**Gospel Foundations**

**Pastor David M. Choi, Fall 2020**

Contact: david.choi@aya.yale.edu

Location: Calvary Youth Ministry Center[[1]](#footnote-1)

Hours: 11:30am – 12:45pm || Week A

Grade: 6

Discussion Section Location: Library[[2]](#footnote-2)

Discussion Facilitator: Nathalie Feng

**Description**

This course is a broad overview of the foundational and authoritative text of the Christian faith, namely, the bible. We’ll survey the bible as a whole while also delving into its parts, and along the way we’ll address key questions like the formation of scripture, major biblical themes and concepts, narrative structure and coherence, and interpretative practices. The topics of this class aim to demonstrate how all of scripture is in fact leading *to* the gospel of Jesus Christ, and thus how the gospel of Jesus Christ acts as the fundamental theological lens through which all of scripture is rightly understood.

**Objectives**

1. To arrive at a basic understanding of the biblical narrative, viz., God’s story of redemption

2. To perceive the centrality of Jesus Christ and the gospel

3. To become close readers and faithful interpreters of scripture

4. To garner respect for scripture’s historicity while reverentially acknowledging its ongoing address

5. To discover one’s participatory role within the *theodrama* of God’s salvation[[3]](#footnote-3)

**Discussion Group**

Sunday school classes meet bi-weekly (or every other week). Gospel Foundation class meets on A weeks, which means there are no classes on B weeks. Instead, on B week Sunday, you will have a discussion section, housed in the church’s library. There students will digest together the prior week’s lesson and go over the bible study questions. This can be found at the end of every chapter in Vaughan. Students are not, however, constrained to these questions. If you have original questions or reflections from the readings, then you may feel free to run with those. Note: a youth group leader (i.e. discussion facilitator) will be present at every discussion in order to oversee the group time. Please make sure to show up on time, to have thoughtful reflections ready to share, and to be engaged. (Remember you’ll only get out what you’re willing to put in!)

**Texts**

Roberts, Vaughan. *God’s Big Picture*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2002.

The Bible [English Standard Version (ESV) preferred]

**Schedule**

9/27 – Introduction: A Divine and Human Composition

Roberts, pp.13-26

10/4 – Discussion

Creation:

10/11 – God’s Intended Creation

Roberts, pp.27-36

Genesis 1-2

10/18 – Discussion

Fall:

10/25 – Fall of Humanity + Abrahamic Covenant

Roberts, pp.37-58

Genesis 3, 9, 15, 17; Galatians 3:6-14

11/1 – Discussion

11/8 – A Chosen People

Roberts, pp.59-91

11/15 – Discussion

11/22 – Awaiting a Messiah

Roberts, pp.92-111

11/29 – Discussion

12/6 – Arrival of the Messiah

Roberts, pp.113-128

12/13 – Discussion

Redemption + Consummation:

12/20 – Undoing the Fall + Final Judgment

Roberts, pp.129-161

**END OF FALL 2020 SUNDAY SCHOOL**

1. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. I am borrowing this term, *theodrama*,and its broader notions, from Kevin Vanhoozer’s *Drama of Doctrine*. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)