



LAIDLAW
centre for
**CHURCH
LEADERSHIP**

READING THE BIBLE

A Laidlaw at Large Course at Your Local Church



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Reading the Bible

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“Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so.”

Have you ever wanted to go deeper into the Bible, to learn more about how Jesus shines through its pages, to wrestle with the bits you have questions about, and to step back to see more fully the whole story of what God is doing in the world?

On Tuesday evenings, join us for *Reading the Bible*, a Laidlaw at Large course that will enrich your faith and deepen your understanding of God’s Holy Scripture.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Bible is the most printed book in human history, and the foundation of our Christian faith. Yet too many Christians remain only casually acquainted with many of the pages of Scripture, and are even less certain about how to live out of what God has given us.

Reading the Bible will reintroduce you to the story of the Bible – a story that begins with Creation and ends with a New Creation, centres on Jesus Christ, and claims to make sense of the whole human world. The course is designed to help you see more clearly the “picture on the jigsaw puzzle box” to help you read, narrate and live the Bible more faithfully.

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LECTURERS

Reading the Bible is taught by a team of lecturers from across Laidlaw College, bringing different parts of Biblical teaching and scholarship to bear.



Laidlaw's National Principal, **Roshan Allpress**, has been passionate about helping people engage with the story of the Bible for nearly twenty years. An historian by training, with degrees from Canterbury and Oxford,

Roshan brings a level of expertise to the Biblical story that helps students find themselves within its pages.



Head of Theology and Senior Lecturer, **Myk Habets**, provides a depth of knowledge and enthusiasm to the classroom, no matter the theological topic. With degrees from AUT and Otago, Myk incorporates a classical-theological perspective to

Reading the Bible that helps students discern how the story of the Bible shapes their own theology.



Professional Teaching Fellow, **Joey Millington**, brings together the Bible and pastoral sensitivities to the classroom. A local pastor at East City Wesleyan Church with degrees from Sussex and Wolfville, Canada, in ministry

and Biblical studies, Joey communicates the Bible to students in an intensely practical manner.



Senior Lecturer, **Greg Liston**, applies his research on the Holy Spirit and the Church into his understanding of the Biblical story in a masterful way. Greg is a unique lecturer with Ph.D.'s in both theology and quantum physics, as well as pastoral experience within

the Baptist church. Greg inspires all who learn from him to explore the Christian faith deeper than they ever have before.



Culture and Relationship Coordinator, **Lisl Baker**, embraces the poetic and prophet tradition of the biblical story in not only her teaching but her general disposition through community. Hailing from

Canada with a theology degree from Ottawa and pastoral experience in Vancouver, Lisl helps students ignite the emotion of the biblical story within themselves.



Education lecturer, **Sam Burrows**, has poured considerable time and research into reflecting on the spiritual landscape of Aotearoa New Zealand. Sam has both practical teaching experience and a Masters

of Theology focusing on the trends within current New Zealand spirituality. His understanding of the biblical story, coupled with the contextual moment we all live in, helps students understand how God might be able to use them as His disciples in the world.

Laidlaw at Large

Laidlaw Courses in Local Churches – A Videoconferencing Option



HOW IT WORKS

It is an interactive videoconference, including your church site, the Henderson and Manukau campuses of Laidlaw, and 5-6 other church sites. You come to your local church each Tuesday, sit around discussion tables with 6-15 others, and watch a screen or large TV that will show the lecturer and their display. You'll also be able to see the other classes at their various locations. You control what you see and what the lecturer hears. Sometimes the lecturer will be talking, sometimes they will get you to discuss things in your local small groups, sometimes they will have a big discussion with all the sites simultaneously. The experience is very close to having the lecturer in the room with you.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Details

Lectures will happen every Tuesday, 6:30-9:30pm, from 28 February to 23 June 2023. The first lecture will be shorter and introductory, and there will not be lectures during school holidays. If you are doing the course for credit, you should expect to spend another 7 hours each week reading and doing assignments. If you are doing the course just for interest, then we recommend spending another hour a week doing assigned reading.

Costs

There are two options.

- For credit (includes assignments): \$878.25
- Just for interest: \$373.00

While we recommend the credit option (as you learn best by applying your knowledge), we recognise that not everyone has time to be able to do this. Note that the credit option can also count towards a diploma or bachelor's degree.

NEXT STEPS

Questions

If you have questions, first talk to the relevant people at your church. For anything they cannot answer, feel free to contact Admissions at Laidlaw (freephone 0800 999 777).

Interested?

If you are interested, first give your details to the relevant people at your church. They will then give you instructions about how to sign up at <https://www.laidlaw.ac.nz/apply/>.

The final date for applications is 27 January 2023, but if possible, we need to know well before then to properly set up your church as a remote lecture site. The sooner you can enrol the better. You don't need to pay until a few weeks before the course starts.