



Our Hall of Faith

Changed Lives

He came to my Cover-to-Cover Bible Survey class a defeated and anxious follower of Jesus Christ. Expecting more from Christ but experiencing little peace. Then he met the Messiah of the Old Testament. He watched the Lord care for His people from Abraham to Malachi for over 1400 years. He discovered God's unstoppable plan of redemption for sinners like himself. After thirty two intense weeks in God's Word he learned that God can be trusted, He always delivers on His promises, and followers of Jesus Christ are the most secure and confident people in the world. He said, ***"This journey through God's Word changed my life."***



Our Mission

For thirty four years Village Schools of the Bible has been *teaching God's Word and transforming lives*. We have disciplined over 7,000 people and always the same response—"This transformed my life."

What is the secret to effective discipleship? God's Word! Psalm 119:89 says, *"Forever, O Lord, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens."* Psalm 119:92, 93 adds, *"If your law had not been my delight, I would have perished in my affliction. I will never forget your precepts, for by them you have given me life."*

We have a saying at Village Schools of the Bible. God's Word is God's power and God's power is God's Word. All that our teachers need to do is teach God's Word with fidelity and dependence upon the Holy Spirit. God does the rest.

Our Hall of Faith

Hebrews 11 is called the Biblical Hall of Faith. Great heroes of the faith are recorded in this famous chapter. Abraham, Sarah, David, Rahab and many more are accorded high honors because they were men and women of faith—they took God at His Word and obeyed Him.

Village Schools of the Bible has its own Hall of Faith. They are you, our prayer and financial supporters. Because of you we are able to fulfill our Lord's great commission and make disciples of all the nations (Matthew 28:19, 20). **You have been faithful to pray. You have been diligent and sacrificial to give. Thank you!**

One day someone will ask that young man in my Cover-to-Cover Bible survey what changed his life. He will say "God's Word taught at Village Schools of the Bible" and we will add "all our faithful prayer warriors and financial donors who helped make it happen."

Thank you for faithfulness in fulfilling the Great Commission.

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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| Five Oaks Church, Woodbury, MN | Eileen Gogolakis | Connie Kendall | Bruce & Carolyn Pinke |
| Grace Community Church, Worthington, MN | Brenda Gold | Liz & Cary Kimmel | |

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Financial Update

We are grateful for the Lord's financial provisions at Village Schools of the Bible. **He is faithful!**

Donations overall were strong in 2017. This year's giving season was much higher than 2016. Our December giving was 43% higher than December 2016. We had an 11% increase in the net number of donors .

In 2011—seven years ago—we had 209 yearly donors. In 2017 we have 263 donors. Total giving in 2011 was \$181,227. This year we received \$255,560 in gifts.

We have enjoyed the Lord's increase over the last seven years. Join us in giving thanks to the Lord!

Meet Jennifer Dougan

Village Schools of the Bible Teacher, Currently Teaching at Living Faith Church in Blaine

Jennifer Dougan loves to point people to God's life-transforming words. She has over 20 years of church ministry as a youth pastor's wife and church staff member, experience in women's ministries, co-facilitating women's and couples' retreats, and in leading Bible studies, Sunday Schools and small groups. Jennifer loves to teach God's Word.

She speaks often at MOPS and MOMS NEXT mothers groups, women's retreats, conferences, camps and adult Sunday Schools. Jennifer has a BA from University of Northwestern - St. Paul with a double major in Communications and Bible, and enjoyed taking several classes from Dr. Harvey Martin. Jennifer and her husband serve in ministry together in the Twin Cities and have three children. For more information, see her web site at jenniferdougan.com



Student Testimonies

"I was surprised by how much application of God's Word in my life was presented in this class. This was an amazing journey and has been a source of strengthening my faith's foundation." -- Wayzata Free Church, Plymouth

"This class gave me the most comprehensive connection of God's plan for His people and their future that I've experienced. His grace and love are tantamount. The Bible is so much clearer." -- Calvary Church, Roseville

"Best course ever! Wish I would have taken this course when I was a young (new) Christian. I've fallen deeper in love with God." --Valley Church, Des Moines

"This was an amazing course. It was transforming, informative and fun. I have learned so much and this truly is the best Bible study I have ever taken." --Living Faith Church, Blaine

SPRING CLASSES

Cover-to-Cover ONLINE New Testament | Starts March 5

Join this class for the second semester of Cover-to-Cover, a unique journey through God's Word where you will discover God's unfolding plan of redemption, the unity of the Bible, the centrality of the gospel and the person of Jesus.

March 5-June 18 | Cost: \$129 (Financial Assistance available)

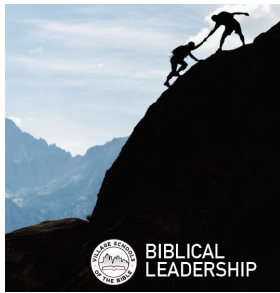
Need flexibility? This may be the perfect class for you!

Take this 16 week class from the comfort of your home. This option is ideal for busy moms, business travelers, home-school families, shift workers and anyone who can't attend at a set time and place each week.

Register at Village Schools of the Bible.org/register



Biblical Leadership | Starts Wednesday, March 7 | 6:30-8:00 pm | Dr. Harvey Martin



This class is for those who desire to model their leadership on the Way, Truth & Life of Christ.

Wayzata Free Church, 705 Hwy 101 N, Plymouth, MN 55447

Cost: \$125 (Financial Assistance available)

The Book of Acts presents the church as consisting of called out believers from various people groups of the world, who need guidance and direction, and who need to be equipped for a changing world.

Course overview

This course covers key aspects of leadership including the difference between Biblical and secular leadership, the work of the Holy Spirit in leadership, biblical worldview, biblical leadership principles, perils of leadership, evaluation of leadership, leadership style assessment, and leadership in practice.

SUMMER & FALL CLASSES

Summer classes will be announced towards the end of March with Dr. Martin and Pastor Habbena teaching.

We are planning for a full slate of classes this fall, including Cover-to-Cover (Old Testament) and Everyday Faith. Both live classes in the Twin Cities and Des Moines and Online classes will be offered.

Check our website for up-to-date information.

Paper or E-Mail? Help save resources!

Sign up to receive your VSB Update via email.

Call or email us to change your address or unsubscribe.

Thank You!

Notable Quotes about the Bible

Reading the Bible without meditating on it is like trying to eat without swallowing. --Anonymous

Here, then, is the real problem of our negligence. We fail in our duty to study God's Word, not so much because it is difficult to understand, not so much because it is dull and boring, but because it is work.

Our problem is not a lack of intelligence or a lack of passion. Our problem is that we are lazy.

--R. C. Sproul

New Developments

Spiritual Formation Pathway

Village Schools of the Bible now offers three discipling tracks that build systematically on one another to *help equip the saints for ministry, for building up the body of Christ...to the unity of the faith and ...to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ...*(Eph 4:12-16).

These tracks are:

1. **Cover-to-Cover Bible Survey**—a crucial foundation for spiritual formation.
2. **Everyday Faith**—encourages thinking through faith application in everyday life.
3. **Biblical Leadership**—to help people lead by spiritual methods as opposed to secular methods.



Pipeline for Leadership Development



Now, more than ever before in our “post-Christian” culture, the church needs spiritually discerning leaders: people who are Word-saturated, Spirit-led, Christ-honoring and maturing in their faith journey. Taken together, these courses amount to 52 weeks of immersion in God’s Word in preparation for God’s mission. It’s a great way to develop servant leaders modeled on Christ and equipped for a changing world.

High School or Homeschool Students

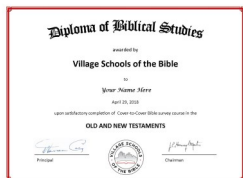
Did you know? Our course offerings are suitable for students aged 14 and above. Village Schools of the Bible has a close relationship with Educational Consultant Cheri Frame (from Credits Before College) who is well known in MACHE (Minnesota Association Christian Home Education) circles. Our course offerings can help fulfill high school courses. In addition high schoolers can earn university credits.

Need University Credits?

Co-operative agreements with University of Northwestern-St. Paul, Crown College and Association Free Lutheran Bible School mean that students can obtain university credits for our three course offerings. This is a great opportunity for students to build a solid foundation in their faith, develop a robust Biblical worldview, and develop leadership skills that can last a lifetime.



Certificate or Diploma Level?



Not everyone takes our courses at university level (what we call Diploma level). Diploma level courses are intensive and require considerable work (including writing papers each week) to meet university credit requirements.

However, students also have the option of taking our courses at the certificate level (not for university credit). All students are expected to journal (write papers), but the writing requirement for certificate-level students is a fraction (about 15%) of that of Diploma students.

Why do we ask students to journal?

Journaling encourages students to slow down from the frenetic pace of life, and truly immerse themselves in God’s Word. A strategic decision to put God first in one’s life is character-forming and transformational!



2018 Annual Celebration

Sunday, April 29, 2018 | 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

You are invited! Join students and teachers from all our campuses as we celebrate their discipleship goals this past year. Students will be honored for the completion of Cover-to-Cover Bible Survey, Everyday Faith and Biblical Leadership.

Our **guest speaker** is **Larry Julian** – author and Village Schools' graduate. Larry is a successful consultant, speaker and author who specializes in leadership development. He has written four books: *God is my CEO*, *God is My Coach*, *God is My Success* and his latest release with co-author Jay Coughlan, *Five Bold Choices*.



Special music will be provided by an Association Free Lutheran Bible School Gospel team. (AFLBS is one of the colleges offering credits to VSB graduates).

There will be worship, celebration, fellowship and an opportunity to support the ministry of Village Schools of the Bible. Please mark your calendar, invite your friends and bring your family for this special event!

Where? Hope Presbyterian Church, 7132 Portland Ave, Richfield, MN 55423 (North of I-494 on Portland Ave)



13815 Ridgedale Drive
 Minnetonka, MN 55305
 952.540.9460
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VSB UPDATE

March 2018

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