

Adult Bible Study – Catholic Scripture Study (CSS) Program Overview

Catholic Scripture Study (CSS) is ideal for any parish or group looking for an inspiring Bible study that is completely faithful to the teachings of the Catholic Church.

The study commentaries are written by leading Scripture scholars and authors, and each study contains references to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, papal encyclicals, and writings of the early Church Fathers and the saints.

Additional resources are available to study leaders and students on the CSS Program Website, including an Ask the Author forum, as well as maps, pictures, and articles.

Our full-length program includes lectures on DVD that accompany each week's lesson. The lectures are given by Catholic priests.

Best of all, because the program and Study Leader Kit provides all the tools, one need not be an experienced catechist to implement and lead a CSS class. Any lay person can establish this truly life-changing program in their parish or community. Additionally, CSS Program is the only Scripture study program with a team of dedicated volunteer Regional Directors who provide support to each study leader throughout the program.

Program Details

The CSS Program is specifically designed for group study within a parish; however, it could initially be used in a home setting with the intention of moving into a parish at a later date. The program, which includes groups around the world, runs from September to May. CSS study groups meet weekly for 25-28 weeks. Each year CSS will release a new full-length feature study to add to the selection of course material. For individual study, CSS also offers shorter studies that are available for purchase on the website.

CSS provides time-tested guidelines for structuring a successful and effective Bible study group. Key roles and responsibilities of the CSS core team are defined and the class format is outlined in detail.

The CSS Core Team includes:

Study Leader - Implements and oversees the program in a home or parish and chooses the core team to assist in implementing and overseeing the program. The Study Leader (if not the parish priest) is encouraged to work closely with his or her pastor.

Class Members—The Core who attend the session with their material prepared ahead of time and take part in the discussions.

Class Format (2 hours):

Opening (15 minutes) - The group settles in and opens with prayer. Announcements are made at this time.

Discussion Groups (75 minutes) - Participants break into small groups to discuss the study questions for the weekly lesson. (Participants are expected to have read the lesson material and answered the study questions prior to class each week.)

Lecture (30 minutes) - All participants gather to watch a DVD lecture based on the lesson. CSS Program lectures are prepared and presented by priests and are designed to guide participants to a deeper understanding of the Scripture on which the lesson is based.