**JONAH**

**(Teacher: Pastor Lincoln M. Burruss, Jr.)**

**Noon and 7:00 PM in-person and Zoom**

It’s easy to read the story of Jonah and focus on his disobedience. Most studies focus on ***how*** Jonah responded to God’s call, instead of ***why*** he responded this way. This class digs deeper, sharing fascinating historical facts that will transform the way you see God, your calling, and others!

Jonah, like many believers struggle to love their enemies. Whether it’s people practicing other religions or those “stuck” in sin, God calls Christians to be a light and witness to the world around them. Discover what the story of Jonah teaches about hiding from God, loving your enemies, following God’s calling, overcoming judgement, and more!

Topics of Discussion:

* Jonah Flees God
* Jonah and the Great Fish
* Jonah Goes to Nineveh
* God Talks with Jonah
* Jonah’s Anger
* The Sign of Jonah in the Gospel

**Horizontal Jesus:  How Our Relationships with Others Affect Our Experience with God
By Dr. Tony Evans**

**(Teacher: Minister Karena Dobbs)**

**Noon and 7:00 PM on Zoom**

Loving God is vertical love. Loving others is horizontal love. Jesus showed His disciples how these two loves are intertwined in practical ways. While our relationship with God is based on faith alone, He warns and encourages us to see that the way we treat people affects our experience of Him. You’ll learn how to apply biblical principles drawn from several one-another passages in Scripture. In doing so, you’ll reap blessings in your vertical relationship with God.

**TRANSFORMING GRACE**

**Living Confidently in God’s Unfailing Love**

**Based on a book by Jerry Bridges**

**(Teacher: Deacon McLoyd Mansfield)**

**Noon in-person**

    In this class, we will learn from the Bible that the grace of God is one of the most important subjects in all of Scripture. At the same time, it is probably one of the least understood. All Christians by definition believe in grace. Many of us frequently quote Paul’s well-known words in Ephesians 2:8-9: “For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith, and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God, not by works, so that no one can boast.” Even Christian literature available on the subject of grace seems to deal almost exclusively with salvation. But the Bible teaches we are not only saved by grace, but we also live by grace every day of our lives. It is this important aspect of grace that seems to be so little understood or practiced by Christians. Most of us tend to base our personal relationship with God on our performance instead of on His Grace. If we’ve performed well, whatever “well” is in our opinion, then we expect God to bless us. If we haven’t done so well, our expectations are reduced accordingly. In this sense, we live by works rather than by grace.

**DEVELOPING A SERVANT’S HEART**

**Based on the writings of Dr. Charles F. Stanley**

**(Teacher: Rev. Dr. Lena Douglas)**

**Noon in-person**

* This study includes the teaching on how to become fully like Christ by serving others.
* How to live a godly life, how to maintain a loving relationship, and how to fulfill our reasons for being on this earth.
* It will clearly teach us how to use our gifts, time, talent, money, and more for God’s glory and His purposes.
* We will learn how to serve with generosity and love.
* Serving is giving, and giving is the very essence of the gospel.
* God gave His only begotten Son.  Jesus gave His life on the Cross.
* In developing a Servant’s Heart, will show how each of us have been equipped, empowered, and charged to do this as we follow the example of Jesus, the Supreme Servant.

This is a unique approach to Bible Study incorporating Biblical truth, personal insights, emotional responses, and a call to action.

**Each lesson includes:**

* Overview: A brief look at what is covered in the lesson.
* Life’s Questions: A teaching from Dr. Stanley that unpacks the topic of the lesson.
* Living the Principle: Application and Bible Study questions based on the key points.
* Reflection: Key takeaways to put into practice today and tomorrow.

**Lessons include as follows:**

* Introduction: A Fresh Perspective on Serving and Saved To Serve – Review
* A Servants Spirit, Jesus: Our Role Model As Servant And The Pattern For Service – Review
* Qualities of An Effective Servant (Part 1 and Part 2) – Review
* Equipped For Service
* Five Principles of Successful Service
* Avoiding Burnout in God’s Service
* Serving Through Spiritual Gifts
* The Rewards of Service

**The Red Sea Rules: 10 God-Given Strategies for Difficult Times**

**Study based on Book by Robert J. Morgan**

**(Teacher: Rev. Barbara West)**

**Noon in person**

Author Robert Morgan offers ten Biblical Strategies for dealing with hard times and discouragements to move from fear to faith—a divine protocol for handling life. Life is hard, especially for Christians. It is certain that we will face difficulties and that God will allow them. But just as certain is the fact that the same God who led us in will lead us out. As The Red Sea Rules make comfortingly clear, He is in control.

**Description:**

Using the Israelites' story in Exodus 14 as an example, the author offers ten sound strategies for moving from fear to faith. Just as Moses and the Israelites became trapped between Pharaoh's rushing armies and the uncrossable Red Sea, so are we sometimes overwhelmed by life's problems.

**Application:**

In The Red Sea Rules, readers will learn strategies to apply The Ten Rules:

* Realize that God means for you to be where you are.
* Be more concerned for God's glory than for your relief.
* Acknowledge your enemy but keep your eyes on the Lord.
* When unsure, take the next logical step by faith.
* Stay calm and confident and give God me to work.
* View your current crisis as a faith builder for the future.
* Envision God's enveloping presence.
* Trust God to deliver in His own unique way.
* View your current crisis as a faith builder for the future.
* Don't forget to praise Him.

The Red Sea Rules reveal that God promises to make way for us even during seemingly impossible situation. His loving guidance will protect us through danger, illness, marital strife, financial problems, or whatever challenges Satan places in the Christan's path.

Resources:

* Bible NKJV, unless otherwise stated.
* Red Sea Rules Study Questions
* Red Sea Rules Leader's Guide
* https://www.robertjmorgan.com/shop/red-sea-rules-study-guide/
* The Red Sea Rules: 10 God-Given Strategies for Difficult Times by Robert J. Morgan

**EXPLORING THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT**

**(Teacher: Rev. Tina Flowers)**

**7:00 PM in-person**

 Fruit of the Spirit – (Life Guide Bible Studies), by Hazel Offner

This course will go in-depth in examining each of the Fruit of the Spirit and show how God uses each one to enhance our spiritual growth, maturity and awareness, and how we can enhance and encourage the lives of others as we allow the Fruit of the Spirit to grow and work in us, ultimately positioning us to be more like Jesus.

The objectives of this course are for the student to be able to:

* Identify each of the Fruit of the Spirit
* Understand why God gave us the Fruit of the Spirit
* Connect with and better understand the scriptures
* Grow stronger in the Word of God by learning to apply the Fruit of the Spirit to your own life
* Share what you’ve learned with others

**Topics of Discussion**

* Love - 1 John 4:7-16; Gal. 5:6; Gal. 5:13-14)
* Joy – Luke 24:33-53; John 15:11
* Peace – Isaiah 43:1-7
* Patience – Matthew 18:21-35
* Kindness – 2 Samuel 9; 1 Cor. 13:4
* Goodness – Psalm 107
* Faithfulness – 2 Chronicles 20:1-30
* Gentleness – 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12
* Self-Control – 1 Samuel 26