

Individual User's Guide

Welcome to Our Daily Bread Christian University's Church Resources! Here is a guide to creating your account and beginning your studies.

On the Our Daily Bread Christian University homepage, click "LOGIN" in the top right corner of the screen, and then "Register." Choose the username and email address you would like to use. You will then receive an email that will ask you to confirm your registration before you can begin.

Once you have created your free student account, you are ready to begin your studies! Simply find the course you wish to take and begin working through the lessons.

Helpful tips for completing your studies:

Ask for God's direction in your study and make a commitment to complete your course(s).

Carefully review the course descriptions online to determine which areas of study are of most interest to you. Course descriptions can be found on each course's homepage.

Determine a start and completion date for your course or series. The suggested schedule is a minimum of one completed lesson per week. A suggested study schedule can be found below.

If possible, find a mentor or friend who can study with you or meet with you for accountability. Personal interaction is an important aspect of online learning.

Use the course Study Guides when they are available (most lower-level courses are accompanied by a Study Guide). The Study Guide can be found in the "Course Resources" section (along with the Syllabus) and you should follow the Study Guide as you work through the course. The Study Guides contain:

- ▶ Objectives for each lesson
- ▶ Relevant Scripture readings (if applicable)
- ▶ Lecture transcripts
- ▶ Discussion questions
- ▶ Suggested commentary readings (if applicable)
- ▶ Devotionals/reflective questions (if applicable)
- ▶ Glossaries of key terms (if applicable)
- ▶ Maps/charts/other images (if applicable)
- ▶ Self-assessment quizzes

Take advantage of the numerous resources that are included in the courses:

- ▶ Objectives are provided for each course (see course Syllabus) and, in many of the lower-level courses, for each lesson (see Study Guide located in “Course Resources” section of the course homepage or the “Lesson Guide” for each lesson). Review lesson objectives before beginning each lecture.
- ▶ The Old and New Testament survey courses include suggested readings from a basic Bible commentary that can be referenced for additional ideas and notes.
- ▶ Many of the courses offer charts and maps (found in the course Study Guide, if available) that can be referenced during the lectures.
- ▶ Each lesson includes a lecture transcript. You are encouraged to save it as an ongoing reference, or print it and add your own questions or comments related to the lecture.
- ▶ Utilize the Bible reference links to read and/or listen to select Bible passages. One option for audio Bible readings is by Max MacLean: <http://www.biblegateway.com/resources/audio>.

Our Daily Bread Christian University coursework can easily be studied individually, but the most effective use of the courses is in association with a learning community. Working with others will provide new perspectives and additional accountability. You are encouraged to seek out a small group or adult education group to join in your study, but if that is not possible, this guide has been provided to guide your personal study program.

Suggested Our Daily Bread Christian University Study Schedule (8- and 12-Week Segments)

The following weekly schedule is a sample plan for your study program. You can compress or lengthen this schedule based on your personal preferences. If you have studied the Bible for some time, you may wish to move directly to Level 2 and begin the college-level Bible survey courses.

Level 1: Introductory Christian Studies

Series Introductions/Tutorials/Goals	Week 1
How to Study the Bible	Weeks 2-4
Getting to Know the Bible	Weeks 5-8
Developing Your Spiritual Life	Weeks 9-12
World Religion Basics: A Comparison of Major World Religions . . .	Weeks 1-4
Worldview Basics: A Comparison of Major Worldviews	Weeks 5-8
Theology Basics	Weeks 9-12
Old Testament Basics (Part 1)	Weeks 1-8
Old Testament Basics (Part 2)	Weeks 9-12

New Testament Basics (Part 1)	Weeks 1-8
New Testament Basics (Part 2)	Weeks 9-12

Level 2: Bible Survey

Old Testament Survey (OT216-OT227)	12 courses; one per month
New Testament Survey (NT217-NT228)	12 courses; one per month

Level 3: Personalized Track

When you have completed Level 1 and Level 2, you will have a good foundation in place for further study. Any course from the tracks below can be used as a single course for a short-term study. With over 100 courses available at Our Daily Bread Christian University, the options are numerous and will provide you with many years of study.

Regarding costs: All of our courses are absolutely free all the time at no cost or obligation to you. If you would like to earn a Validated Certificate of Completion verifying that you have completed a course, or you would like to earn academic credit for a course, we offer those options for a small fee through our sister ministry, Christian University GlobalNet. To learn more about these options, navigate to Understanding Your Options under the Course Options tab at the top of the Our Daily Bread Christian University homepage, or simply [click here](#).

SoulCare - Shepherding (2 months per course)

- SoulCare Foundations I: The Basic Model
- SoulCare Foundations II: Understanding People and Problems
- SoulCare Foundations III: Provisions and Practices
- SoulCare Foundations IV: Community—Where SoulCare Happens
- Ministering to People in Pain

Basic Theology/Apologetics (1 month per course)

- Theology Basics
- 10 Reasons to Believe in the Christian Faith
- 10 Reasons to Believe in a God Who Allows Suffering
- 10 Reasons to Believe God Became a Man
- 10 Reasons to Believe in the Existence of God
- 10 Reasons to Believe in Life after Death
- 10 Reasons to Believe Real Christians Can Look Like They're Not
- 10 Reasons to Believe in the Resurrection
- 10 Reasons to Believe in Christ Rather Than Religion
- 10 Reasons to Believe in the Bible
- The Miracles of Jesus



First Steps in Christian Ministry

Introduction to Public Speaking	1 week
SoulCare Foundations I: The Basic Model	1 month
Foundations of Effective Leadership.	1 month
Group Dynamics	1 month

Other Tracks (see Catalog of Suggested Courses)

- First Steps in Understanding the Christian Faith
- First Steps in Understanding the Bible
- Pastoral Care/Counseling
- Pastor/Teacher—Level I
- Pastor/Teacher—Level II
- Old Testament (Basic)
- Old Testament (Advanced)
- New Testament (Basic)
- New Testament (Advanced)
- Evangelism/Global Outreach
- Advanced Discipleship

