

# HOW TO READ THE BIBLE

A course in Biblical literacy

Session 1:

## The Surprise of Scripture

Further reading and suggested activities for small groups

### Activities for Small Groups

#### God's Big Story: From Stardust to the New Jerusalem

Visit the link below to find resources connected to Rev Len Vander Zee's video presentation: **God's Big Story: From Stardust to the New Jerusalem**. It is recommended that you watch the film with the extended introduction. On this page you will also find a PDF of suggested discussion questions and group activities:

<https://biologos.org/resources/the-big-story/>

#### Listening to God's Word

Use the NIV Audio Bible (free on YouTube) to listen to a New Testament epistle together. Share with each other your thoughts after listening and let this lead you into a time of prayer.

#### Bible Study: Reading the Bible in Three Dimensions

Read Mark Chapter 5 and think about how the Bible speaks to us as we adopt different positions for hearing God's word.

Consider this passage from:

- The "Reformation Position": what does this passage speak to you as an individual?
- The "Liberation Position": what does this passage speak to us as a people?
- The "Liturgical Position": what does this passage speak to us as a church?

Discussion facilitators may like to first listen to a sermon by Rev Sam Wells, which can be found on the Center for Excellence in Preaching website:

<http://cep.calvinseminary.edu/audio-sermons/how-to-read-the-bible-in-three-dimensions-a-sermon-from-mark-5-by-samuel-wells/>

#### Further reading:

- *How to Read the Bible for/ If It's Worth (4<sup>th</sup> Edition)* by Gordon D. Fee and Douglas Stuart (Zondervan, 2014)
- *The Bible Makes Sense (Revised Edition)* by Walter Brueggemann (Franciscan Media, 2003)
- *Being Christian: Baptism, Bible, Eucharist and Prayer* by Rowan Williams (SPCK, 2014).

#### Online resources:

- **TheBibleProject.com** offers a wide selection of short animated videos on books of the Bible, including a series on How to Read the Bible. There is also a Podcast on this series that is worth listening to.
- An audio recording of this evening's talk, the accompanying PowerPoint and links to other relevant resources will be available online at **Fitzroy.org.uk**.

**DON'T  
MISS...**

*How to read... Genesis  
with Dr Desi Alexander*

**SUN 14<sup>th</sup>  
OCTOBER**