



Fall 2020 Session

**FBCV
Virtual
Connection Groups**

VISIT THE REGISTRATION LINK FOR DETAILED
COURSE DESCRIPTIONS AND TO SIGN UP.



REGISTER TODAY!
tinyurl.com/fbcvgroups

About Connection Groups

The fall session of Virtual Connection Groups will begin in October (see course descriptions for specific dates).

<u>Course Title</u>	<u>Facilitator</u>	<u>Meeting Day & Time</u>
The Life of a Jesus Follower	Sis. Antoinette Guidry	Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.
Resilient Faith	D.IT. Andre Carpenter	Mondays at 4:00 p.m.
Pressure Points	Min. DeMarcus Robinson	Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.
Help My Unbelief	Sis. Melinda Warren	Fridays at 6:30 p.m.
The Church and the Racial Divide	Dea. John Taylor	Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

Space is limited, so register today to ensure that you can reserve a space in your desired class. Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/fbcvgroups>

Once registered, you will receive Zoom links and any other information needed to prepare for your group.

A Limited number of textbooks are available for purchase at the church. The prices listed in the course description are the cost for purchase at the church. Books may also be purchased online at www.lifeway.com or www.amazon.com



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The Life of a Jesus Follower

Text: *The Life of a Jesus Follower: Stop Living for Jesus so Jesus Can Live Through You - Bible Study Book* by Vance Pittman (Cost: \$14.00)

Instructor: Sister Antoinette Guidry

Meeting Day & Time: Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. (October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 & November 7)

Description:

Does Christianity ever seem like a burden to you? Why is something that came so naturally to Jesus so difficult for us? We have complicated and over-programmed the simple way that Jesus showed us to love God and others.

Jesus' life on earth revolved around three relationships. First, He walked in an intimate love relationship with the Father. Second, He lived His life in fellowship with His disciples—doing life with others was the outflow of His relationship with the Father. And third, He lived His life engaging and cultivating relationships with people who didn't know God at all.

These relationships define the essence of the life of a Jesus follower. And when we follow Jesus' model of relationship, we will sink into the freedom He offers. We will stop working so hard, bound by the exhausting and burdensome rules of religion. Instead, we will allow His life to take over our own.

Session topics

1. Burdened
2. Abide: I'm in a Relationship with God
3. Abide: Spending Time with God
4. Connect: I Belong
5. Connect: Life in Community
6. Serve: I Have a Mission
7. Serve: The Mission is Big
8. Unburdened

Benefits

- Invest in the three key relationships modeled by Jesus.
- Discover what it means to have true fellowship with other followers of Jesus.
- Find your place in God's mission.
- Exchange the "burden" of religion for the simpler, biblical method of following Jesus.
- Develop healthy habits to become a growing follower of Jesus.



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Resilient Faith

Text: *Bible Studies for Life: Resilient Faith – Bible Study Book* by Mary Jo Sharp
(Cost: \$10.00)

Instructor: Deacon in Training Andre Carpenter

Meeting Day & Time: Mondays at 4:00 p.m. (October 5, 12, 19, 26; November 2, 9)

Description:

Resilient Faith examines the Book of 1 Peter, a short letter that offers the needed understanding of what a resilient faith looks like and how we can stand strong regardless of what comes at us. For so many of us faith is an "easy" thing. We go to church, we read the Bible, and we love Jesus. But what happens when our comfortable world is turned upside down? For too many of us it shakes our faith to the very foundation. This six-session study is needed because we all face—or will face—difficult times when we need to stand firm in our Christ-centered faith.

For so many Christians in the American culture, faith is an easy thing. They go to church, they read the Bible, and they love Jesus. But what happens when their comfortable world is turned upside down? For too many people, their faith is shaken. Faith in Christ can-and should-be constant, because Christ, the One in whom we place our faith, is constant. We all face-or will face-difficult times when we need to stand firm in our Christ-centered faith. The Book of 1 Peter offers the needed understanding of what a resilient faith looks like and how we can stand strong regardless of what comes at us.

Session Topics

1. Focused Faith
2. Active Faith
3. Enduring Faith
4. Ready Faith
5. Joyful Faith
6. Victorious Faith

Benefits

- Gain a foundation for sure hope for humankind
- Help you find joy even in a world of pain and suffering
- Find the freedom to do what is good and right
- Connect with others in Biblical community.



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Pressure Points

Text: *Bible Studies for Life: Pressure Points – Bible Study Book* by Chip Henderson
(Cost: \$10.00)

Facilitator: Minister DeMarcus Robinson

Meeting Date & Time: Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. (October 8, 15, 22, 29; November 5, 12)

Description:

Pressure is nothing new. But rather than allowing it to crush their faith, James beckoned first-century believers to let the pressures of life push them deeper in their journey with Jesus. The Book of James beckons you, too. Open your heart and life to the truth of God's Word and deal positively with the pressure points in your life. Learn how to keep sin, frustration, harsh words, and wrong actions from ruining lives and hurting others. Pressure doesn't have to dismantle your faith; rather it can lead you to experience the presence and power of God like never before.

Session Topics

1. The Pressure of Trials
2. The Pressure of Temptation
3. The Pressure of Partiality
4. The Pressure of Words
5. The Pressure of Conflict
6. The Pressure of Retaliation

Benefits

- Continue developing into a person who knows Christ and His work
- Understand the importance of contributing to the community of faith
- Learn ways to effectively engage the culture without losing distinction
- Connect with others in Biblical community.



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Help My Unbelief

Text: *Help My Unbelief: Why Doubt is Not the Enemy of Faith – Bible Study Book*
by Barnabas Piper (Cost: \$14.00)

Facilitator: Sister Melinda Warren

Meeting Day & Time: Fridays at 6:30 p.m. (October 9, 16, 23, 30; November 6, 13)

Description:

All of us have questions about faith, but we often feel awkward or uncomfortable asking them. We assume doubt is always a bad thing. God is infinite, beyond our understanding—yet He chooses to reveal Himself in ways that spark our questions rather than settling them all. Instead of making Himself smaller and easily understood, God invites us into a larger faith—one that has room for questions, victories, failures, and mystery. Belief in an infinite God by finite humans is an act of exploration. It's a process of learning all we can understand and trusting God in all we can't.

Session topics

1. Where Doubt Comes From
2. Doubts that Break Our Faith
3. Bring Your Doubts to Jesus
4. Admit Your Struggle
5. Jesus' Response to Doubts
6. Doubts and Deeper Faith

Benefits

- Explore how Christians struggle with doubt and unbelief.
- Understand that experiencing doubt is part of what it means to be human.
- Strengthen your faith by wrestling through questions.
- Distinguish healthy doubt from hurtful doubt.
- See biblical examples of doubt.
- Learn to bring your doubts to Jesus.
- Cultivate the humility to seek God through your questions.
- Rest in God's promises and character in the middle of doubt.
- Realize that faith is often built through struggle.



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The Church and the Racial Divide

Text: *The Church and the Racial Divide: Finding Unity in the Race-Transcending Gospel – Bible Study Book* by Trevor Atwood (Cost: \$14.00)

Instructor: Deacon John Taylor

Meeting Date & Time: Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. (October 8, 15, 22, 29; November 5, 12)

Description:

In light of racial tension in America, many Christian leaders are talking earnestly about racial reconciliation. Many pastors and lay leaders look at the growing tensions in our churches and wonder how they can be a healing force in our culture. The problem is they don't know where to begin. The average evangelical Christian may not understand why racial reconciliation is a gospel imperative. The average pastor may not know how to pursue it.

Session topics

1. Imago Dei
2. God's Heart for All People
3. Breaking Down the Walls
4. Pursuing Gospel Relationships
5. Race and Culture
6. Where Do We Go from Here?

Benefits

- Understand how the gospel of Jesus Christ applies to racial tension, differences, and reconciliation.
- Develop sensitivity for people of different backgrounds.
- Resist apathy and move past fearfulness on an important issue.
- Appreciate the culture and background of all brothers and sisters in Christ.
- Understand race as an important topic that should be explored as a normal part of a practicing disciple's life.
- See God's vision of a people from every nation, tribe, and language.
- Learn to minister across ethnic and cultural lines.