



HCC Leadership Development Class - Week 8

Intro to Leadership- January 21, 2021

I. Intro/Review

II. God/ Revelation

- General Revelation
- Special Revelation

III. Scripture

- What is the Bible?
- What is in the Bible?
- What is the Bible about? *Discuss The Story of the Bible, Reading the Bible as a Unified Story*
 - Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration
 - **OT** (shadow) → **1st Coming & Cross** (fulfillment) ← **NT NT 2nd Coming** (reality & consummation)
 - Old Testament – preparation for Christ
Gospels – presentation of Christ
Epistles – proclamation of Christ
Revelation – proclamation of Christ (pointing forward)
Creation and Royal Task
Rebellion and the Fallout
God's Covenant with Israel
Jesus and the Kingdom of God
The Spreading of Kingdom People
The Return of the King

*“Some people think the Bible is a book of rules, telling you what you should and shouldn’t do. [...] Other people think the Bible is a book of heroes, showing you people you should copy. [...] But no, the Bible isn’t a book of rules, or a book of heroes. The Bible is most of all a Story. It’s an adventure story about a young Hero who comes from a far country to win back his lost treasure. It’s a love story about a brave Prince who leaves his palace, his throne—everything—to rescue the one he loves. It’s like the most wonderful of fairy tales that has come true in real life! You see, the best thing about this Story is—it’s true. There are lots of stories in the Bible, but all the stories are telling one Big Story. The Story of how God loves his children and comes to rescue them. It takes the whole Bible to tell this Story. And at the center of the Story, there is a baby. Every Story in the Bible whispers his name. He is like the missing piece in a puzzle—the piece that makes all the other pieces fit together, and suddenly you can see a beautiful picture” (Sally Lloyd-Jones, *The Jesus Storybook Bible*; cf. John 5:39-40; Luke 24:).*

- What is the point of the Bible?
 - How does the Bible get to us?
 - God—Inspiration—Canonization—Transmission—Translation—Us
 - Inspiration
 - Canonization
 - Myth – the Church created the Canon at the Council of Nicea in AD 325
 - Fact – the Church recognized the Canon pretty much from the beginning
 - Transmission
 - We have stronger evidence for the text of the gospels than any other ancient document...textual criticism is the field of study which studies all the texts we have, compares them, and suggests what the original most likely looked like. Our ability to reconstruct what the originals looked like is exceedingly high. The contents of 97-99% of the text are certain beyond any reasonable doubt- far better than any other document of the same age. Furthermore, no doctrine of the Christian faith hangs on any disputed text. (Blomberg, *Jesus and the Gospels*, 75)
 - Translation
 - Myth – today’s English Bibles are translations of translations of translations. Thus, much has been lost from what was written in the original languages.
 - Fact – our English Bibles are translated directly from the original languages. Though various English translations differ slightly, they are all direct translations from the original Greek and Hebrew and are therefore reliable.
- Can we trust the Bible?
 - *Discuss, Can we Take the Bible Seriously* article
 - What does the word infallible mean?
 - What does the word inerrant mean?

IV. This Week’s Readings:

1. In Your Book: WCF 2, WCF 3.1-2, WCF 4, WCF 5
2. God is King: The Sovereignty of God (PDF)
3. “What Became of Providence?” from *Seeing Through Cynicism* by Dick Keyes (PDF)
4. Watch Video: [What is the Cultural Mandate?](#)

For more reading: *Knowing God*. by J.I. Packer or *The God You Can Know*, by Dan DeHaan, *The God Who is There and He is There and is not Silent*, by Francis Schaeffer