



TWO EDGED SWORD

Des Moines, Iowa.

At the end of each semester of Cover-to-Cover we survey our students. It is their opportunity to evaluate the class, content and teachers.

Our newly opened campus at Valley Evangelical Free Church is taught by Pastor Tom Mason. Each person was transformed through Cover-to-Cover by the power of God's Word. Listen to one student's evaluation.



"This course has been life-changing for me. I came into the class without a real knowledge of the Old Testament at all. I feel like my relationship with the Lord has grown so much, and my understanding is much more in-depth. I am excited about the Word."

No Secret!

It is no secret about what takes place in our Cover-to-Cover Bible Survey Classes. People meet the Lord in a deep and profound way when they give themselves to His Word, the Bible. They discover that God's Word is God's power and God's power is God's Word.

Our mission at Village Schools of the Bible is to teach God's Word and transform lives. We believe Hebrews 4:12 where it says, *"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."* (Heb 4:12 ESV) 2 Timothy 3:16, 17 adds, *"All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work."* (2Ti 3:16-17 ESV)

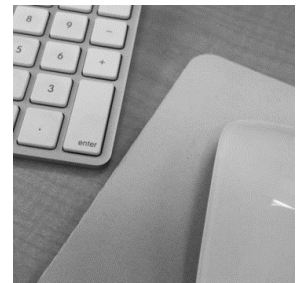
As you begin 2017, begin each day with God in His Word, then watch its transforming power in your mind, heart and life.

Executive Director of Village Schools of the Bible.

ONLINE Cover-to-Cover Update

Our online version of Cover-to-Cover is starting to draw students from around the world, and from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Among our online students this semester are pastors from Uganda and a Liberian-American. Our current online mentor is from North Carolina. Another mentor, ready to take on students as we expand, is from South Africa. (Last year we had a Muslim background believer among our "live class" students, and we have some Chinese students as

(Continued on page 3)



Thank You to our Faithful Ministry Partners!

Below is our prayer for each one of our generous donors, to whom we are deeply grateful:

I thank my God in all my remembrance of you...making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now...It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me...in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. — Philippians 1:3-7 (ESV)

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ONLINE Cover-to-Cover Update *(continued from page 1)*

well). So our Village Schools community is starting to take on a more global dimension. We love the rich way that people of different backgrounds can learn from one another. What unites us? Our love of Jesus Christ, the gospel, and the transforming power of God's Word. Below is a snapshot of some of our student feedback.

"This was wonderful for me. I was able to get through Scripture without feeling too overwhelmed...it was intense and time-consuming—but SO

well worth it. Thank you!!"—Amy Sonquist, Online Student, Fall 2016

"Jesus is written all over the Old Testament and everything points to Him. This course far exceeded my expectations, mainly because the Holy Spirit used it to change me in every way to be completely submitted to and trusting in Jesus Christ and His plan for human history."—Carrie D., 2015 online student.

"I have so enjoyed and learned and grown as a follower of Christ through the OT and NT Cover-to-Cover courses.

I cannot thank you enough for providing an online option, for the great mentoring, and for the thought-provoking questions to help us along the way. I tell everyone about this great class!...I am planning on having my home-schooled son take Cover-to-Cover for one of his classes. He is taking College part time, so this will be perfect for him!"—Minda S., 2015 online student.

Do you know anyone who could benefit from the online version of Cover-to-Cover? Please help us spread the Word!

2017 MÂCHÉ CONFERENCE for Home Schools

Village Schools will be at the MÂCHÉ Conference in St. Paul again on 21 & 22 April. Our goal is to inform parents about Cover-to-Cover and explain how it can help them disciple their children—and earn college credit. Warren Coe will be presenting a workshop on this theme.



Village Schools' at the 2016 MÂCHÉ Conference

"My eldest daughter and I took Cover-to-Cover together...I cannot begin to put a value on the heart-changing effect of studying God's Word through Village Schools...My daughter earned Bible minor credits at the Univ. of Northwestern, St.Paul." Sonja L.

Let your home-schooling friends know about this opportunity.

Notable Quotes about the Bible

"It is impossible to enslave mentally or socially a Bible-reading people. The principles of the Bible are the groundwork of human freedom."

Horace Greeley (1811-1872) was the founder and editor of the New-York Tribune, among the great newspapers of its time.

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Cover-to-Cover ONLINE

One student's story

"To say that this course has been life changing is an understatement. Getting a full view of Scripture and how it ties into Jesus has been very exciting! The online class worked well, offering flexibility with work and our family schedule. I strongly recommend this class to my Facebook friends as well as friends from church. High school and college students would benefit from this online class if they want to get stronger in their faith and /or need the intellectual challenge this class provides.

Answering the questions for the papers helped me think about how Scripture fits into history and applies to life. Uncovering amazing new insights about the Bible through answering the course questions and reading the course material has been invaluable spiritually and intellectually. It is a wonderful and amazing privilege to study Scripture. I very much look forward to the New Testament class."

Carie Jorgenson, Online Student, Fall 2016.

SAVE THE DATE!

VSB Annual Celebration-Graduation Sunday, May 7, 6-9 pm

Theme: Discipling through the Bible.

- Keynote speakers to be announced.
- Includes student testimonies.
- Recognition of 2016/17 students.
- Check our website for updates.

VSB UPDATE

February 2017

Spring class schedule

Practical Guidelines for Everyday Faith

Facilitator: Warwick Alcock & others

Thursdays | Feb 2-Mar 23 | 6:45-8:45pm | Cost \$100

This discipleship seminar series helps Christians with personal, practical, faith application at home, church and work. It includes the following elements:

- + The priesthood of all believers—implications for everyday life.
- + Practical ways to build bridges & engage non-Christians in everyday life.
- + How to share the gospel in a contextually relevant manner.
- + How to start a Bible Study where we live and work.
- + Tough challenges in the real world—how to cope under pressure.
- + Personal plan of action.

NEW TESTAMENT COVER-TO-COVER

Wayzata Free Church, Plymouth | Warren Coe

Mar 8-Apr 26 | 6:30 pm | Cost 129

The class will cover the inter-testamental period and the Gospels. The rest of the New Testament will be studied in fall 2017.

New Testament Overview by Dr. Martin

Sundays | Mar 12-Apr 30|3:00-5:00 pm | Cost \$100

This course provides and introductory overview of the New Testament. It provides helpful, overarching context for a deeper study of God's Word.

Visit our website for full details and to register:

villageschoolsofthebible.org



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February 2017

VSB UPDATE

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