

FOUNDATIONS CLASSES ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY

When we were writing the Foundations classes, we wrote them with the learner in mind. We asked ourselves, "What are the books that we want every disciple of Jesus in our church to have on their bookshelf as a resource for their life long walk with Him?" As we wrote the classes, we wrote around these texts with the hope that you can have resources that will help you grow in the knowledge and love of God even long after you walk out of our classrooms. Below are the books we landed on, with a brief description and explanation of why we think they're worth having on your shelf.

Burge, Gary M. *The New Testament in Seven Sentences: A Small Introduction to a Vast Topic*. Downers Grove, Illinois: IVP Academic, an imprint of InterVarsity Press, 2019.

Burge's book is an extremely accessible, yet also very high quality look through some key points of New Testament studies. FD 104 makes use of Burge's explanation of New Testament themes to help the learner understand the terrain and be able to orient themselves in the New Testament. This book refuses to get caught up in the weeds of New Testament introduction, while also refusing to compromise on the quality of content.

Dorman, Theodore Martin. *A Faith for All Seasons: Historic Christian Belief in Its Classical Expression*. 2nd ed. Nashville, Tenn: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2001.

A Faith for All Seasons was written out of years of experience teaching college students about the historic doctrines of the Christian Faith. Rather than choosing a Systematic approach to theology, Dorman helps readers place themselves into the history of theological development, asking and answering questions about how the Church has answered doctrinal questions over the last 2,000 years. The result: A helpful guide to orthodox Christian teaching that is perfect for an interdenominational setting. This text is used in each of our courses on Christian doctrine, FD 105, 106, and 107.

Fee, Gordon D, and Douglas K Stuart. *How to Read the Bible Book by Book: A Guided Tour*, 2014.

Fee and Stuart bring their expertise as scholars and their love of the Bible together in this brilliant tool that walks book by book through the entire Bible, providing outlines, summaries, and important historical and cultural notes to help you read the Bible for yourself. This is a complimentary text for FD 103 and 104 on the Old and New Testaments.

Fee, Gordon D., and Douglas K. Stuart. *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*. Fourth edition. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 2014.

If you want to get the most out of your Bible reading, you need to read with a view to the literary nature of the Bible—and that's exactly what Fee and Stuart help you with in this text. One by one, these top notch scholars walk through each and every genre in the Bible, giving you helpful tools, questions to ask, and examples that allow you to hear the Bible the way the authors intended. This is the main text for FD 102 on understanding the Bible, and is also referenced in 103 and 104 on the Old and New Testaments.

Mindling, Jim. *Learn to Breathe: The Surprising Path to a Transformed Life*. N.P.: Westbow, 2013.

Written out of the life of Church of the Open Door by our own Pastor Jim Mindling, Learn to Breathe is everything you need to know to begin and continue walking with Jesus. Using the image of physical breathing, Pastor Mindling combines decades of experience in pastoral ministry and years of research into living in the power of the Spirit with his gift of creative communication to help every believer in Jesus get practical about following Him, to learn from Him, to become like Him. An indispensable treasury of Mindling's teaching, this book helps you to catch the vision of what it really means to live your life to become more and more like Jesus. This is the primary reading for our final class in the Foundations series, FD 108 on living the Christian life.

Piper, John. *Think: The Life of the Mind and the Love of God*. Wheaton, Ill: Crossway, 2010.

One of the most influential pastor-theologians of our era, John Piper passionately builds the bridge between knowing things about God in an intellectual sense, and knowing God in an intimate sense. Explaining both without minimizing either one, Piper makes it clear that God desires for us to love Him with a knowing love. He helpfully, biblically, and succinctly calls Christians to be thinking people and explores how and why that is so central to our love of God so that we don't fall into the trap of seeking knowledge for its own sake. This book is the main text for the first class on why we should use our minds in our relationship with God, FD 101.

Wright, Christopher J. H. *The Old Testament in Seven Sentences: A Small Introduction to a Vast Topic*. Downers Grove, Illinois: IVP Academic, 2019.

Wright's book is an extremely accessible, yet also very high quality look through some key points of Old Testament studies. FD 103 makes use of Burge's explanation of Old Testament themes to help the learner understand the terrain and be able to orient themselves in the Old Testament. This book refuses to get caught up in the weeds of Old Testament introduction, while also refusing to compromise on quality instruction.

