

Q Module One: *'The time has come'*

This module surveys the first 5 books of the New Testament - the 4 Gospels and Acts. We will look at the life of Jesus and the early years of the church. We will see that Jesus was announcing something revolutionary when he declared that 'The time has come... The Kingdom of God has come near.' (Mark 1:15)

Q Module Two: *'Christ died for the ungodly'*

This module surveys the 22 letters that make up the rest of the New Testament. These are the words of first Century men, like Paul, but more fundamentally these are the words of God. The good news of Jesus is unpacked for us - that 'Christ died for the ungodly' (Romans 5:6). These are words to live by.

Q Module Three: *'In the beginning God...'*

Here we go back to the beginning of the Bible and see that everything starts with God (Genesis 1:1). We trace the story of God's dealings with Israel through the 17 historical books of the Old Testament. We discover how God was announcing his plan to send Jesus from the very beginning.

Q Module Four: *'...a light on my path'*

In this module we look at the five 'Wisdom books' of the Old Testament, where we see how to live in God's world. We will delight in God's Word that proves to be 'a lamp for [our] feet, [and] a light on [our] path' (Psalm 119:105). In these books we will find true wisdom and true worship.

Q Module Five: *'He will reign on David's throne...'*

We finish our survey of the Old Testament with a look at the 17 books of prophecy. The prophets both speak God's Word into their contemporary situations, and speak about what's to come. In these books we hear the drumroll for the King who would 'reign [forever] on David's throne' (Isaiah 9:7).

Q Module Six: *'Behind the Scenes'*

In the last module we go behind the scenes of the New Testament. We explore history and geography, religion and politics. We consider what everyday life in first century Israel would have looked like. This module will bring the world of the New Testament alive to you.

THE DIOCESAN *Bible* COURSE

Q Explore the most important
book in the world...



THE BIBLE
IS LIKE NO
OTHER
BOOK
IN THE
WORLD.

It was written over a period of **1500** years on
3 continents in **3** languages; a library of **66** books
written by more than **40** different human authors...



... And yet the most remarkable characteristic of this book is that it claims to be the Word of God Himself. This is where we hear God speak. This is where we find wisdom for living in God's world. This is the book that helps us to understand who Jesus is and why he came.

It reveals to us how we can follow Jesus faithfully, and how we can know God better. This is the book that every Christian should know well.

Why not join us to explore the most important book in the world?

Q Venue and course dates

We will meet on Tuesday evenings at St Donard's Parish Centre, 2-10 Bloomfield Road, Belfast, BT5 5LT, from 7.30-9.30pm (including a coffee break). Parking available. The course is taught over 20 months and each module will be 10 weeks long.

MODULE ONE: 3 OCTOBER - 5 DECEMBER 2023

MODULES TWO-FOUR: JANUARY - DECEMBER 2024

MODULES FIVE-SIX: JANUARY - JUNE 2025

Q Who is the Diocesan Bible Course for?

This course is for Christians at any stage on their journey with God who want to know more about the Bible and how it relates to their lives. No prior theological knowledge or qualifications are needed. It will be particularly useful for Sunday School teachers, youth group leaders, small group leaders, evangelists, church planters or lay readers. This course will lay a foundation for further theological training.

Q Who will be teaching the course?

The course will be taught by Josh Hooker. He is a Crosslinks Mission Partner, who has been teaching the Bible in southern Africa for the past 17 years. He is currently involved in teaching and training in the Diocese of Down and Dromore.

Q What do we expect from you?

- There are no exams or assignments.
- Those who attend are encouraged to read further, but the most important thing is to come regularly with a Bible and a desire to learn more about God's Word.
- Certificates will be awarded to participants who attend all six modules for at least 70% of the course.
- Ideally, participants should attend all the modules, but it is possible to sign up for just one or two.
- Each module costs £30 (payable at the beginning of each module).

Register for the course

Please email Josh Hooker: joshhooker1998@gmail.com

