

# *Leaders' Training Seminar*

*Grace Community Church*

*Women's Ministries*

*August 30th, 2017*



*Welcome!*

On behalf of the pastors and elders of Grace Community Church,  
thank you for your investment in the lives of the women at our church  
and for your leadership in Women's Ministries!

May today be an enriching time of instruction  
that will leave you better equipped as a steward of God's Word  
and shepherd of the women He has placed in your care.

May the Lord will work in you and through you  
to encourage and edify His people  
as you proclaim the excellencies of Christ.

May your conviction and joy in the truths of God's Word be strengthened  
and your love for God and His people increase through this time together.



## *Schedule*

9-9:15	Check-In & Welcome
9:15-10:30	<i>Session One</i> How to Study a Text of Scripture to Lead a Small Group Discussion
10:30-11:45	<i>Session Two</i> How to Lead a Profitable Discussion Group
11:45-12:30	<i>Lunch</i>
12:30-2	<i>Session Three</i> How to Effectively Shepherd Your Women

“For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this,  
that one died for all, therefore all died; and He died for all,  
so that they who live might no longer live for themselves,  
but for Him who died and rose again on their behalf.”

*2 Corinthians 5:14-15*

## *Meet our Teachers*

### *Ann Bradley*



Ann was the youngest of five children and moved across the country as a toddler for her dad's career in aerospace. As a young teen, she began attending Grace Community Church and invited her high school sweetheart to come to church with her sweetheart, Doug. Both went on to graduate from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, with Doug's degree in mechanical engineering and Ann's in Child Development/Family Counseling. They married in December of 1977 and raised their four children at Grace: Matthew, Adam, Julia, and Lauren. The Bradleys are currently grandparents to 7, who are a great source of joy to them.

Doug and Ann have hosted a Bible Study (now a Joint. Heirs study) in their home for most of their marriage. Over the years Ann has served in the Bell Choir, as an AWANA leader and director, in the nursery, as a deaconess, prayer room counselor, Bible Study Fellowship Substitute Teaching Leader, as well as various other ministries. She has never stopped being grateful that the Lord allowed her and her family to be part of such a vibrant, Bible teaching church. Ann loves being an "older woman," able to live out Titus 2:3 and teach other women, by God's grace.

### *Chris Gee*



Chris was born in Oakland, California and raised in the nearby city of Castro Valley. In 2004, he made the trek down to Los Angeles to attend UCLA where he studied mass communication and English. After graduating from college, he went on to study at The Master's Seminary and earned his M.Div. and Th.M. degrees. He currently serves as the UCLA Grace on Campus shepherd in Crossroads, the Director of The Logos Institute, and is the Director of Shepherds' Conference. Chris has been married to his wife Linda since 2012, and they have two sons.

### *Crystal Grauman*



Crystal grew up in a pastor's home in L.A., married her best friend, Josiah, and then had their first baby while serving overseas with her husband as missionaries. Crystal now supports her husband through his ministry as the Director and Professor at the Instituto de Expositores, (IDEX) or The Expositors Institute, in L.A. IDEX trains Spanish speaking pastors and teachers to accurately exposit the Word of God through night classes on the Grace Church campus as well as through an online program for international students.

Crystal's first priority is to serve her husband and family at home. Her heart is also to disciple younger women and she is involved in the Spanish women's ministry at Grace and is a leader in the Seminary Wives program at The Master's Seminary.

Josiah and Crystal have three children: their oldest, Abby (9), was born in Mexico while their two boys, Noah (7) and Silas (6), were born in L.A. One of her favorite verses is Galatians 6:9-10: "Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary. So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith."





## Session One

Ann Bradley

### **How to Study a Text of Scripture to Lead a Small Group Discussion**

“You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.”

*2 Timothy 2:1-2*

What do I do as a leader, to prepare for interaction and questions regarding the text that is being studied and discussed?

How can I avoid making wrong interpretations of the passage?

What do I do when I don't understand the question being asked?

Tools: (As with any tool, mastery isn't automatic. It takes practice!)

Hermeneutics: Principles and methods used to interpret biblical text according to the language it was written in, its historical context, identity, and purpose of the author, literacy, nature, and situation in which it was originally given.

Where do I go to get this information?

1. Who was the writer and to whom was it written?
  2. What was the cultural/historical setting of the writer?
  3. What did the words mean in the writer's day?
  4. What was the author's intended meaning and why was he saying it?
  5. What should this mean to me in my situation today?
- (Holman Bible Dictionary)

The most important rule of biblical interpretation is “context.”

- Recognize that we have our own biases, shaped by our own opinions, culture, and theological beliefs.
- Old Testament wisdom sayings, found predominantly in Job, Proverbs and Ecclesiastes, give practical advice on coping

with life and its troubles. It is NOT meant to work in every situation.

- Biblical wisdom sayings must be used with caution and great discernment (Proverbs 1:1-6).

An analysis of the passage and study techniques/general principles of preparation for teaching:

#### 5 Parts of Homiletics:

1. Content (1-20 items of content)
2. Divisions (2-4 divisions)
3. Subject Sentence (Overall summary, written concisely in 10 words or less)
4. AIM (Main biblical truth that you want your group to learn)
5. Application (Application of biblical truth that encourages change in one's heart and actions)

#### **Proverbs 1 :1-9 Homiletics**

##### Content

1:1 \_\_\_\_\_

2a \_\_\_\_\_

2b \_\_\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_\_\_

4a \_\_\_\_\_

4b \_\_\_\_\_

5a \_\_\_\_\_

5b \_\_\_\_\_

6 \_\_\_\_\_

7 \_\_\_\_\_

8a \_\_\_\_\_

8b \_\_\_\_\_

9a \_\_\_\_\_

9b \_\_\_\_\_

Divisions

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Subject Sentence

AIM

Application Questions

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Preparation requires four steps:

### **PRAY**

- For your ladies
- For the speaker
- For the church/class
- For your humility and strength - you won't always understand what you're studying or have the answer to all the questions your women ask. Admit it and be willing to research to find the answer or help your ladies research.
- For God's guidance as you lead
- For belief that if something in God's Word doesn't make sense or appears to contradict something else, the problem is NOT with Scripture. The Bible is infallible, we are not. Pray for clarity as you study deeper.

### **PREVIEW**

- Read the passage in its entirety several times before attempting to begin your homiletics.
- Understand the context of the passage.
- Review questions prior to your group discussion.

### **PRACTICE**

- Like any new skill, homiletics takes repetition and practice. Don't get discouraged, but be encouraged by progress and keep working at it.

### **PROCLAIM**

- Remember why you are doing this!
- To increase your knowledge and love of God and your understanding of His Word
- To be equipped to lead others to increase *their* knowledge and love of God and understanding of His Word

## Session Two

Chris Gee

### **How to Lead an Profitable Discussion Group**

#### **A Biblical Philosophy of Small Groups**

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##### **A. Are Small Groups in the Bible?**

1. You cannot find the concept of small groups as we know it today in the Bible. Scripture does not give us any kind of command, methodology, or model for small groups.
2. However, the book of Acts does give us a description of the early church gathering together for various reasons. (Acts 2:40–47)
3. While there is never a direct command in Scripture to have small groups, there are numerous commands in Scripture instructing believers on how to care for each other. e.g. the “one anothers”
  - a. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love (Romans 12:10; 1 Peter 3:8)
  - b. Admonish one another (Romans 15:14; Colossians 3:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:14)
  - c. Be united with one another (Romans 12:16; 1 Cor. 1:10; 1 Peter 3:8)
  - d. Serve one another through love (Gal. 5:13; 1 Peter 4:10)
  - e. Show forbearance to one another in love (Ephesians 4:2)
  - f. Be tender-hearted to one another (Ephesians 4:32)
  - g. Forgive one another (Ephesians 4:32; Colossians 3:13)
  - h. Teach one another (Colossians 3:16)
  - i. Encourage one another (1 Thessalonians 5:11 and 14; Hebrews 3:13; 10:25)
  - j. Be hospitable to one another (Romans 12:13; 1 Peter 4:9)
  - k. Be sympathetic toward one another (Rom. 12:15; 1 Pet. 3:8)

- l. Restore one another (Galatians 6:1)
- m. Bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)
- n. Look out for one another's interests (Philippians 2:4)
- o. Confess sin to one another (James. 5:16)

#### B. The Purpose of Small Groups

Small groups are a chosen application to obey biblical commands that cannot be easily accomplished in the larger context of the local church. In other words, small groups provide a setting for believers to more easily and more effectively carry out biblical commands than the formal church gathering on Sunday.

- 1. Extend pastoral care (Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 5:2)
- 2. Cultivate deeper accountability (Prov. 27:17; James 5:19-20)
- 3. Encourage more intimate fellowship (Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 10:24-25)
- 4. Provide opportunities for believers to serve and exercise spiritual gifts (Romans 12:1-8; 1 Peter 4:10)

#### **Facilitating Discussion**

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##### A. Prepare yourself (Ezra 7:10)

- 1. Meditate
- 2. Apply

##### B. Comprehension → Lesson Planning → Teaching → Teaching/ Discussion

### C. Shift the Workload

1. The more you allow small groupies to engage in the truth being taught during small group, the more they will develop convictions about the truth and the more they will practice the truth.
2. **Maximum involvement = Maximum learning**
3. Practical ways to shift the workload
  - a. Have questions that encourage critical thinking.
  - b. Ask for examples.
  - c. Ask another small groupie to rephrase, evaluate, add on, or clarify what was said.
  - d. Ask the why and how questions.
  - e. Ask your group members to provide biblical evidence for their answers.
  - f. Allow your women to practice leadership.

### D. Asking Questions

1. General guidelines
  - a. Think through your questions ahead of time.
  - b. Avoid asking more than one question at a time.
  - c. Make your questions as simple as possible.

#### E. Types of questions

Different types of questions accomplish different things. Some questions get small groupies to think about new concepts, some get them to come up with the answers themselves, some cause conviction, and some help you to see if they are tracking. Choose the right kind of question to accomplish your goal for the moment.

1. Yes and no questions
2. Open and close ended questions
3. Thinking questions
4. Building block questions

#### F. Types of answers

1. Wrong answers
2. Right answers
3. Semi-right answers
4. No answer

### **Small Group Dynamics**

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1. During your small group time, you are discussing the topic of forgiveness and you say, “We are to forgive others as Christ forgave us. Think about how much sin Christ has forgiven you! If you hold a grudge against someone, that is inconsistent with being a Christian!” At that point, one of your small groupies looks down for a few seconds, and when she finally lifts her head, you can see tears on her face.



Another small groupie notices she's crying and asks her, "Are you okay?" she responds, "I'm just so convicted that I've been holding a grudge against my sister."

*What do you do in that moment? What do you do after that night?*

2. During small group, you are teaching on the basics of salvation. One of your small groupies asks, "Do you believe in supralapsarianism or sublapsarianism?"

*How would you respond?*

3. During small group, you are teaching on the doctrine of election. One of your small groupies interrupts you and says, "I don't agree with this."

*What do you do?*

4. One of your small groupies dominates the discussion every week. She is almost always the first person to answer your questions. She's also long-winded. Another small groupie is very quiet. She has not answered a single one of your questions. When you ask her to speak, she gives short, terse answers.

*What do you do about the person dominating the discussion?*

*What do you do about the quiet woman?*

5. You have four women in your small group. One is an all-star and has a reputation of being very spiritually mature. The second is not very mature at all. She says she's a Christian, but her lifestyle reveals a lot of worldliness. Your third small groupie attends church on and off. Not many people know who she is. She's told you that she doesn't really get along with people at Grace Church and that she currently struggles with the assurance of her salvation. Your fourth small groupie is 90 years old and has been attending Grace Church for 45 years. She babysat John MacArthur's children!

*How do you shepherd a group like this?*



Session Three  
Crystal Grauman  
**How to Effectively Shepherd Your Women**

*Intro:* What is Women's Ministry?

Why is "shepherding" so important?

Bad Shepherding vs. Good Shepherding

**Saul** (1 Sam 15:23) vs. **Moses** (Ex 32:10-11)

Shepherding is seeking the \_\_\_\_\_  
of the flock.

**David** (2 Sam 11:1) vs. **Paul** (1 Thess. 2:7-12)

Shepherding is \_\_\_\_\_  
of one's self .

**Rehoboam** (1 Kings 12:10-11) vs. **Peter** (1 Pet 5:3)

Shepherding is \_\_\_\_\_  
by example.

**Jeroboam** (1 Kings 12:26-28) vs. **Jesus** (Mt 26:42; John 10:11)

Shepherding is \_\_\_\_\_ God's will.

**Recommended Books for Additional Study:**

- Instruments in the Redeemers Hands, *Paul Tripp*
- The Shepherd Leader, *Timothy Z. Witmer*
- A Gospel Primer for Christians, *Milton Vincent*



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