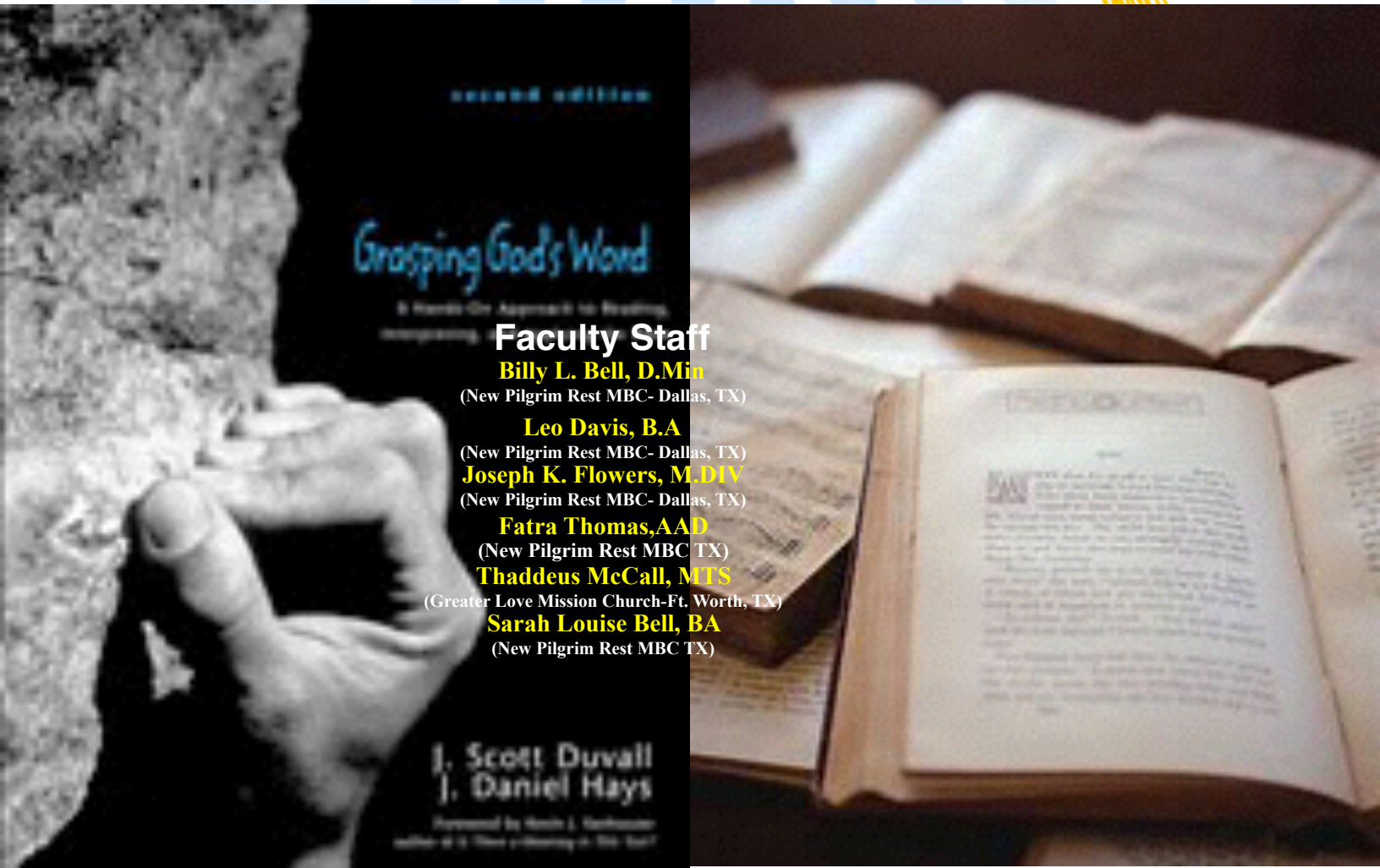


# Grasping God's Word

*A Hands-On Approach to Reading, Interpreting, and Applying the Bible.*

**3BC**

*Grasping God's Word*  
2019-20



second edition  
*Grasping God's Word*

A Hands-On Approach to Reading,  
Interpreting,

## Faculty Staff

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Revised by Kevin J. Vanhoy  
with a new preface by the authors



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# Syllabus Online

This course is an introduction to the interpretation of the Bible, seeking to provide a historical perspective and reliable principles with which to study, interpret, and apply Scripture.

## Text Book Needed:

Duvall, J. Scott, and J. Daniel Hays. *Grasping God's Word: A Hands-on Approach to Reading, Interpreting, and Applying the Bible*. Second Edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

Duvall, J. Scott, and J. Daniel Hays. *Grasping God's Word--Workbook*. Second Edition. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

## Requirements:

Student will be required to read each chapter and afterwards complete the assignment at the end of each chapter. Student will be required to email the assignment in 5 days. A reminder will be sent only once from the Administration office of 3BC. PowerPoint slides of the lessons are available upon request. This is approximately a one year study and graduation is schedule for May **2020**.

**Tuition:** Each unit is \$175.00 Dollars. There are five units the 3BC student will cover in the school year. This can be paid online by going to [www.nprmbcdallas.org](http://www.nprmbcdallas.org) 3Bc is accredited through Faith Seminary College in Tacoma, WA. 3Bc offers the Associate degree plan of 80 credit hours.

After completion of this course we encourage each student to enroll in Faith International Seminary for their Bachelor of Arts.

## Learning Outcomes:

( Pastor shall incorporate his own outcome requirements such as what knowledge and abilities the student will have once the course is completed.)

## Requirements:

To complete the course, the student is required to accomplish the following:

**1. Reading:** The student is required to read and understand all concepts in the text book. Other reading and studying may also be required.

**2. Examinations:** The student is required to complete all quizzes and tests administered by the instructor, based on the textbook and notes. Exams and approximately 8-10 quizzes may vary by number of questions and answered type (i.e. multiple choice and essay). The lowest quiz grade will be dropped and the rest averaged. No makeup quizzes will be given.

**3. Chapters Summary/Papers:** The student is required to answer all chapter summary questions, as instructed. The student is also required to research and write exegetical papers, per the request of the instructor. Papers should be formatted to fit the guidelines and criteria that the instructor has outlined.

**4. Daily Assignments:** Numerous daily assignments will be required. These assignments constitute the heart of the course, and are extremely important. These assignments also parallel and complement the material I will be covering in class, so it is imperative that they be completed and turned in on time. No daily assignments will be dropped. **Late papers will receive a 30-point penalty!**

**Exegetical Paper:** Early in the semester the student will be assigned a passage to study throughout the semester. Various daily assignments will require the student to apply certain interpretative principles to their passage. At the end of the semester the student will write an exegetical paper that will bring together applications of the principles studied and the actual investigations carried out during the semester. The paper is required to be a minimum of nine, typed, double-spaced pages. More information regarding the paper will be discussed in class. Late papers will be penalized five points per calendar day.

**Attendance:** This course is designed to teach methodology and not simply memorized material. In addition, some of the material covered in class is not in the textbook. Attendance, therefore, is imperative. Attendance at all class sessions is strongly encouraged. For every unexcused absence over three, the student will be penalized **one percentage point** off of their final grade average.

**Final Exam:** The final exam will cover all lectures and reading assignments.

**Extra Credit:** Occasionally, extra credit assignments will be listed in the course outline. Each extra credit assignment will be scored on a 0-20 point scale and then added onto one regular assignment score (which are on a 0- 100 point scale). For example if you scored an 85% on a regular assignment, but scored 10 on an extra credit assignment, then your regular assignment score will be raised to 95%.

**Note:** All assignments are to be submitted electronically. Once an assignment is submitted, you will receive a confirmation email, stating that your assignment has been received.

### **Grading Policy:**

A B C D F

All work is due by

90-100% 80-89% 70-79% 60-69% 69% below

the end of the course.

### **3Bc POLICY:**

3Bc is committed to extending access and opportunity to those who are disabled. To request modifications or accommodations due to a disabling condition, or for a copy of the BBBICC policy concerning modifications or accommodations for students with disabilities, contact Dr. Billy L. Bell, Sr. via email at [blbell1@juno.com](mailto:blbell1@juno.com).

### **Academic Dishonesty:**

If you use another person's work, artwork, music, ideas, work, computations, models or any other product of their academic or creative endeavors in such a manner as to imply that their your own (i.e. plagiarism), or if you use notes, tests, or memory aids during test when such use was not expressed or authorized or if you appropriate or knowingly use master tests copies to gain information prior to an examination date or knowingly allow another person to use your work in imitation as their own or act in such a manner as to gain for yourself or for another unfair advantage over other students, you may face disciplinary actions.

## **Consent Agreement:**

An online/distance learning course requires frequent interaction with your instructor. It is, therefore, essential that you agree with the conditions set forth in this syllabus. After you have read the syllabus let us know (do not wait) if you agree to the conditions and course requirements. If we do not hear from you within three (3) days within the start of the course, we will assume that you have agreed and set forth the conditions of the syllabus.

## **Study Tips:**

It is suggested that the student carefully study each chapter, thoroughly. Know the definitions (terms and concepts) listed at the end of each chapter. Read the chapter to get an overview, then reread the chapter and write down important concepts as you go along. Review and rehearse the contents. Memorize key concepts. Then are you ready to take the exam.

## **Abbreviations:**

GGW = *Grasping God's Word*, by Duvall and Hays

EC = Extra Credit Assignment

## **Agenda as Follows:**

### **UNIT ONE—HOW TO READ THE BOOK: BASIC TOOLS**

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 2. The Interpretive Journey         | GGW, pp. 17-27                                   |
| 3. How to Read the Book             | GGW, pp. 28-44<br>(Sentences)<br>Ch 2, Assign. 1 |
| 4. How to Read the Book             | Ch 2, Assign. 2<br>(Sentences)                   |
| 5. How to Read the Book (Sentences) | Ch 2, Assign.                                    |
| 6. How to Read the Book             | GGW, pp. 45-64<br>(Paragraphs)                   |

7. How to Read the Book	Ch 3, Assign. 1 (Paragraphs)
8. How to Read the Book	Ch 3, Assign. 6 (Paragraphs)
9. How to Read the Book	GGW, pp. 65-82 (Discourses)
10. How to Read the Book (Discourses)	Ch 4, Assign.
11. How to Read the Book (Discourses)	Ch 4, Assign. 2
12. How to Read the Book (Discourses)	Ch 4, Assign. 3
<b>UNIT TWO—CONTEXT: THEN AND NOW</b>	
13 What Do We Bring to the Text	GGW, pp. 83-94 Ch 5, Assign. 1
14 The Cultural/Historical Context	GGW, pp. 95-114 Ch 6, Assign. 6, EC=Ch 6,Assign. 1,2,3,4, 5
15 The Literary Context	GGW, pp. 115-127 Chap. 7, Assign. 3 EC=Ch 7, Assign. 1
16 Word Studies	GGW, pp. 128-149 (Bring Conc. to class)
17 Word Studies (Bring Concordance to class)	Ch 8, Assign. 1
18 Word Studies (Bring Concordance to class)	Ch 8, Assign. 6

- 19 Bible Translations GGW,pp 150-164
18. Bible Translations/Text Criticism
- 21 The Exegetical Paper and GGW Workbook, pp. 133-135  
Building a Personal Library (bring Workbooks to class)

### **UNIT THREE—MEANING AND APPLICATION**

- 22 Who Controls the Meaning? GGW, pp. 165-174
- 23 Levels of Meaning GGW, pp.175-188a Ch 11,  
Assign 2
- 24 Levels of Meaning (Bible Codes) GGW, pp.188-195 Ch 11,  
Assign. 2
- 25 The Role of the Spirit GGW, pp. 196-202
- 26 Application GGW, pp, 203-214  
Ch 13, Assign. 2EC= Ch 13, Assign. 3
- 27 Review

### **UNIT FOUR—THE INTERPRETIVE JOURNEY: NEW TESTAMENT**

- 28 New Testament—Letters GGW, pp.215-234 Ch 14  
Assign.1
- 29 New Testament—Gospels GGW, pp. 235-247a
- 30 New Testament—Gospels GGW,pp.247-254 Ch 15  
Assign. 1
- 31 New Testament—Gospels Ch 15, Assign. 2
- 32 New Testament—Acts GGW, pp. 255-270 EC= 16,  
Assign. 1
- 33 New Testament—Revelation GGW, 271-286a
- 34 New Testament—Revelation GGW, 286-290