

Introduction to the Study Guide

This Select Learning course can be used in a variety of ways. The following are 4 ways we have thought of. Users are welcome to come up with further ways to use the resource as a whole or in part.

Using the lectures and discussion questions included with the lectures (*This CD Rom contains a printable page of the discussion questions for each section*) :

- 1) Use a session, or some of the 20 minute segments of a session, as an introduction for a Bible study series on a particular book of the New Testament or section of the New Testament.
- 2) Use the DVD course, which includes discussion questions between each section, with a local group (congregational or across congregations). Do the assigned readings to support the lectures and discussion.

Going even deeper. Using the Study Guide for in depth study. Those who are using this course for preparation any type of certification will need to use one of the methods below:

- 3) Use the Study Guide with a local group. This will require meeting either twice a week or working with a session over 2 weeks. Come to the first gathering having read the assigned reading. Watch the 4 sections of a session together as a group, stopping to use the discussion questions between each section. (About 2 hours.) Before meeting for a second time on this session do the assignments included in the Study Guide. (*Completing these assignments can be in a rough form. Their main purpose is to have individuals encounter the text more deeply in preparation for discussion with one another.*) Meet again (for about 1 hour) to share some of the work that participants did and to participate together in an in depth discussion based on the assignments. (*This 2nd meeting could be in person, by conference call, or an online chat.*) Write a final paper at the end of the course.
- 4) Take this course in an online version with participants from across the country with a facilitator/theologian. The online version will include the reading assignments, watching the lectures, doing the assignment from the study guide, and participating in online discussions. Write a final paper to be read by the class facilitator.

*There are study guides for each session. Sessions 8 and 9 have **two** study guides because of the diversity of material covered. A course facilitator will need to decide whether to use both study guides for these sessions, parts of both, or make them into separate sessions.