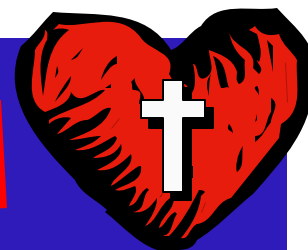


Teaching From The Heart



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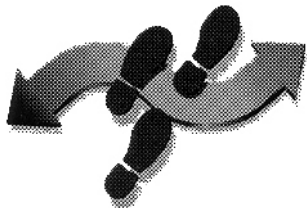
Summer 2004

Episcopal Diocese
of Albany

Walk Thru the Bible: Old Testament Saturday, August 21, 2004 at the Spiritual Life

Upcoming Events:

Walk Thru the Bible
Sat., August 21, 2004
Spiritual Life Center
\$15 (youth)-\$25 (adult)
(See reg. form p. 3)



Connecting Kids to Christ

Sat., Sept. 25, 2004
Clifton Park, NY
(More info:
www.cmmag.com)

Laurie's Links:

www.walkthru.org

Find out more about the
Walk Thru the Bible seminar!

www.christianitytoday.com/parenting/

Parenting articles, tips,
humor and a free e-newsletter that's SUPER!

What people say about WTTB:

"Walk Thru the Old Testament blew our Parish Family Weekend away! I have never received as much positive feedback on any other program we have done."

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church, SC

"People who attended (from 8 through 80!) were engaged and actively participating throughout the daylong seminar. Our presenter was friendly, lively, and used lots of humor. He was extremely knowledgeable about the material...but most obvious was his love for the Lord."

St. Barnabus' Episcopal Church, OH

"It is truly for the whole family. Folks left feeling they could find their way around and through the Bible. No more confusion and frustration about God's message of salvation for all. I commend this educational ministry as a way to open windows into God's Word."

St. David's Episcopal Church, PA

Since 1976 more than 2 million men, women and children have attended 30,000 live seminars in 10,000 churches representing 100 denominations. This seminar will teach just about anyone the 77 major people, places and events of the Old Testament in chronological order. The Bible will come alive as never before as we see God's ultimate plan to prepare the world for the coming of Jesus Christ unfold before their very eyes.

Sign up today! See the registration form on the next page.

What are the effects of a WTTB seminar?

- * 75% of attendees make a commitment to read their Bibles and pray daily for at least 30 days after the seminar.
- * Integrate knowledge of all 39 books, 929 chapters and 23,214 verses of the Old Testament.
- * Family participation as parents and children use hand-signs, phrases and humor to learn about God's plan in their lives. (Just think of the dinner conversations you can have after this!)
- * Re-inspire teachers and leaders on a daily path of Bible study and renewed understanding.



Goal Setting 101 for Your Christian Ed Programming

Do your teachers know what the goal is for your Sunday School or parish this year? Do you have a clearly defined theme based on that goal? If not, follow these steps:

1. First, meet with your parish clergy leader to check on diocesan or parish goals for the coming year. (*Up to one year before programming begins.*)
2. Next, gather teachers and leaders to brainstorm and come up with possible goals, or themes based on established goals.
3. State the goal.

Goal-setting provides:

- * Focus
- * Empowerment
- * Team-building
- * Guidance

Themes provide:

- * Creative ways to meet your goal.
- * Programming and curriculum ideas.
- * Easy advertising.

Ex: “Fully Experiencing Eucharist: Creating Understanding and Communion”

4. Finally, come up with workable program themes based on the goal that let your congregation know the focus of Christian Ed for the coming year.

Ex: “Eucharist as Thanksgiving” or “Our Congregation in Communion”

Base programming on your goal. Build interest through themes. Assess your success at year's end. Did you meet your goals? What changes need to be made next year?

We Gather Together...Creative Teacher Meetings

Puzzle Pieces

Divide a picture of your church into pieces that equal the number of teachers you have. Invite teachers to a pre-fall or fall planning meeting by including the puzzle piece as an invitation. When they arrive, show them how each piece is vital to the church by putting the puzzle together, or by showing them how incomplete it is without all the pieces.

Discovery Centers

Can children learn more about baptism if they're allowed to 'baptize' baby dolls in water? Set up simple workshop areas for your teachers to explore, then discuss whether or not you can incorporate more experiential learning into your programming.

(For ideas go to www.rotation.org)

Ideas that Worked

Ask teachers to bring in one idea that really worked well last year in class to share with everyone else.

Ideas That Didn't Work

Ask teachers to talk about curriculum or methods that *didn't* work and ask the group to help solve the problem and ease the frustration before beginning a new year.

Stories from the Field: Your Success Stories

From St. Andrews, Scotia:

Everyday Graces, a book by Karen Santorum, provided a six week unit that was very successful. Teacher Christine Bissonette reports:

“Never before has a series of church school lessons been so well received by our parish. For several weeks after, various parish members made a point of telling us just how good they thought it was. It brought our parish together (adults and children) in a way that has not happened before. One of our parish ladies even wrote a poem about the program which was published in our church newsletter.”

Contact St. Andrews for more info: (518)374-8391

St. Paul's Church in Greenwich

recently celebrated Youth Sunday. Teachers were recognized for their efforts and students led portions of the service.

Under the direction of Marge Sullivan, the Sunday School became "full-time" this past year, meeting every Sunday with an enrollment averaging seventeen students.

St. Paul's is also planning to launch an afternoon event this summer called "Missionaries in the Home", an inter-generational program.

Contact St. Paul's for more info: (518)692-7492



You are invited to an interactive, creative and dynamic seminar. Come and *Walk Thru the Old Testament*

When: Saturday, August 21, 2004

Time: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Where: Spiritual Life Center, Greenwich, NY

Contact: Deacon Laurie at (518) 465-4737

E-mail: LGRohr@albanydiocese.org

Cost: \$25 adult/\$15 ages 8-15,

or \$80 per family

Includes lunch, snacks, and all materials

Scholarships available

Who: Adults, teens, children, families, clergy, youth groups, vestries, Sunday School staff, neighbors...



Complete this form to register:

Deadline is Friday August 13, 2004

Name and address (If family registration, list all names and AGES on a separate sheet)

_____ **Parish:** _____

Fee enclosed (see categories above): _____

E-mail: _____ **Phone number:** _____

If paying by credit card, please include the full number and expiration date:

Circle one: MC or VISA Card # _____

Send this completed form with payment to:


Albany Episcopal Diocese, 68 S. Swan Street, Albany, NY 12210



How We Learn...

- + 5 -10% retention through spoken or written communication
(lectures and reading assignments)
- + 25% retention through media
(videos, audio tapes)
- + 40 – 60% retention through role play
(skits or drama)
- + 90% retention through direct experience
(actual hands-on experience such as travel)

**"Tell me and I'll forget.
Show me and I may remember.
Involve me and I'll understand."**

 **UNLOCK
4,000 YEARS
OF GODLY
WISDOM IN FIVE
MEMORABLE
HOURS...**

Walk Thru the Old Testament Seminar

Sat., August 21, 2004

9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Spiritual Life Center

Registration form inside

**To subscribe to this newsletter by e-mail or US Post, send a note to
LGRohr@AlbanyDiocese.org or to Christian Ed, Episcopal Diocese of Albany,
68 S. Swan Street, Albany, NY 12210**

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Disciples Making Disciples

