

Bible Basics - Session Four: The Word in the New Testament

Review: The Word of God

A conversation with God
Multi-layered pictures of God
What does the Word “do” to us?

Review: The Promises of God

Unconditional Promises to Abraham: land, people and a blessing
Conditional Promises: Circumcision and the Ten Commandments
The Promise to David
The Promise always comes before the Command
The Word of God as Law and Gospel

Review: The Hope of God in the Old Testament

Isaiah: Salvation comes from God, not from Temple, Land, or the King. New emphasis on the eternal Word of God.
Hope for a Servant People/Person who will be a Witness, One who will be a sacrifice for sins, bring healing for others.
Israel called to a wider mission, to be a light to the world
Problem: Historical contra-theme: An isolating mentality to remain holy, separate from others, set-apart emphasis
Innies: Those who belong to God and keep the law
Outies: Those who are not descendants of Abraham don't qualify under the law.
The Hope set off over against the Historical reality

The Word in the New Testament - The Gospel of John

Chapter One The Creative Word

Parallel to Gen. 1
Word seen as a part of God but also separate
Word as Creative power
Word creates Life and Light
Light and Darkness theme (John's concept of faith: Seeing is Believing)
:9 light in world
World did “know” (another word for faith) him
Came to his own but they did not know him
Knowing him means being a child of God, born of the will of God, out of the word, word creates
Word becomes Flesh, a human being, dwells among us
Full of grace and truth
His glory: glory in John = the cross
No one has seen God but in the Son we experience the Father
Chapter 20 - Word leads to faith which leads to life
Words written that you may believe
Jesus Christ is the Son of God
Believing leads to life in his name.
Chapter 15 - Abiding in the Word
Vine and Branch image
:3 Word cleanses
Abide = to tent, to dwell with someone, under one's hospitality

:7 Word is the way that Christ abides in us
Love and keeping the commandments = abiding

Jesus as Replacement for the past, the New Thing that God is doing

Chapter 2 - Turning water into wine

Replace the old purification rites with “new wine”, with Christ himself
Creates faith

Chapter 2 - Replace the temple

Chapter 3 - Replace the Abrahamic line of descendants

born anew to see the kingdom of God
Born of water and Spirit

Chapter 4 - Replace worship sites

Woman and the journey to faith
Movement of discovering that Jesus is more than what meets the eye
What Jesus over comes in meeting with the woman, Light to world

Chapter 5 - Replace the Sabbath

Healing on the Sabbath

Chapter 6 - Replace the Passover

I am the Bread of Life
Must eat my body and drink my blood to have eternal life

Chapter 7 - Replace the Feast Day

:37 Come to me and live

Chapter 9 - Replace the Religious Leaders

Story of the healing of the blind man
The more the man is able to “see” (believe) who Jesus is, the more the Pharisees
are “blind” (do not believe)

The Word as the Presence of Christ in the New Testament

Romans 10

:14 How do we come to belief?
Hearing leads to believing
Need a preacher
:17 Faith comes from what is heard

Colossians

1:15ff image of the invisible God
In him all things created
In him all things are held together
In him the fullness of God was pleased to dwell
3:12ff Put on Christ
Put on love
One body
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one
another in all wisdom...

**Session Five: Read The Passion Narrative in the Gospel in John 18-20,
Matthew 26-28**