

# Individual User's Guide

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Welcome to ChristianCourses Connection! Here is guide to creating your account and beginning your studies.

On the ChristianCourses homepage, click the *Get started here* button on the left. There you will find helpful step-by-step instructions on how to register for your free student account.

After selecting your first course by clicking on the *Free* button, you'll be directed to create an account. In each course you will find a step-by-step approach to guide you through your studies.

## 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 by clicking on *Read more* at the end of each introduction.

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.

Participate in the online discussion forums, where you will find reflective questions for your reading and response and a global learning community interacting with the course content. Remember that you are not studying alone!

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

- ▶ The Bible Survey courses include a downloadable basic Bible commentary that can be referenced for additional study.
- ▶ Many of the courses have multimedia learning activities that can be printed and saved or viewed through the Internet. See the tutorials for ideas on how to use these resources.
- ▶ There are numerous charts and maps throughout the courses 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>.

ChristianCourses 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 ChristianCourses Connection 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 . . . . .	12 courses; one per month
New Testament Survey . . . . .	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 130 courses in the ChristianCourses Catalog, the options are numerous and will provide you with many years of study.

*Regarding costs:* Please note that while many of these courses are offered at no charge, some of the seminary-level courses are available only as downloads or CD products for a fee. Additionally, if you want to receive certification that you have completed any course, there is a fee of \$40 per course to cover our costs of reviewing your work, validating completion, and issuing a certificate.



## SoulCare - Shepherding (2 months per course)

- SoulCare Foundations 101: The Basic Model
- SoulCare Foundations 201: Understanding People and Problems
- SoulCare Foundations 301: Provisions and Practices
- SoulCare Foundations 401: 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 and Leadership

- Introduction to Public Speaking . . . . .1 Week
- SoulCare Foundations 101: The Basic Model . . . . .1 Month
- Leading from Your Strengths . . . . .2 Weeks
- Foundations of Effective Leadership . . . . .1 Month
- The Four A's of Leadership for Women . . . . .1 Month
- Group Dynamics . . . . .1 Month

## Other Tracks (see ChristianCourses Connection Catalog)

- Teacher Training 1
- Teacher Training 2
- Teacher Training 3
- Old Testament (Basic)
- Old Testament (Advanced)
- New Testament (Basic)
- New Testament (Advanced)
- Evangelism/Global Outreach
- Advanced Discipleship

