



# Scripture for Life and Ministry

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## Information

Lecturer	Michael Emlet, M.D., MDiv, Dean of Faculty at CCEF
Grader	<p>You will be assigned a Grader from Biblical Counselling UK who will grade and field questions about the assignments.</p> <p>You can contact your Grader through your Canvas inbox.</p> <p>Your Grader will contact you at the start of term to let you know the days during the week where he or she will be available to respond to your email inquiries.</p>
Tutor	<p>Your course tutor will lead the fortnightly seminars and help guide you through the material presented by Dr Emlet and address questions and concerns.</p> <p>You can contact your Tutor through your Canvas inbox.</p>
Administration	For queries about course access, withdrawals, requests to take final exams early, and extensions over 7 days, please contact Biblical Counselling UK Course Administration – <a href="mailto:courses@bcuk.org">courses@bcuk.org</a>
Canvas	Canvas hosts your course materials (videos, audio files, course documents) and enables you to communicate with your Grader and the other students in your class. Assignments should always be submitted through Canvas.
Technical Queries	<p>For help with common problems, please see ‘Technical information and troubleshooting’ within the Student Orientation material on your Canvas dashboard.</p> <p>If you cannot resolve your difficulty, please contact Biblical Counselling UK Course Administration – <a href="mailto:courses@bcuk.org">courses@bcuk.org</a>.</p>
Course Programme	You are expected to watch the assigned video(s) each week (approximately 2 to 3 hours), and complete the reading and submit your assignments as listed in this course syllabus.
Sharing & Copyright	<p>All materials provided to you for this course through Canvas are copyrighted by BCUK, CCEF or other publishers, to whom we pay a fee for their use. These materials include the course syllabus, assignments, articles, and video/audio lectures. You may not reproduce or share any of these materials without prior permission from Biblical Counselling UK.</p> <p>As an exception to this policy, CCEF allow students to share up to 10 copies of <i>Journal of Biblical Counseling (JBC)</i> articles from the course for use in their personal ministry. Examples of this would include sharing an article with a counsellee, spouse, friend or small group. This is strictly limited to <i>JBC</i> articles.</p> <p>If you wish to share a <i>JBC</i> resource with more than 10 people, you will need to make an application via the <a href="#">permissions page</a> on the CCEF website.</p>

## Course Objectives

- Grow in excitement and passion for the personal application of God’s Word in your own life and the lives of others.
- Learn and practice a method of biblical interpretation that makes connections between the details of a particular passage and the wider story of Scripture that centres on Jesus Christ.
- Practice moving from Scripture to life by making gospel-centred connections between specific passages and the particulars of a person’s life.
- Practice moving from life to Scripture by learning to frame people’s struggles in ways that naturally connect with particular biblical themes and passages.

## Required Reading

### Books

- *CrossTalk: Where Life and Scripture Meet* by Michael R. Emler
- *Even Better Than Eden: Nine Ways the Bible’s Story Changes Everything About Your Story* by Nancy Guthrie

You are **strongly encouraged** to complete reading *CrossTalk* by the end of Week 3.

### Articles

All articles listed can be found in Canvas in the week in which they are due. *JBC* refers to *Journal of Biblical Counseling*.

- BCC, “Expository Counseling”, [www.biblicalcounselingcoalition.org](http://www.biblicalcounselingcoalition.org)
- Ken Langley, “Genre Sensitive Use of the Psalms in Counseling”, *JBC 20:3* (Spring 2002)
- Philip Monroe, “Guidelines for the Effective Use of the Bible in Counseling”, *Edification: Journal of the Society for Christian Psychology 2:2*
- Steve Midgley, “Meditating for a Change: Embracing a Lost Art”, *JBC 34:1*
- David Powlison, “More Than a Proof Text”, *JBC 29.1*
- Kristin Silva, “More Than a Proof Text: God’s (Un)expected Provision When Enemies Close In”, *JBC 31:2*
- Lauren Whitman, “More Than a Proof Text: Jesus Invites You to Follow Him—How Will You Respond? (Luke 5:27)”, *JBC 30:1*
- Michael Gembola, “More Than a Proof Text: Men — Treat Women Like Sisters”, *JBC 29:1*
- Lauren Whitman, “More Than a Proof Text: You Are Dust — And God Gets That”, *JBC 29:4*
- Laura Andrews, “More Than a Proof Text: You can’t fix it—but you can come to him”, *JBC 29.2*
- Kristin Silva, “More Than a Proof Text: You feel ashamed—but God is the lifter of your head (Ps. 3:3)”, *JBC 30:1*
- Todd Stryd, “More Than a Proof Text: When inner voices condemn, Christ speaks a better word”, *JBC 29:3*
- David Powlison, “Peace Be Still: Learning Psalm 131 by Heart”, *JBC 18:3*
- Tim Challies, “Reading the Bible Fast and Slow in 2019” [www.challies.com](http://www.challies.com)

## Course Schedule

Week One	Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lecture 1: Course Introduction (27min)</li><li>• Lecture 2: What Makes Biblical Counselling Uniquely 'Biblical'? (57min)</li><li>• Lecture 3: Using Scripture in Counselling: Example 1 (10min)</li></ul>
	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The book of Acts</li></ul>
	Submit <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Introduce yourself</li></ul>
Week Two	Attend <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Seminar 1</li></ul>
	Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lecture 4: The Counsellor as Counsellee: Growing in Response to Scripture Yourself (1hr 7min)</li><li>• Lecture 5: Jesus Christ as the Interpretative Key That Unlocks Scripture (1hr 16min)</li></ul>
	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Emlet, <i>CrossTalk</i>, chs. 1-5</li><li>• Challies, "Reading the Bible Fast and Slow in 2019"</li></ul>
	Submit <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Devotional Practices Survey</li></ul>

Week Three	Watch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lecture 6: The “Pronoun Pathway” to Application (1hr 6min)</li><li>• Lecture 7: Understanding the Original Context (Them) (36min)</li><li>• Lecture 8: Using Scripture in Counselling: Example 2 (15min)</li></ul>
	Read	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>CrossTalk</i>, ch. 6 – Appendix 2</li><li>• BCC, “Expository Counseling”</li><li>• Monroe, “Guidelines for the Effective Use of the Bible in Counseling”</li><li>• Langley, “Genre Sensitive Use of the Psalms in Counseling”</li><li>• Anonymised results of Devotional Practices Survey (published in Canvas after the due date)</li></ul>
	Submit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RP1: Historical Context Response Paper for Acts</li></ul>
	Prepare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Acts 8:26-40 Draft Single-Sentence Summary (for discussion at Seminar 2)</li></ul>
Week Four	Attend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Seminar 2 Includes discussion of Devotional Practices Survey, and Acts 8:26-40 Single-Sentence Summary</li></ul>
	Watch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lecture 9: Understanding the Redemptive-Historical Context (Him) (28min)</li></ul>
	Submit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RP2: Detailed Analysis of Acts 8:26-40</li></ul>
Week Five	Prepare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Feedback on RP2 Detailed Analysis (for discussion in Seminar 3)</li></ul>
	Watch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lecture 10: Moving from Life to Scripture: Discerning Biblical Themes in a Person’s Life (58min)</li></ul>
	Read	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Guthrie, <i>Even Better than Eden</i></li></ul>
	Submit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RP3: Case Study Assignment</li></ul>
	Begin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RP4: Redemptive-Historical Analysis for Acts 8:26-40</li></ul>

Week Six	<p>Attend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Seminar 3</li></ul> <p>Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lecture 11: Using Scripture to Minister to Saints (58min)</li><li>• Lecture 12: Using Scripture in Counselling: Example 3 (12min)</li></ul> <p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Powlison, "More Than a Proof Text"</li></ul> <p>Submit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RP4: Redemptive-Historical Analysis for Acts 8:26-40</li></ul>
Week Seven	<p>Prepare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Feedback on RP4 Redemptive-Historical Analysis (for Seminar 4)</li></ul> <p>Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lecture 13: Using Scripture to Minister to Sufferers (1hr 2min)</li></ul> <p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Silva, "More Than a Proof Text: God's (Un)expected Provision When Enemies Close In."</li><li>• Whitman, "More Than a Proof Text: Jesus Invites You to Follow Him— How Will You Respond? (Luke 5:27)"</li><li>• Gembola, "More Than a Proof Text: Men — Treat Women Like Sisters"</li><li>• Whitman, "More Than a Proof Text: You Are Dust — And God Gets That"</li><li>• Andrews, "More Than a Proof Text: You can't fix it — but you can come to him"</li><li>• Silva, "More Than a Proof Text: You feel ashamed—but God is the lifter of your head" (Ps.3:3)"</li><li>• Stryd, "More Than a Proof Text: When inner voices condemn, Christ speaks a better word"</li></ul> <p>Begin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RP5: Gospel Centred Application for Acts 8:26-40</li></ul>

Week Eight	Attend <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Seminar 4</li></ul>
	Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lecture 14: Using Scripture to Minister to Sinners (1hr 11min)</li><li>• Lecture 15: Using Scripture in Counseling: Example 4 (12min)</li></ul>
	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Book of Zephaniah (optional )</li></ul>
	Submit <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• RP5: Gospel Centred Application for Acts 8:26-40</li></ul>
Week Nine	Watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lecture 16: Pausing Where Scriptures Gives You Pause: Psalm 34:8 as a Test Case (1 hr 9min)</li><li>• Lecture 17: Beyond Devotional Doldrums (From 2020 Conference) (49min)</li><li>• Optional: Zephaniah Lecture (1hr 21 min)</li></ul>
	Read <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Powlison, "Peace Be Still: Learning Psalm 131 by Heart"</li><li>• Midgley, "Meditating for a Change: Embracing a Lost Art"</li></ul>
	Begin <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Psalm 77 Final Paper</li></ul>
Week Ten	Attend <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Seminar 5</li></ul>
	Continue <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Psalm 77 Final Paper</li></ul>
Week Eleven	Submit <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Psalm 77 Final Paper</li><li>• Course feedback</li></ul>

## Assignments

Instructions for the assignments are in the relevant week in Canvas.

In addition to the written assignments, you will also have some preparation to complete for some of the seminars. Instructions and to-do dates are in Canvas.

## Assignment Weighting

Devotional Practices Survey ungraded

### Acts 8:26-40 Assignments

- RP1: Historical Context 5%
- RP2: Detailed Analysis 10%
- RP3: Case Study Assignment 10%
- RP4: Redemptive-Historical Analysis 10%
- RP Gospel Centred Application 15%

Psalm 77 Final Paper 45%

Seminar Attendance 5%

## Grading

There are two main reasons for providing grades for your work. The first is to provide some feedback about how you have done. We trust it helps to have a sense of the standard of your work and changes that may happen over time. The second purpose is to provide some measure of accountability. Taking a course for credit challenges you to put in the time and effort needed to produce good quality thinking and work. All of our lives and all our ministry depends upon growing wisdom. We trust getting grades is one way of helping encourage us toward the effort that is needed for that growth.

Yet grading brings dangers too – it can foster a sense of competitiveness or a fear of failure. So do be praying for godly attitudes. It may help to remember that humility and a willingness to admit ignorance and a desire to grow in knowledge, wisdom, and love (James 1:5; Matt. 5:3) are hallmarks of authentic faith.

In many ways grading is simply a means of helping you maintain the ambitions that led you to register in the first place.

## Grade Scheme

Grade Letter	Percentage Score	Grade Definition	
A	85% – 100%	Excellent to Outstanding	<b>PASS</b>
A-	70%-84%		
B+	66% – 69%	Good to Very Good	
B	63% - 65%		
B-	60%- 62%		
C+	55% – 59%	Satisfactory	

C	50% - 54%		<b>FAIL</b>
C-	40% – 49%	Sufficient	
D	35% – 39%	Unsatisfactory	
E	30% - 34%		
F	0 – 29%	Unsatisfactory	

## Late Assignments

**Assignments** that are late will have 10 points deducted for every day that they are late, and will be graded “0” after one week.

## Requests for Extensions

**Policies:** Please refer to the BC UK Student Handbook (available in the Course Information section on Canvas) regarding policies for granting late assignments and extensions.

1. Extensions will not be granted for holidays or previously planned events.
2. **To request an extension for up to 7 days**, contact your Grader through the Canvas platform, if possible 48 hours before the deadline, stating the reason for your extension request and how long an extension you are asking for.
3. **To request an extension longer than 7 days**, email [courses@bcuk.org](mailto:courses@bcuk.org) stating:
  1. The course you are taking and your Grader
  2. The assignment for which you are requesting an extension
  3. The due date for this paper or project
  4. The reason for your extension request

The course administrator will respond within two working days of your request and inform your Grader.

## Course Administration

The Student Handbook details policies, procedures, and administration of the Certificate Programme, and information that is relevant to all courses, including grading standards and academic policies.

The Student Handbook is located in the Course Resources section of your course material on Canvas.