

Resources for: A Season of Teaching and Learning

The 2012 Assembly resolved to “invite all congregations and faith communities to participate in a shared season of teaching and learning on Christian faith and discipleship in 2014.”

There are many resources that could be used to engage in this season of teaching and learning. Three members of the Doctrine working group have written some new studies that now have been published and made available by MediaCom. There are also many other resources that could be used. The ones listed below are recommended for Uniting Church groups. All these studies are available from MediaCom which will be advertising them in their own way.

There are also several conferences that people could participate in during 2014. They are listed below the recommended studies.

Studies:

Christianity in the Twenty First Century: 4 session study by Avril Hannah-Jones

Jesus Christ according to the Basis of Union: 4 session study by Geoff. Thompson

Living the Christian Life: 6 session study by Rod Horsfield

(These studies by members of the Doctrine working have been published by MediaCom in March, 2014)

Disciple: 34 week study that gives an overview of the entire Bible.

Helps individuals and congregations experience revitalization and real change in their lives. It is based on the model of Jesus and the twelve disciples teaching and learning.

Short term Disciple Bible studies: 8-10 week studies each

Invitation to the New Testament,

Invitation to the Old Testament,

Invitation to Romans,

Invitation to John,

and others.

Living the Questions: 21 sessions DVD

These studies strive to create an environment where participants can interact with one another in exploring Christianity. Leading progressive Christian thinkers provide input.

Saving Jesus: 12 sessions DVD

This is a small group exploration of Jesus Christ for the 3rd millennium. It is from a similar perspective to Living the Questions.

The Way by Adam Hamilton

Walk in the footsteps of Jesus for 40 days of reflection. This is devotional material for individual or group study.

Experiencing Jesus by Marcus Borg with Tim Scorer, 10 sessions DVD

This is an experiential study to accompany Marcus Borg's book *Jesus* in which he leads the reader on a journey to discover who Jesus was, what he taught, and why he still matters today.

Companions in Christ 28 weeks

This offers small groups a powerfully transforming experience in opening yourself to God's presence and guidance. Explore classic spiritual practices, develop new daily patterns that will open your life to a deepening relationship with God and others.

Embracing the Prophets in Contemporary Culture Walter Brueggemann with Tim Scorer, DVD 6 sessions

Eminent Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann presents this compelling faith exploration and develops the contemporary significance and relevance of the Old Testament prophets as uncredentialed purveyors of covenant and moral coherence in a world of power, money and violence.

Seekers Guide to Christian Faith by Ben Campbell Johnson

Warmly, wisely and gently this study leads readers through the basics of Christian faith. It is beneficial for both new and long-time believers. It will guide you in self-examination, alert you to signs of God's presence and help you understand faith.

Embracing Emergence Christianity Phyllis Tickle with Tim Scorer, DVD 6 sessions

Author, historian and keen cultural observer Phyllis Tickle invites us to join her in examining the changing face of Christianity and culture. She surveys 2,000 years of Western history identifying the great upheavals. The next is happening now. What are the key questions and issues to be addressed? Where are you at this moment?

Change the World Mike Slaughter, 6 sessions

Jesus called us to follow him, to live a life of active faith, welcoming the alien, and rescuing the desperate. This resource enables congregations to discuss and act on the imperatives of scripture.

Seasons of the Spirit

Adult Seasons of the Spirit CD pack

These studies deepen experiences of faith. They support life-long learning and faith formation. They encourage adult groups to extend their exploration of the scriptures and connect faith the life beyond the church – at home, in the community and the world.

Surprised by Hope N. T. Wright, DVD and book 6 sessions

This study deals with rethinking heaven, the resurrection and the mission of the church. Gain a new vision of your life on earth in the light of your future in heaven. What you believe about the future has a direct impact on how you live in the present. Renown New Testament scholar Tom Wright opens your eyes to the scope of what God's Word has to say about the world to come and the world that is.

Amos of Israel: let justice roll down Rob Bos, 5 studies

These studies take up the major themes of this prophet within the challenges of the present day.

Keys to Understanding Paul the Apostle Rob Bos, 6 studies

These studies delve into the first century culture to discover a man who gave shape to Christian faith and recognized that the gospel was for all people.

Mark's Jesus, Matthew's Jesus, Luke's Jesus, John's Jesus John Proctor, 20 page studies with questions for discussion Grove Books in the UK

These are refreshing studies on the four gospels by a well-known teacher who explores the author's techniques and themes with a view to discipleship.

"animate. Faith" DVD 7 sessions, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

"Is God real?" and "What really happened on the cross?" are questions asked in this new course that explores faith. It allows people and small groups to focus on their personal and religious journey. It addresses questions that may bring people out of their comfort zone, questions everyone secretly asks but often faith to raise.

Discipleship Training Course Chris Walker 12x 2hour sessions. This course is on the Assembly website: www.assembly.uca.org.au/theology

The Apostles' Creed series of 9 sermons Ben Myers at Leichardt Uniting Church

These sermons cover the key expressions of the Creed and could be used by discussion groups. <http://www.faith-theology.com/p/sermons.html>