

50+ Sunday School Class

All Saints Presbyterian Church
Austin, TX

Led by Rev. Craig Chapman
cchapman@allsaintsaustin.org

Because You Asked . . .
Your Questions & Topics

All Saints Presbyterian Church

Austin, TX

Winter-Spring 2023

Taught by Rev. Craig Chapman

Because You Asked – 2/12/2023

Winter-Spring 50+ Schedule

Songs of Praise

Prayer

“Because You Asked”

Winter-Spring 50+ Calendar

- January
 - **Tue, 1/24 – Lunch & Tour of KMFA Radio – 11:45-3:30**
- February
 - **Fri, 2/10 – Dinners for 9+ - 6:30-9 – Pot Luck & BYOB**
- March
 - **Sun, 3/5 – Max McLean's C.S. Lewis On Stage, 3 pm**
 - **Mon, 3/20– Community 1st Village Tour & Lunch – 10:30am**
- April
 - **Sun, 4/2 – BYO Lunch in the Tent**
 - **Mon, 4/17 – Retreat at Balcones Springs – 10am thru Dinner Overnight option thru Lunch Tuesday. Registration soon!**
- May
 - **5/13 – Lake Travis Lunch & Hike – Noon to 4 at the Nicols**

MAY THE MIND OF CHRIST MY SAVIOR

May the mind of Christ my Savior live in me from day to day,
By His love and pow'r controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of Christ dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph only through His pow'r.

May the peace of Christ my Savior rule my life in everything,
That I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea;
Him exalting, self abasing, this is victory.

May His beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win,
And may they forget the channel, seeing only Him.



Because You Asked – 2/12/2023

Prayer

“Because You Asked”

Because You Asked – 2/12/2023

- 1/8 – Guest Teacher: Jeff Springer
- 1/15 - *Because You Asked #1*–Xmas; J’s Mo+Yr Born; # of Nails.
- 1/22 - *Because You Asked #2*–ImmacConcep; BC/AD; Imprec Ps
- 1/29 – Guest Teacher: David Vilches - *Hospitality*

- 2/5 – *Because You Asked #3*-NT Johns; Gospel comparisons; Q
- ***2/12 - Because You Asked #4***-NT authors; Womens’ ministry
- 2/19 – *Because You Asked #5*
- 2/26 – *Because You Asked #6*

- 3/5 – Guest Teacher: Rev. Michael Barber
- 3/12 – No Class – Spring Break
- 3/19 – *Because You Asked #7*
- 3/26 – *Because You Asked #8*

Because You Asked – 2/12/2023

- 4/2 – *Because You Asked #9*
- 4/9 – No Class – Easter
- 4/16 – Guest Teacher:
- 4/23 – *Because You Asked #10*
- 4/30 – *Because You Asked #11*

- 5/7 – *Because You Asked #12*
- 5/14 – *Because You Asked #13*
- 5/21 – Guest Teacher:
- 5/28 – *Because You Asked #14*

Because You Asked

- Over 45 questions! ... and counting ...
- 6 Categories
 - Trivia (3)
 - **Bible & Interpretation (10)**
 - Theology (17)
 - Sacraments (3)
 - Church History (8)
 - Our Church (6)

Bible & Interpretation

Q7a – Was John Mark a leader in the Coptic Church?

Q10 – What NT books do we know Paul actually wrote?

Q11 – How does All Saints reconcile 1 Timothy 2.12 with our Women's Director Kim Hall teaching a co-ed class on Sundays?

Q12 – How do we reconcile Scripture's apparent approval of slavery (Lev 25) with its evil institution in our nation's history?

Q13 – Does Scripture preclude making any images of Jesus (e.g., paintings, film, children's Bible or teaching curriculum)?

Bible & Interpretation

Q7a – Was **John Mark** a leader in the **Coptic Church**?

- *Coptic* means *Egyptian*
- *Coptic Christians* claim John Mark was the first to bring the Gospel to Africa when he evangelized the Egyptian people (in Alexandria) between 42 – 62 AD.
- Coptic religion believed in “eternal life” and worshipped “god” but with a focus on the Pyramids.
- He was 1st bishop of the Coptic Church – Alexandria, Egypt
- Alexandria joined Antioch & Rome as the 3 most important centers of the ancient church
- Coptic Christians have suffered severe persecution, first under Roman emperors (thru 300 AD), then Byzantine rule (~ 330-640 AD), then Islamic rule (from 641 AD on).
- Number of Coptic Christians worldwide today: ~ 10-60 million

Bible & Interpretation

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Bible & Interpretation

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- Short answer – authored 13 (or 14?) out of 27 = about ½ of NT
 - Romans
 - 1 & 2 Corinthians
 - Galatians
 - Ephesians
 - Philippians
 - Colossians
 - 1 & 2 Thessalonians
 - 1 & 2 Timothy
 - Titus
 - Philemon
 - Hebrews?

Bible & Interpretation

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- Distinction between writing and authorship in an oral culture

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- **Longer answer** – key to answering objections of textual critics
- Distinction between writing and authorship in an oral culture
- Amanuensis = ancient near eastern “secretary” or “scribe”
 - 2 Thess 3:16-18—[after Benediction:] ¹⁷*I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand. This is the sign of genuineness in every letter of mine; it is the way I write.* ¹⁸*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.*
 - Romans 16:22—*I Tertius, who wrote this letter, greet you...*
 - Paul usually dictated his letters to an *amanuenses* but wrote concluding words in his own hand.
 - Galatians 6:11—*See with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand.*
 - Philemon 1.19—*I, Paul, write this with my own hand . . .*

Bible & Interpretation

Q10 – What NT books do we know Paul actually wrote?

- Prevalence of amanuenses answers objections of textual critics
- Example of Critics—*”1 & 2 Peter were not written by Peter”*
 - *“1 Peter is polished Greek. 2 Peter is not.”*
 - *“A Galilean fisherman couldn’t write Greek so well”*
 - *“Use (or disuse) of the Greek Septuagint argues against...”*
 - Thus, these books are not a trustworthy guide

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 - Thus, these books are not a trustworthy guide
- Response—
 - 1 Peter 5:12—*By Silvanus, a faithful brother as I regard him, I have written briefly to you . . .*
 - Of course a rough Galilean fisherman is going to sound different on paper with an amanuensis

Bible & Interpretation

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- **Paul** uses several amanuenses
 - **Tertius** – Romans (16.22)
 - **Sosthenes** – 1 Corinthians 1:1—*Paul & our brother Sosthenes*
 - **Timothy** – 2 Cor (1.1), Philippians (1.1), Colossians (1.1), 1 & 2 Thessalonians (1 Thess 1.1; 2 Thess 1.1), Philemon (1.1)
 - **Silvanus** or **Silas** – 1 & 2 Thessalonians (with Timothy)
 - **Tychicus?** – “...will make all things known to you...” (Eph 6.21)
 - **Luke** – Paul last 4 (60’s AD) – tradition: failing eyesight
 - 1 & 2 Timothy (4.11); Titus? (3.15-*all who are with me send greetings*); Hebrews? (tradition)

Bible & Interpretation

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● **Peter**

- Silvanus/Silas – 1 Peter (5.12) – *by Silvanus...I have written...*
- John Mark – Gospel of Mark (per tradition)

Bible & Interpretation

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- **John** – per tradition:

- **Prochorus** – Acts 6.5—3rd deacon ... Greek speaking Jew



Bible & Interpretation

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● John

- **Prochorus** – John's scribe per tradition; Acts 6.5—3rd deacon; a Greek speaking Jew
- John's Gospel – 3rd person to 1st person indicates a scribe
 - 21.24—*"This is the disciple who is bearing witness about these things, and who has written these things; and **we** know that **his** testimony is true"*
- Probably the scribe for Revelation

Bible & Interpretation

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- Textual critics seek to deny divine authorship of Scripture. But:
 - 2 Timothy 3:16—*All Scripture is breathed out by God.*
 - 2 Pet 1.21—*no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit*

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- **Authors of the New Testament**
 - Apostle Matthew (Levi) – Matthew
 - John Mark – Mark (from Peter’s accounts)
 - Dr. Luke – Luke & Acts
 - Apostle John – John; 1, 2, 3 John; Revelation
 - Apostle Peter – 1 & 2 Peter (and Mark’s Gospel)
 - James, Jesus’ brother (Jerusalem Church leader-Acts 15) – James
 - Jude/Judah (Jesus & James’ brother-Mt 13.55; Mk 6.3) – Jude
 - Apostle Paul – Romans thru Philemon. Hebrews?

Bible & Interpretation

Q10 – What NT books do we know Paul actually wrote?

- Hebrews? – anonymous
 - **Affirms Paul**
 - Immersed in OT's theology & Christo-centricity/-telicity
 - 13.22-23—pastoral concern for readers ... mentions Timothy
 - 10.32 ff—knows his readers' stories of faith & trial
 - 2 Peter 3.15—[writing to Hebrews] ... *Paul also wrote you ...*
 - Early (Clement, 150AD; Origen, 185) & 5th-16th C. Church

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 - Early (Clement, 150AD; Origen, 185) & 5th-16th C. Church
 - **Questions Paul**
 - Other early suggestions—Tertullian (155AD): Barnabas; others (95): Luke, Clement of Rome.
 - Reformation—Luther: Apollos
 - Style, teaching method, Septuagint usage are unlike his letters
 - Perhaps a sermon, later transcribed by Luke?

Bible & Interpretation

Q11 – How does All Saints reconcile 1 Timothy 2.12 with our Women's Director Kim Hall teaching a co-ed class on Sundays? (What's a woman's role in ministry in light of 1 Timothy 2.12?)

Bible & Interpretation

Q11 – What's a woman's role in ministry in light of 1 Timothy 2.12?

- 1 Tim 2.8-14 – *I desire that **in every place** [of worship] the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; ⁹ likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, ¹⁰ but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. ¹¹ Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. ¹² **I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man**; rather, she is to remain quiet. ¹³ For Adam was formed first, then Eve; ¹⁴ and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.*
- 1 Tim 3.14-15 – *I am writing these things to you so that...you may know **how one ought to behave in the household of God***

Bible & Interpretation

Q11 – What's a woman's role in ministry in light of 1 Timothy 2.12?

- PCA 2017 Study Report on Women Serving in Ministry (63 pgs)
 - Especially pages: 16-21, 51, 56-57, 59
 - pcahistory.org – PCA Digest & Studies – 1973-2021 (over 40)
- Context is Worship – Word + Sacrament (Pulpit + Table)
 - The *prayer* it mentions is the Eucharist prayer, which is:
 - ***In Persona Christi*** (Latin: *in the person of Christ*)
 - Celebrant sacramentally represents/communicates Jesus
 - *This is my body ... this is my blood*
 - A woman celebrating *in persona Christi* (“*this is my body*”) would confuse (obscure) the sacramental representation
 - God the Son perfectly images & reveals the Father in flesh
 - God the Father is masculine as to all Creation ... & vice-versa

Because You Asked – 2/12/23

Q & A / Discussion

Next Class on 2/19/23

Prayer Requests