Getting Down To Basics: The Augsburg Confession and Small Catechism



For Lutherans, *The Book of Concord* provides the definitive collection of their confessions of faith, including the all-important Augsburg Confession and Small and Large Catechisms. This ten-unit course has three 15-30 minute sessions each. It provides an overview of the historical development of all the documents in *The Book of Concord*, as well as in-depth looks at their theology,

focusing particularly on the Augsburg Confession and Luther's Catechisms.

Learners will discover the basic doctrinal commitments of the Lutheran Confessions and how they may apply in contemporary parish settings. This course provides a lively, down-to-earth examination of central Lutheran teachings such as justification by grace through faith on account of Christ, the distinction between law and gospel, the theology of the cross, the church and public ministry, the sacraments, and Christian callings in daily life. Students will gain new insight into the basics of Lutheran teaching and how it can strengthen their faith and witness today. Students will become thoroughly familiar with the two texts, understand the historical and theological context out of which they speak, and discover new ways to apply these teaching to life in today's parish. Presented by Dr. Timothy Wengert, Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia.

DVD Course: \$179.95

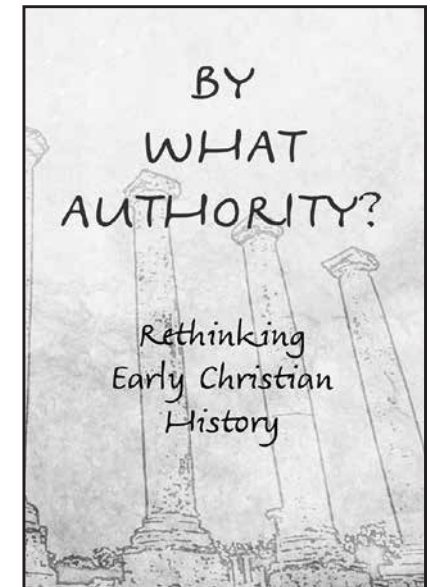
Online Registration (Fall 2020): Add \$180

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

By What Authority? Rethinking Early Christian History



- Who are we?
- Who is in and who is out?
- Can we participate in civic life?
- Who is Jesus?
- How do we know if our lives are in line with what Jesus taught?
- How much diversity can we tolerate?
- Who leads us? In worship? In community life? In teaching?
- How do we fund our community?
- Does it matter how we live? How do we relate to the world around us – people and creation?



These are the questions that need to be answered in the first centuries of the church. Since Jesus didn't return as quickly as believers assumed, they had to figure out how to live as believers in the world they lived in. They ended up inventing the church. This resource looks at how early Christians answered these questions. How might their experience inform how we answer similar questions today?

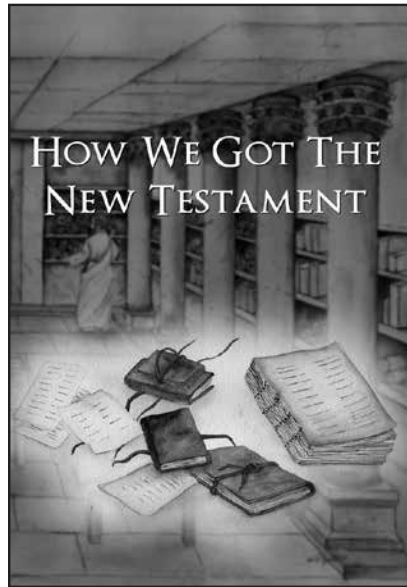
DVD Course: \$74.95

Streaming Format : \$56.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

NEW!

How We Got the New Testament



The basic question facing us as we look at the historical record is quite simple. Why does our Bible have a New Testament, comprised of only 27 books?

This course will help answer that and other questions such as:

- Were the 27 books in our New Testament always considered special? If not, why did they end up in our Bible?
- Were these the only books valued by the early church? If not, what happened to the rest?
- How much of a role did the “real people” play in this process?
- Did our New Testament gradually emerge, or was it the result of 4th century decisions by bishops and emperors?
- What role did technology play in the formation of our New Testament?

With the help of dozens of original graphics, this 5-session course (plus bonus material) will help you answer these and many other questions surrounding the formation of the New Testament.

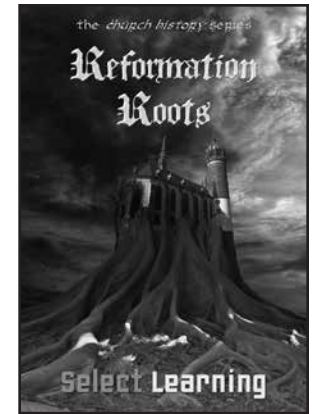
DVD Course: \$49.95

Streaming Format : \$34.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Reformation Roots

Do you ever wonder why we have so many Christian denominations and if there is really much difference between them? The answers to these questions lie in the dramatic and turbulent times of the Reformation. This high definition series brings to life the stories and struggles that still impact us today.



Featured presenters include: Martin Marty, Hans Wiersma, Phil Adamo, Mark Tranvik, Mickey Mattox, Victoria Christman, Darrell Jodock, Ron Rittgers, Robert Christman, Laruel Carrington, Kirsi Sjerna, Euan Cameron, Mark Valeri, Eric Carlson, William Cahoy and Shawn Colberg.

Includes twelve 25-minute video sessions and study guide:

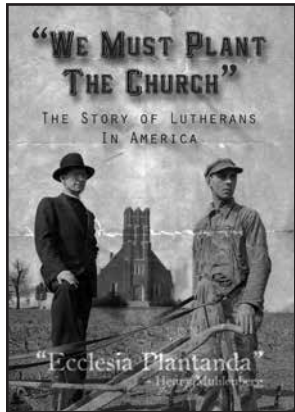
- Session 1: From Night to Dawn
- Session 2: From Bondage to Freedom
- Session 3: From Scholar to Provocateur
- Session 4: From Priest to Outlaw
- Session 5: From Heretic to Hero
- Session 6: From Scholar to Father
- Session 7: From Simple to Complex
- Session 8: Luther’s Legacy (bonus session)
- Session 9: Swiss Reformation
- Session 10: Radical Reformation
- Session 11: English Reformation
- Session 12: Catholic Reformation

DVD Course: \$74.95

Streaming Format : \$56.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

“We Must Plant the Church” The Story of Lutherans in America



When Lutherans came to America, they brought with them Martin Luther’s belief that people of faith engage the big questions of the day.

This story is characterized by the tension between honoring the European roots of the church and adapting to the new realities of American life. The Lutheran church, from its earliest days, faced religious pluralism, intolerance, racism, war, lack

of state support and diversity of languages and traditions. It wasn’t easy then, and it isn’t easy now. Understanding American Lutheran history can change the way we see ourselves and our future.

This DVD series on the history of Lutherans in America transports learners through four centuries of the planting of the Lutheran church in this new land. Henry Muhlenberg provides the title for this series. His motto was *Ecclesia Plantanda*: “We must plant the church.”

Sessions:

1. On New Soil: The Colonial Lutherans (21:19)
2. In Times of Trial: Arriving in Waves (22:02)
3. To Meet Human Need: Building Institutions (20:44)
4. Working Together: Lutherans Uniting (20:22)
5. In Modern Times: Becoming an American Church (25:23)
6. Bonus Session: The Future of the Lutheran Church (8:49)

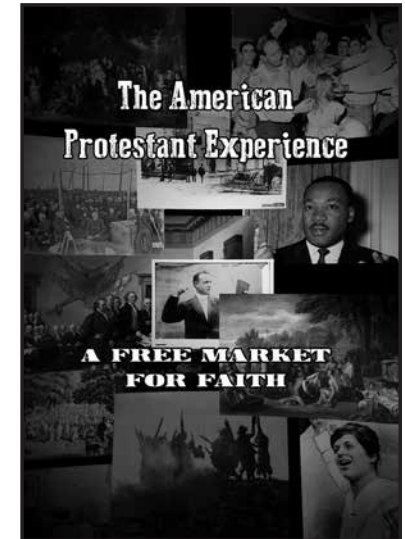
DVD Course: \$64.95

Streaming Format : \$53.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

The American Protestant Experience

It’s no accident that America is home to a wide range of religious expressions. Immigrants, brought their faith with them from around the globe and established churches and denominations. But the most unique quality of American religious life is the innovation and experimentation that takes place here. This makes this country a free marketplace for faith.



This 10 session series documents the eternal argument about the relationship between the church and civil authority. The country’s founders, seeing the intolerance of the early immigrants, wisely sought to create a republic where faith could be practiced freely but where a theocracy would be avoided.

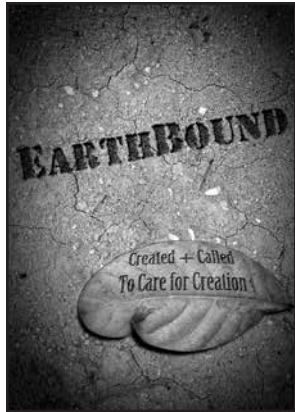
Twenty-five top church historians, including Martin Marty, Grant Wacker, Amanda Porterfield, Mark Granquist and many others, tell this amazing story with support from images, films and music of the era. Sessions average 22 minutes in length. Study guide provided for a 50-60 minute class.

DVD Course: \$74.95

Streaming Format : \$60.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

EarthBound: Created and Called to Care for Creation



It's a real problem, no matter your political stance. The Earth is being damaged by human activity.

Christians have a complex relationship with God's creation. We have tangled up our concepts of dominion and stewardship. Many imagine eternal life means being whisked away to some other non-physical plane in the ether. In trying to be God-focused, Christians

become heaven-focused, at the expense of our earthly home. Can Scripture and our own religious tradition help us rethink those relationships? Is there a model for care of the creation that doesn't force us to the polarized margins? This cutting-edge course, filmed in high definition, takes Martin Luther's breakthrough understanding of justification and vocation and explodes it across God's magnificent creation. EarthBound is a journey beyond the rhetoric into God's rich and complex creation. Discover the origins of our misconceptions about Scripture's portrayal of creation. Recognize God's call to us to relate to the whole creation as our vocation. Experience how God's people throughout the Church are living out that call.

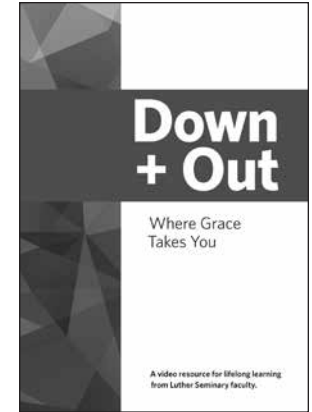
This course consists of six 20-minute sessions, hosted by Dr. David Rhoads, and features Dr. Walter Brueggemann, Dr. Larry Rasmussen, Dr. Barbara Rossing, Dr. Terry Fretheim, Dr. Cynthia Moe-Lobeda and many others.

DVD Course: \$69.95

Streaming Format : \$55.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Down + Out: Where Grace Takes You



Five hundred years ago, a little-known German monk discovered in Scripture two simple ideas so scandalous that they set Europe aflame for centuries. The church would never be the same.

But now, God's people are re-discovering what Martin Luther uncovered five centuries ago. And those two simple ideas, justification and vocation, so evident throughout Scripture, are the foundation of the Christian life.

In our congregations, in our communities, in our families and in our work lives, grace takes us out into God's world, confident in God's promises. We are sent out of our churches, to love and obey, to co-create with God on behalf of others, for the sake of the world.

Down and out: it's the life God gives us, the life to which God calls us. This course, filmed in high-definition, reintroduces you to the life-changing reality of God's promises, and points the way to a completely different view of life in the light of where grace takes you.

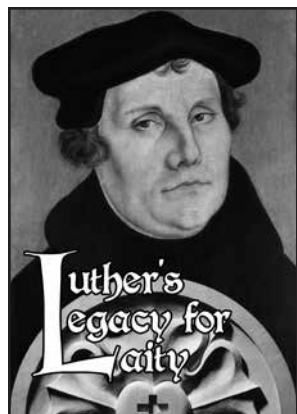
This course consists of six 20-minute sessions, and includes a comprehensive study guide. An optional downloadable workbook is available for a more complete experience.

DVD Course: \$64.95 (Reduced Price!)

Streaming Format : \$54.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Luther's Legacy for Laity



Martin Luther's legacy is a rich treasure for all Christians, but particularly for lay people. Luther, through the doctrines of justification, freedom of the Christian, bondage of the will, and vocation, provides Christians with an understanding of what God has done for us and what God wants to do through us for the sake of the neighbor. All the big questions of faith and life are found in the

abundance of Reformation theology. These theologians know how to make accessible these grand ideas that will shape how Christians view their place in the world. These presentations were filmed live at the Lay School of Ministry in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA. This four-unit course consists of a total of 35 sessions averaging 14 minutes in length. It also includes a detailed study guide.

Dr. Timothy J. Wengert, Professor of Reformation History, Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA.

Dr. David Lose, Professor of Biblical Preaching, Luther Seminary, Saint Paul, MN.

Dr. Darrell Jodock, Emeritus Professor of Religion, Gustavus Adolphus College, Saint Peter, MN.

Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans, Professor of Religion and Philosophy, Wartburg College, Waverly, IA.

DVD Course: \$74.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Good God Questions Volumes 1 and 2

Sometimes questions about God are hard to ask and even harder to answer. Sometimes we get stuck at the questions and sometimes we stumble.

Join these brave souls from Luther Seminary who address Good God Questions with honesty and compassion. Join them as they tackle some Good God Questions.

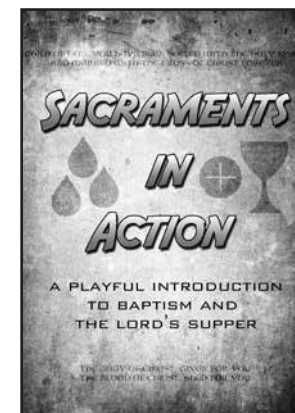
DVD Course: \$49.95 for both volumes
Streaming Format : \$35.95



Sacraments In Action

This video course, filmed in high definition, provides a solid theological introduction to the sacraments. Through warm humor and playful explanation, viewers of all ages will find themselves in the story of God working through the ordinary to accomplish the extraordinary.

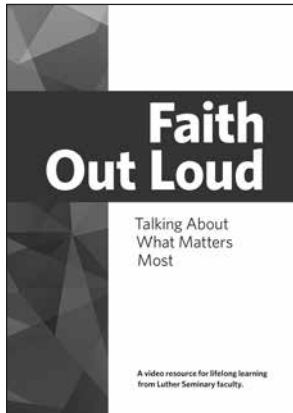
This course features two 10-minute sessions, and is ideal for first communion classes, confirmation classes, new member classes, and even adult education time.



DVD Course: \$24.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Faith Out Loud: Talking About What Matters Most



Me? Talk about my faith?

We hear that we should be willing to witness to our faith, but most of us get stressed out if someone asks us to name the date we accepted Jesus as our personal Lord and Savior.

So, what do we say? This video offers hope for us tongue-tied Christians to identify the fact that we have a faith story and we have words for our experience of God. Listen in on authentic and humble conversations as people were asked to talk about...

- your favorite passage in the Bible
- a time of suffering in which God made a difference
- how God makes a difference in your daily life
- an idea of God that you find meaningful
- a person who made a difference in your faith
- a time when you experienced grace
- a time when God's people came through for you
- a time when you were surprised by God
- how God came alive in your life
- a time when God felt present
- a time when God felt absent

These eleven 10-minute sessions can be watched in any order, and serve to spark discussion – and give permission – to talk about our FAITH OUT LOUD.

DVD Course: \$59.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Opening Prayer: Three Ways God Transforms Through Prayer

This course gives a glimpse into the experience of prayer through three 15-minute sessions:

- Prayer Opens Us
- Prayer Opens Us to God
- Prayer Opens Us to God's World

Music, stories from people who pray, and meditations on Scripture make this course a powerful tool for faith life in the congregation and in the home.

DVD Course: \$34.95



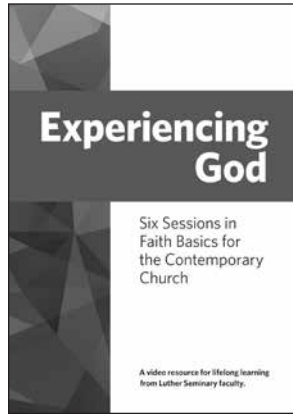
Meeting God In Prayer

What is prayer? What does Scripture have to say about it? Why do we pray? Enjoy intimate conversations with some of the teachers of the church as they share their biblical understanding and their own stories of prayer. None of them claim expertise about this gift of access to God, but point to the promises of the One who meets us in prayer. This course consists of six 5-minute sessions and a study guide to lead discussion.

DVD Course: \$34.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Experiencing God: Faith Basics for the Contemporary Church



Meet the Creator who is flesh and spirit for you. Enter into an authentic encounter with a God who enters human history and transforms our destiny from death to life.

Ten scholars from Luther Seminary connect us with the God who is present as Creator, Savior and Spirit. This course is an intimate glimpse into the heart of God that will help form a mature image of

the triune God. Features Dr. Frederick Gaiser, Dr. Sarah Henrich, Dr. Mary Hess, Dr. Diane Jacobson, Dr. David Lose, Dr. Lois Malcolm, Dr. Alan Padgett, Dr. Steve Paulson, Dr. Matthew Skinner, Dr. Richard Wallace.

Unit 1. Who is God?

Unit 2. What Kind of God?

Unit 3. Jesus: God's Surprise

Unit 4. Jesus: God With Us

Unit 5. Who (or What) is the Holy Spirit?

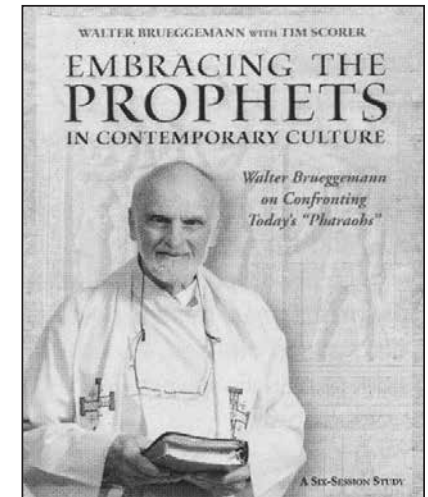
Unit 6. The Spirit is Life

This course allows you to watch each of the six units as a single 25-minute presentation, or as three 8-minute thematic sessions to kickstart discussion. It also includes a comprehensive study guide.

DVD Course: \$84.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Embracing the Prophets in Contemporary Culture: Walter Brueggeman on Confronting Today's Pharaohs



Walter Brueggemann, arguably America's leading Old Testament scholar and theologian, takes us on a wild ride through the poetic prophecy of the Hebrew Scripture, identifying cultural contexts, putting a framework to Israel's history, and, most significantly – and at times challengingly! – drawing connections between Israel's sociological, economic and spiritual status and that of America today.

Session 1: Moses, Pharaoh, the Prophets and Us

Session 2: The Prophets as Uncredentialed Purveyors of Covenant

Session 3: Moral Coherence in a World of Power, Money and Violence

Session 4: The Shrill Rhetoric that Breaks Denial

Session 5: The Grief of Loss as Divine Judgment

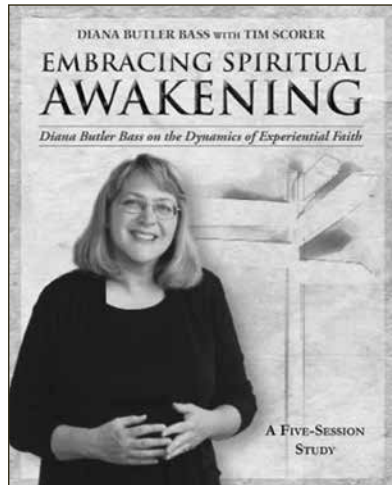
Session 6: The Promissory Language that Breaks Despair

Workbook sold separately.

DVD Course: \$39.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Embracing Spiritual Awakening: Diana Butler Bass



World-class author and commentator, Diana Butler Bass expands on the ideas she developed in her recent book, *Christianity after Religion*, exploring what Christianity may look like “beyond religion and beyond the church.” Total of 30 minutes divided into the following segments:

- Session 1: Arriving
- Session 2: Believing
- Session 3: Behaving
- Session 4: Belonging
- Session 5: Awakening

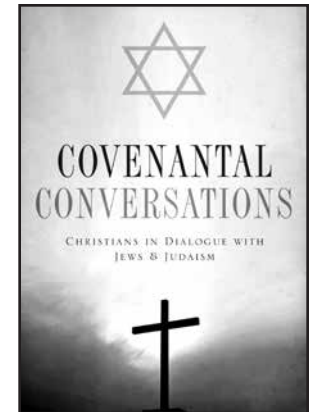
Workbooks sold separately.

DVD Course: \$39.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Covenantal Conversations: Christians in Dialogue with Jews and Judaism

What has been learned from forty years of Jewish-Christian dialogue? This course (nine 20-minute sessions) engages various aspects of that topic. The conversations explore the implications of recent studies and dialogues for Christians today. Those involved in Jewish-Christian dialogue often report that they gain not only a deeper understanding of Judaism but also a new appreciation of aspects of Christianity not previously noticed or taken seriously. Discover a richer understanding of Christianity in the light of Jewish-Christian dialogue.



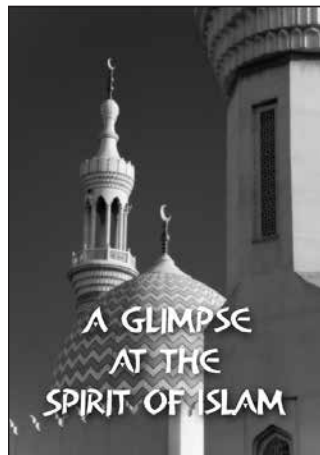
- Session 1. Judaism Then and Now
- Session 2. Covenants Old and New
- Session 3. Law and Gospel
- Session 4. Promise and Fulfillment
- Session 5. Difficult Texts: Interpreting New Testament Images of Jews and Judaism
- Session 6. Jewish Concern for the Land of Israel
- Session 7. Healing the World and Mending the Soul: Understanding Tikkun Olam
- Session 8. Christians and Jews in the Context of World Religions
- Session 9. The Arab-Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Produced by ELCA Consultative Panel on Lutheran-Jewish Relations, as a companion to the book of the same title.

DVD Course: \$49.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

A Glimpse at the Spirit of Islam



Before September 11, 2001, most Americans had trouble getting motivated to learn about Islam. In the aftermath many people were compelled to ask questions about this religion and its followers. This video is designed to give an accurate glimpse at the spirit of Islam in two half-hour sessions.

- Session one covers Islamic practices, history and some hopes and fears common to many Muslims.
- Session two turns to core Islamic beliefs and notes principal differences and similarities with Christianity. The goal is to help Christians move beyond stereotypes and toward loving Muslims in a way that reflects the love that Christ gives us.

Two 30-minute sessions, DVD.

The creator and host of this program is Dr. Doug Cox. Dr. Cox received an MA in Islamic Studies from Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN, and an MDiv from Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia. He has served as instructor in Islamic Studies at Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. He did his seminary internship at St. Andrew's United Church, Cairo, Egypt. He and his wife, Monica served as evangelists with Project Shalom, an outreach ministry of the Malagasy Lutheran Church among Muslims, located in the northern area of Madagascar.

DVD Course: \$34.95

www.selectlearning.org
additional information & online ordering

Online Courses

Online courses are designed for distributed learning for continuing education, Synodically Authorized Ministers, professionals in youth ministry, education, parish nursing, personal growth and others. Whether you are looking for continuing education, personal growth, or certification in your synod or the ELCA, **you don't need to go it alone**, or set up your own study group. Select Learning knows that people learn better when they are supported and enriched by other learners and a facilitator. By combining the proven effectiveness of the Select Learning courses with an online community of students and facilitator, anyone who has access to the internet can participate in a gratifying educational experience. Courses from the Select Learning catalog are coupled with online learning components and a qualified facilitator.

Select Learning Online Courses are perfect for:

- Continuing education
- Synodically Authorized Minister programs
- Youth Ministry Network professionals
- Lutheran Deaconess Association formation
- Personal growth

How Online Courses work:

1. Visit selectlearning.org to register for a course.
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4. Class facilitators respond to your work, suggest additional resources and correspond via email.

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Upcoming Online Courses

Fall 2020

Orientation week September 7, 2020

Class sessions begin September 11, 2020

Introduction to the New Testament (10 weeks)

Getting Down to Basics: Augsburg Confession and
Small Catechism (10 weeks)

Winter 2020

Orientation week January 25, 2021

Class sessions begin January 29, 2021

Introduction to the Old Testament (10 weeks)

Systematic Theology:
Fundamentals of Christian Theology (12 weeks)

Foundations of Biblical Preaching (10 weeks)

Other Courses Available

Select Learning offers many other courses, including:

Church History:

From Jesus to Luther

Church & World:

Free in Christ to Serve the Neighbor
Reconciliation

Christian Life:

Confronting Death with Walter Wangerin
Embracing a Life of Meaning: Kathleen Norris
Embracing Emergence Christianity: Phyllis Tickle
Embracing Forgiveness: Barbara Cawthorne Crafton

Health & Wholeness:

Stranger in Our Midst:
The Church and People with Mental Illness
Healing Meditation podcasts

Theology & Ethics:

Baptized We Live
Ethics In Lutheran Perspective
Bonhoeffer Today: Peace, Ecology and Christian Ethics
Systematic Theology

Even this is just the tip of the iceberg.
Visit selectlearning.org to see all available courses.

Why Use Select Learning?

With the vast amount of Christian education materials available today, why use Select Learning?

Select Learning provides congregations access to the best teachers of the Bible from across the ELCA and other traditions.

Select Learning courses are educationally sound, utilizing top scholars to design and teach courses, and providing expertly prepared study materials that lead small groups through learning experiences that both inform and build supportive relationships.

Many Select Learning courses are accessible and useful for a wide range of learners, including:

- congregational study groups;
- text study groups;
- Synodically Authorized Ministries programs;
- Youth Ministry Network professionals;
- your group.

Select Learning courses are easy to use, and ideal for busy and geographically isolated learners.

Many Select Learning courses have an online learning component available. Learners are able to study together with an online community.

Select courses provide maximum educational benefit at a reasonable price.

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FREE Podcasts from the Lay School of Ministry (LSM) of the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin

The LSM has been equipping people to live a life of faith since 1993. Nine years ago, they decided to share their courses by creating podcasts of the presentations. You can access them all by going to the Select Learning store and clicking on podcasts. Here are two examples:

2017-18 LSM Podcasts

We Have Repudiated the Doctrine of Discovery! Now What?

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) passed a resolution repudiating the Doctrine of Discovery. It is one thing to pass a resolution. It is another thing altogether to live into it.

The LSM took the four resolves of these assembly resolutions seriously and planned an entire year of “study and engagement,” led by American Indian and other scholars.

A few of the many topics covered include:

- Doctrine of Discovery/history of colonization in the world and the role of the church
- History of Federal Law relating to Native Americans

2019-2020 LSM Podcasts

Understanding, Renewing, and Co-creating in God’s Good Creation

It is no secret that our earth is in crisis! The LSM decided to do more than recycle. They invited scientists, Biblical scholars, and theologians to join them in conversation about what actually is happening to our earth and possible solutions. Some of the podcasts available are:

- When the World was Wild and Waste & Other Creation Stories
- Faith-Inspired Care for the Environment in the Southwest
- Creation: A Native American Christian Perspective
- Climate and Faith: The Science, Our Shared Values and Some Responses

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