WHAT TO EXPECT

The goal of education at Illumine is that God would give you spiritual wisdom through lecture, discussion, & his Word. Everything that happens will revolve around a central concept. The class will last for 60-65 minutes.

- **Restrooms** are in the blue hallway.
- There is a nursery available for parents and restless children. The rocking chairs in the sanctuary are for you, too.
- Please fill out the connection card. It’s our best way to get people involved and to plan ahead.
- The entire class is found in this booklet and on the screen. Use whichever you like. The written music for the song is included on the following pages.
- There will be an offering today. This is for the regulars – if you’re a guest, thanks for coming, it’s an honor to have you.

If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to ask. Everyone you see around you is working to accomplish the same goal – that we can all be served by hearing what God has to say. If we can take down barriers that get between you and that message, we will.

Thank you,

Kent Reeder, Pastor

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Show friends where you are – check in!
TODAY’S CLASS

Education Series: Not the Problem

Some say that if you ask 5 people about a verse in the Bible, you’ll get about 9 different opinions on what it means. Why is that? What causes there to be so many differing interpretations of the Bible?

You’ll often see people point at the book and say that it is flawed in some way that makes it open to interpretation. The truth is, however, that the Bible is not the problem. People are. When we don’t keep in mind how to approach the Bible and what kind of book it is, we’re bound to get off track. We’ll spend this series discussing how we can interpret Scripture safely and correctly.

Today: Says = Means

What the Bible says is what the Bible means. It is such a very simple concept, but it is so often overlooked or swept aside as we try to make God’s will fit with ours (instead of making our will fit with God’s!)

Says = Means. It’s as simple as that, and it’s wonderful that God will speak to us in such a way.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

Lord,

Teach me your way
and I will walk in your truth.
   Unite my heart
and I will fear only you.

Amen.
Psalm 119:33-40

33 Teach me, LORD, the way of your decrees, that I may follow it to the end.
34 **Give me understanding, so that I may keep your law and obey it with all my heart.**
35 Direct me in the path of your commands, for there I find delight.
36 **Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain.**
37 Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word.[c]
38 **Fulfill your promise to your servant, so that you may be feared.**
39 Take away the disgrace I dread, for your laws are good.
40 **How I long for your precepts! In your righteousness preserve my life.**

Psalm 86

Verse 1
O Lord my God, incline your ear and answer me, for I am poor.
Preserve my life. Rescue this slave who trusts in you, O Lord my God!

Verse 2
O Lord my God, “Show me your grace!” to you I cry all the day.
Make glad this soul. Your servant save.
My soul I lift, O Lord my God.

Chorus
Teach me your way and I will walk in your truth, in your truth.
Unite my heart that I may fear only you, only you.
Verse 3
O Lord my God, you are so good.
Quick to forgive and bountiful
in loving kindness to everyone
who calls on you, O Lord my God. (Chorus)

Verse 4
O Lord my God, I will give thanks
with my whole heart and glorify
your name forever, for you have saved
my soul from hell, O Lord my God! (Chorus 2x)

Psalm 119:41-48
41 May your unfailing love come to me, LORD,
your salvation, according to your promise;
42 then I can answer anyone who taunts me,
for I trust in your word.
43 Never take your word of truth from my mouth,
for I have put my hope in your laws.
44 I will always obey your law,
for ever and ever.
45 I will walk about in freedom,
for I have sought out your precepts.
46 I will speak of your statutes before kings
and will not be put to shame,
47 for I delight in your commands
because I love them.
48 I reach out for your commands, which I love,
that I may meditate on your decrees.
When we reach out for God, meditate on his decrees, put our trust in and focus on his true word – then and only then do we have hope and contentment.

Lord, have mercy on us, for we have turned our eyes away. We have given in to distractions and excuses. We have allowed worthless things to overshadow your plans and ideals for us. We have spit your word of truth from our mouths, filling them with selfishness, unkindness, greed, and deceit.

May your unfailing love come to us, Lord, your salvation according to your promise.

In your unfailing love you sent Jesus, the fulfillment of your promise, unfailing love in human form. In love, he lived the life we could not. In love, he died the death we deserved. In love, he took away our sin and gave us his holiness.

He did this not just to be an example and show us the way, but to be a sacrifice given in our place to fulfill the desires of God that we could not.

He lived perfectly as our substitute. He died painfully, enduring our punishment. He rose victoriously, bringing our victory. Amen.
Start with WHY

Define Interpretation:
Determining what the ________________ author meant for the ________________ reader.

Presuppositions:
1. of faith...
   a. The Bible is _______________________.
   b. The Bible is _______________________.

2. of fact...
   a. It’s an ________________ document.
   b. It’s a ________________ document.
   c. It’s a ________________ document.
No lies:
“Every word of God proves true.” Proverbs 30:5
Balaam’s Prophecy in Numbers 23:13-26

No codes or hidden meanings:
Modern mediums. (Isaiah 8:19-22)

Why bring this up?
The ugly history of Biblical Interpretation:
• Early allegory from Judaism.
• The Medieval “Quadriga”
  o Historical Meaning
  o Allegorical Meaning
  o Anagogical Meaning
  o Moral Meaning
• The Wesleyan Quadrilateral
A Balanced Method

Literalistic ← Correct → Figurative

Level 1: What do the words say?
Level 2: What do the sentences say?
Level 3: What does the general context say?
Level 4: What does the biblical context say?

Examples

- Psalm 40:1-2
- Exodus 17:5-6 (1 Corinthians 10:1-4)
- 1 Corinthians 15:14-15
- John 1:1 (Proverbs 30:5)
Offering

- Connection Cards
- Prayer Requests
- Text Donations

Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

O God, Our Lord, Your Holy Word

1. O God, our Lord, your holy word
2. Salvation true, by faith in you,
3. Lord, you alone, this work have done
4. You are my Lord, and by your word

was long a hidden treasure.
that is your Gospel's preaching,
by your free grace and fearful,
death holds no dreadful terror.

'Til to its place it was by grace
the heart and core of Bible lore
All who believe will grace receive
Your precious blood my highest good,
restored in fullest measure. For in all its sacred teaching. In through Jesus Christ, our Savior. And has blotted our my errors. My

this today our thanks we say and Christ we must put all our trust, not though the foe would over throw your thanks to you! Your Word is true; you

gladly glorify you. in our deeds or labor; Word with grim endeavor, keep your promise ever.

Your mercy show and grace bestow with conscience pure and heart secure what plan he tries it always dies; While here I live, your grace you give

on all who still deny you. love you, Lord, and our neighbor. your Word will stand forever. and heaven's bliss forever.
this week @ ILLUMINE

Today
11:30am: Community Service Open Forum (Adults)
Sunday School (Children)

Wednesday, May 20th
5pm: BIC

Thursday, May 21st
7:30pm: Music Rehearsal

Saturday, May 16th
YPA Prom @ Illumine

Sunday, May 17th
10am: Education – The Bible is Not the Problem pt. 4
11:30am: Community Service & Sunday School

Mark Your Calendars
May 31st: 5th Sunday Potluck / Patio Day

Week of June 10th: Summer Basics Course begins.

July 13-17: Illumine Science Camp

August 7th: Trivia Night!

Illumine Church is a confessional Lutheran congregation and a member of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, a national body of over 1,290 congregations.