

## BIBLE STUDIES

### Reading the Gospel of John during the Season of Light (Epiphany, 2020)

The Good Book Club of the Episcopal Church is inviting all in the Episcopal Church together the Gospel of John for the season of Epiphany (beginning January 6 and ending on the day before Ash Wednesday, February 26). Those who agree to join in will commit to reading a section of John's Gospel every day. As Scott Gunn, head of Forward Movement writes, "The reason to do this is simple: reading scripture changes us. When we step back and see the big picture--reading a whole book--we see God's love for us a bit differently than we might if our usual encounter is tiny snippets of scripture when we come to church. Reading the whole Bible changed my life, and it started for me one book at a time. I think it might change you, too." More information to come. For now, think and pray about joining your fellow parishioners and wider Episcopal Church in committing to what could be a life-changing endeavor. [The Good Book Club](#).

### Monthly Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study meets next on Friday, **February 7** in the Church from 10-12. We are making an in depth study of Mary, the mother of Jesus, using Edward Sri's book [Rethinking Mary in the New Testament: What the Bible Tells Us about the Mother of the Messiah](#) as a resource. All women are welcome. Bring your friends!

### Monthly Men's Bible Study

Next Meeting **Friday, January 17**, 7:30 - 8:30 AM in the Church. All men welcome. Facilitated by Joe Bollinger and Eric Savage. Coffee will be on! Come join us. Meets the third Friday of the month. [CLICK HERE](#) to review the scriptures ahead of the gathering (we are following Track 1 of the assigned lectionary readings).

### EfM Enrollment Is Now!

EfM is the gold standard for adult-level education about the Bible and Christianity. It is a fascinating closer look at all the things we usually take for granted as well as many we never heard of before. Even better, it is a safe, confidential, and friendly environment in which to share our questions, uncertainties, doubts, and faith experiences.

EfM is a small group of seekers, looking for ways to enrich and deepen Christian experience. The class size is limited to a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 12. There are 36 weekly meetings during the term. The entire course is four terms, but enrollment is just one term at a time.

The full name of the course is Education for Ministry, but that can be misleading. This course is not intended for people who want to become priests. Instead, it is for anyone in the pews who wants to know more about how to read the Bible, how to understand the development and growth of Christianity and our personal responses to all this. The “ministry” referred to is everyone’s ministry to one another and to the world. This ministry is in our baptismal vows.

If you are intrigued by the description above, this may be the time you are being called to try this unique course. [CLICK HERE](#) for additional information about the program.

Our certified EfM mentors are Elsbeth McKeen and John Sucke. Talk to them or any of our priests about this opportunity. The annual fee for the course materials is just \$10.46 per week, payable in advance (\$375). St James’ offers financial help to all who need it for this course.

Meeting time and day has not been established at this time, but will be set at the first meeting in 2020 to best accommodate the schedules of participants.

Registration required. Please contact David+, [John Sucke](#), (phone 808-885-4495) or [Beth McKeen](#) for additional information or to register.

