

BBISA 2021 Prospectus

Berean Bible Institute – *South Africa*¹ is a unique institution in that it is the partnership of several like-minded ministries² who have chosen to work together for God’s glory and the furtherance of His kingdom. As a result, we have a diversified approach to theological education that combines missions, youth work, and theological training in a one-year non-accredited programme that focuses on equipping future leaders in the Church through laying a biblical foundation in the life of the student upon which others can build as the Lord directs. We pray that God will guide you as you prayerfully consider participating in BBISA.

I. Philosophy of Ministry

Summary: Our desire is to impact the student holistically during their time spent with us. To do this, we are targeting the head, heart and hands, all three of which are set forth in the exhortations of Colossians 1:10: “that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.”

1. Development of the Head – Academic Studies

a. Scriptural Principles

- **Acts 11:26** – ... So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.
- **1 Tim. 4:6** – If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed.
- **1 Tim. 4:13-16** – Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine ... meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all. Take heed to yourself and to the doctrine. Continue in them, for in doing this you will save both yourself and those who hear you.
- **2 Tim. 2:2** – And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.
- **2 Tim. 2:15** – Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

b. Educational Philosophy

Since the Scriptures state that Christian leaders are to be carefully studying and accurately teaching God’s Word to faithful believers, then our educational institution should teach how to study the Scriptures, facilitate understanding the Scriptures, equip in communicating the Scriptures, and provide opportunities to apply these scriptural truths in the life and witness of each student.

c. Purpose Statement

BBISA exists to provide a foundational study of the Scriptures, the basics of communication, and the essentials of practical ministry to enhance the theological grounding of its students.

¹ Berean Bible Institute – South Africa will hence forth be referred to as BBISA in this document

² Sandton Bible Church (SBC), Word of Life South Africa (WOLZA), and Integral Vision (NTM).

2. Development of the Heart – Personal Mentoring

a. Scriptural Principles

- **Josh. 1:8** – *This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success.*
- **Ps. 119:11** – *Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You.*
- **Is. 57:15** – *The High and Lofty One Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, says this: “I dwell in the high and holy place, with him who has a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones.”*
- **2 Cor. 4:16** – *Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day.*
- **Eph. 5:18-19** – *Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.*

b. Mentoring Philosophy

Since each believer is called to cultivate a deep walk with the Lord in his spiritual, personal, and social life, then our educational institution should provide forums for one-on-one discipleship, and the establishment of abiding spiritual disciplines in the lives of the students.

c. Purpose Statement

BBISA exists to provide mentoring and accountability to enhance the spiritual growth of its students.

3. Development of the Hands – Practical Internships

a. Scriptural Principles

- **Matt. 28:19-20** – *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.*
- **1 Cor. 3:7-9** – *So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building.*
- **1 Cor. 15:58** – *Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.*
- **Col. 1:10-11** – *... that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy.*
- **1 Pet. 4:10-11** – *As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever.*

b. Philosophy statement

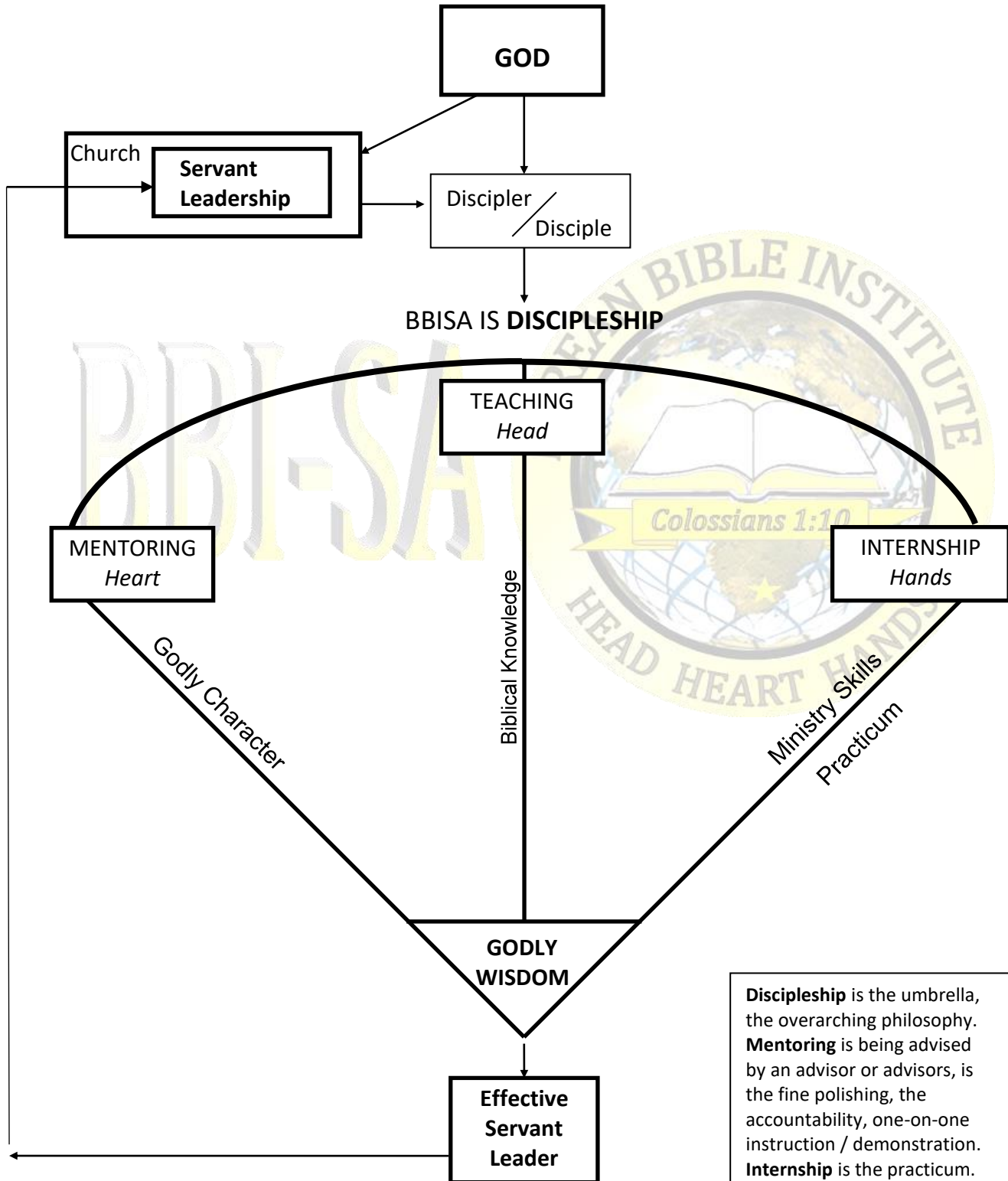
Since we are instructed to use our gifts and abilities to evangelize, disciple, and minister to others, then our educational institution should equip the students in ministry skills,

and build courage and experience by providing platforms for them to share their faith, teach and counsel other believers, and serve in the local church.

c. Purpose Statement

BBISA exists to provide on-the-job ministry training to enhance the ministry capabilities of its students.

Figure 1: Philosophy of BBISA



Discipleship is the umbrella, the overarching philosophy. **Mentoring** is being advised by an advisor or advisors, is the fine polishing, the accountability, one-on-one instruction / demonstration. **Internship** is the practicum.

II. Educational Programmes

Summary: To enhance the theological grounding of its students, BBISA provides a one-year, non-accredited academic programme in basic Bible, theology, Christian living, and ministry. Its graduates will receive a Qualification in Biblical Foundations. If a student chooses a course of further study, their credits *may* transfer to the International College of Bible and Missions (ICBM), which grants them a certain number of credits³ in *recognition of prior* learning towards a BA in Theology.

BBISA's style of education is to teach its students how to think. BBISA is designed to develop a learner's thinking abilities so the student can think biblically. This means a student not only knows what the Bible says but how to apply that in a new or changing situation. In our minds this is how the Lord Jesus taught his disciples. As a result, the student will maximize the benefit of this experience but participating in class discussion time as well as in explaining their ideas to the fullest in the submission of assignments.

A Qualification in Biblical Foundations is presented to each student upon successful completion of all modules with a passing mark of 50%. Those who are unable to complete and pass all modules with a mark of 50% are presented with a Participation in Biblical Foundations. Alternatively, a student may receive a Completion of the Module for individuals modules successfully completed.

Finally, all accounts must be paid in order for the student to receive these awards.

Please view *Appendix A* for a list of BBISA's academic courses.⁴

III. Mentoring Programmes

Summary: To enhance a students' spiritual growth (heart), BBISA will ensure that each student has a mentor that he/she meets with on a regular basis to discuss the student's personal growth and attitudes, address inter-personal conflicts, issues in ministry internships, concepts he/she is wrestling with, etc.⁵ The mentor and student may study, pray, talk or do an activity together. Materials will be provided to the mentor to structure the meeting, but it should be open to address issues that the student raises. The student is given opportunity to explain the choices he or she has made and the consequences thereof. The mentor guides them to learn from that and apply the Bible to the next set of choices by asking questions, rather than simply giving out answers. In this way the student's mind is developed as they learn how to think through life's situations biblically and arrive at God's mind for that situation by employing all the tools available to them – most important of all being the Bible.

This *heart* aspect is a requirement for the overall programme, and failure to complete this process will prohibit a student from obtaining a *Qualification in Biblical Foundations*.

IV. Ministry Programmes

Summary: For the development of students' ministry capabilities (hands), BBISA will complement its practical theology courses by providing youth ministry internships in a local church, service

³ Based on their marks and compatibility with the particular ICBM programme that they are entering.

⁴ These courses involve both 80 hour (full course) and 40 hour (½ course) modules.

⁵ Regardless of residential status, this aspect of the student's training will be under the direction of the WOLZA coordinator.

opportunities in the community, and experience in cross-cultural outreaches so that students can learn in the context of doing.⁶ While some or all of these ministries may presently be taking place in the student's home church, the purpose of this experience is to expand their knowledge, experience, and understanding. While it is understood by BBISA that this may create an additional burden to the home church, over the years, we have found it of immense benefit to the student's development and their future ministries. Additionally, there are many opportunities for the student to go home over many weekends and thus the reason why classes are held on Tuesday – Friday, leaving parts of many weekends open for ministry at home and allowing Mondays to be travel days.

Objectives:

1. To provide students with the basic training necessary to engage in meaningful ministry for the rest of their lives. To accomplish this, BBISA will:
 - Provide practical theology courses in personal evangelism and discipleship, counselling, and teaching. Such courses will, in part, specifically prepare the student for the internships with which they will be involved.
 - Assign each student discipleship/evangelistic ministries to participate in for the year, an year-end youth camp (counselor role), and a cross-cultural missions trip⁷ (SMASH⁸).
 - Provide the student with coaching and with periodic evaluations of ministry performance.
2. To provide students with outreach opportunities. To accomplish this, BBISA will provide every student the opportunity to personally share the plan of salvation through evangelistic meetings.
3. To provide students with ministry opportunities in a local church. To accomplish this, BBISA will coordinate with local church leaders to provide ministry opportunities for students in the areas of music or drama (depending on the students abilities), teaching/helping with a small group or Bible study, coordinating special programmes/events, helping with youth activities, teaching youth studies and Sunday school, or helping at task-oriented functions (workdays, banquets, etc.)
4. To provide students with the opportunity to counsel youth. To accomplish this, BBISA will involve students in youth camps. There will be at least one teen camp and one children's camp where the student will serve as a counselor. This will also involve running the camp's activities programme, being a dorm leader, and meeting the spiritual needs of those campers they may be put in charge of.
5. To provide students with cross-cultural experience. To accomplish the, BBISA will provide the students with exposure to opportunities to experience and learn from other cultures via missions trips.

This *hands* aspect is a requirement for the overall programme, and failure to complete this process will prohibit a student from obtaining a *Qualification in Biblical Foundations*.

⁶ Regardless of residential status, this aspect of the student's training will be under the direction of the WOLZA coordinator.

⁷ There is an additional cost for this trip, but the students will be taught how to raise the support for this trip.

⁸ Stands for: **S**tudents **M**inistering **A**nd **S**erving **H**im.

V. Application Criteria

The BBISA programme is open to all students⁹ who will sign and submit to the BBISA doctrinal statement. In doing so the prospective student will be agreeing to abide by the principles stated therewith.

To enroll in the BBISA programme, the prospective student will need to complete and submit the *BBISA Application* form which includes the *BBISA Pastor Reference* form.¹⁰ The *BBISA Pastor Reference* form indicates that the prospective student's pastor will affirm that he has both read BBISA's statement of faith and is in agreement with the student attending BBISA. Upon receipt and acceptance of the application form, an interview will be set up between the prospective student and a representative of BBISA. Upon the completion of these items, a potential student will be notified of their participation status.

Upon acceptance the student will be expected to participate in the orientation time, the weekend before school starts.¹¹ At this orientation time the student will be equipped for maximizing their time at BBISA. Part of that equipping will be evaluating their understanding and abilities in English.¹² There will be a required English exam that will determine the student's status and track. For those who score above 70% on the exam, they will be allowed to enter the programme on Track 1 which entails participating in the full programme.¹³ For those who score below 70%, they will be allowed to enter the programme on Track 2 which entails participating in a modified programme.¹⁴

VI. Financial Information

Our programme is divided into two housing categories: non-residential and residential. There are differing costs associated with each category. The choice is up to the student and their circumstances as to which category they choose. Our programme is presently held at the WOLZA campus in Muldersdrift so that travel needs can be evaluated.

Application:

A non-refundable R300 application fee will be required for registration. Without this payment, no application will be considered.

Non-residential:

Cost: R300 a module or R4800 for all modules.¹⁵ For this option, all travel, housing, and food needs will be met by the student only. Any meals eaten at WOLZA will have a cost associated with them, as well as any overnight stays. Please be advised that it is the student's responsibility to pay for these costs.

⁹ This is regardless of academic status, gender, age, or experience, but is impacted by their ability to pay the fees and/or work off the remaining costs.

¹⁰ For prospective non-residential students, Mmope Nabile can be reached via email at mmopenabile@gmail.com or at 082-799 9355. For prospective residential students, Jessica Taufmann can be reached via email at jessicat@wolza.co.z or at 061 721 7678.

¹¹ This orientation begins on 30 Jan 2021.

¹² All of BBISA's courses are taught in English. Part of the reasoning for this is ease of education, but another reason is the availability and usefulness of textbooks which are predominately in English, and finally, to equip them to better participate in the world today.

¹³ This will include a writing course the first semester on how to write papers and assignments.

¹⁴ This will include taking a remedial English course throughout the year. While the student will participate in all aspects of the courses and programme, the student will not submit assignments and papers for each course. Instead, they will be encouraged to take the full programme the following year where they can maximize their understanding and learning, and to focus this present year on an introduction to concepts.

¹⁵ This doesn't include the cost of SMASH nor End-of-Year camp which is an additional amount that varies from year to year.

Residential:

Our residential programme is held at the WOLZA campus where the cost is R3000 per month or R33,000 for the entire year programme. This option will include all academic, housing, and food costs for the duration of the programme.¹⁶ At this site, various financial aid options are available.¹⁷

Final marks and qualifications are issued only to students whose accounts are paid in full, unless arrangements have been made and agreed to by the principal of BBISA and/or leader of WOLZA.

VII. Dismissal

Attendance at BBISA is a privilege and not a right. At the discretion of the BBISA disciplinary committee,¹⁸ this privilege may be terminated for any student who refuses to conform to biblical principles nor submit to the doctrinal statement.

VIII. Appendices**Appendix A: Description of Courses¹⁹**

Hermeneutics (80 hour)
One of the most basic skills of the Christian life is to know how to read and understand God's Word. This course will teach you the skill of literal, grammatical, contextual, and historical interpretation, and introduce you to methods of interpreting poetic, prophetic, allegorical and other difficult passages. Emphasis is given to hands-on experience in God's Word.
Personal Evangelism & Discipleship (80 hour)
We have been commissioned to make disciples. Commencing with the biblical principles and models of evangelism and discipleship, this course gives the student a thorough working knowledge of the gospel message, evaluates modern evangelistic and discipleship styles, and prepares them for outreach and mentoring activities on the weekends.
God's Narrative (80 hour spread over terms 1 and 2)
In the first and second terms, the student learns from God's Word how God has revealed His story (so that we can know about Him), know what He requires of us (so that we can know Him personally), what has gone wrong in the process (that keeps us from a relationship with Him), and what God has done to remedy this problem (because we cannot fix the problem ourselves).
English (40 hour)
Our students will be equipped in writing assignments and papers so that they can adequately communicate their understanding of the material in a way that is reflective of their knowledge. This course follows 1 of 2 tracks, depending on the outcome of an English exam.
Spiritual Growth (80 hour)

¹⁶ As part of their experience and spiritual growth, the student must raise half of the funds for SMASH through support raising.

¹⁷ Please see WOLZA for available options.

¹⁸ Comprised of the principal of BBISA and the director of WOLZA or their representatives.

¹⁹ From time to time these modules change.

<p>For all living things, growth and reproduction naturally take place when conditions are right. This course will examine the habits, disciplines, and heart attitudes of biblical characters and Christian leaders that made the conditions right for spiritual “growth” in God’s eyes. It is a very practical module where the student will benefit most by their active participation.</p>
<p>Bible Doctrines Survey (80 hour)</p>
<p>What does a person need to believe to truly be a Christian? What are the doctrines on which we can differ, and for which should we be willing to die? This course will take a “mile-high” view of the Christian faith, covering doctrines regarding the Bible, God, angels, man, sin, Jesus, salvation, the Spirit, the Church, and end time events.</p>
<p>Family (40 hour)</p>
<p>The biblical family, as designed by God and presented in His Word, is under a continual assault by the world. This course defines a family, from God’s perspective, and equips the student in understanding how to have a biblical family as God directs.</p>
<p>Youth Work (80 hour spread over terms 1 and 2)</p>
<p>In order to develop a student’s abilities to serve young people, this course explains the rationale of and equips for youth work. It is a very practical course that will ease the student into the experience of impacting young lives for eternity.</p>
<p>Missions (80 hour)</p>
<p>Beginning with the early church, the course will help the student develop a biblical philosophy of missions, and examine current opportunities in a rapidly changing world. If a student is going to be an effective witness for Christ, then the student must understand how to communicate with others; this course is designed specifically for the missiological perspective of reaching others in a different culture. As a result, the student is further equipped to boldly proclaim God’s truth, regardless of the setting in which they find themselves.</p>
<p>Biblical Worldview (80 hour)</p>
<p>If the student is going to live a godly life in this fallen world, then the student must view the world through the lens of God’s Word in order to gain His perspective on how to respond to the circumstances of life. In this course, the student is taught how to distinguish a biblical worldview from the many views of the world.</p>
<p>Leadership (40 hour)</p>
<p>Since the students will have many opportunities to participate in ministries and opportunities as leaders, it is important that they understand and practice good leadership principles, and so this course will contextualize biblical leadership principles for the African context.</p>

Biblical Counseling (80 hour)
The two things on earth that will last forever are the Bible and human souls; we are called to bring the former to bear on the latter. Aside from exposing the erroneous views of human behaviour provided by secular society, this course will explore the biblical basis of the soul, sinful behaviour, and dysfunctional relationships, as well as the changes that only salvation, application of the Word, and the indwelling Spirit can bring.
Ethics & Conflict Management (80 hour)
There are ideas and behaviours that are right and those that are wrong; there is also a right way to hold every right position. Springing from biblical examples and principles, this course will explore the different approaches to resolving conflict between competing choices, and managing conflict with those who may disagree with you.
Biblical Theology of the Church (80 hour)
Since we live the Church Age presently, it is important that our perspective is informed by the Epistles which were written to the churches of the New Testament. This course is a more in-depth study of the books of Romans through Revelation, so that the student is familiar with the content and nature of this part of Scripture.
Romans (80 hour)
Living in a world that believes many lies, it is vitally important that as believers we understand what God has revealed about Himself, about mankind's sin problem, and what He has done to solve our sin problem and restore our relationship with Him. An understanding of Romans is crucial to gaining this biblical understanding.
Biblical Narrative (80 hour)
God's story has 66 books, written over the timespan of 1500 years, and all of this cannot be covered in one year. However, there are some essential components to His story that we must understand. This course introduces the student to those maybe less-known stories, that are essential to grasping the magnitude of God's story.

Appendix B: 2021 Tentative Term Schedule

1 st Term (02 Feb – 09 April)	2 nd Term (20 April – 25 June)	3 rd Term (13 July – 17 Sept)	4 th Term (28 Sept – 03 Dec)
Hermeneutics	Bible Doctrines Survey	Biblical Worldview	Biblical Theology
God's Narrative 1	God's Narrative 2	Missions	Biblical Counseling
Personal Evangelism	Spiritual Growth	Romans	Ethics/Conflict Manage
English Composition	Leadership	Family	Biblical Narrative
Youth Work	Youth Work		

Appendix C: 2021 Tentative 1st Term Class Time Schedule

Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Time	Sat – Mon
Herm	GN	Herm	GN	9:00-11:00	Ministry (Various Times)
PE	English	PE	Youth	11:30-13:30	

Appendix D: Doctrinal Statement²⁰

I. The Holy Scriptures

We believe in the verbal and plenary inspiration of the Scriptures, consisting of 66 books which constitute the Old and New Testaments, the Word of God, inerrant in the original writings, the complete and unalterable special revelation of God, and our final authority. We believe in the normal, literal, and consistent interpretation of the Scriptures and a dispensational understanding of God's progressive revelation (Matt. 5:18; John 16:12, 13; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 2 Pet. 1:20, 21).

II. The Godhead

We believe in one Triune God, eternally existing in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – co-eternal in being, co-identical in nature, co-equal in power and glory, and having the same attributes and perfections (Deut. 6:4; 2 Cor. 13:14).

III. The Person and Work of Christ

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, became man, without ceasing to be God, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary, and lived a sinless life. He came that He might reveal God and redeem sinful man (Luke 1:35; John 1:1, 2, 14).

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished our redemption through His death on the cross as a representative, vicarious, substitutionary sacrifice in providing an atonement for the sins of the whole world, and our justification is verified by His literal, physical resurrection from the dead (Rom. 3:24, 25; Eph. 1:7; Heb. 2:9; 1 Pet. 1:3-5, 2:24; 1 John 2:2).

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ ascended to heaven and is now exalted at the right hand of God where, as our High Priest, He fulfills the ministry of Representative, Intercessor, and Advocate (Acts 1:9, 10; Rom. 8:34; Heb. 7:25, 9:24; 1 John 2:1, 2).

²⁰ **Note:** Scripture verses are representative, and not to be considered exhaustive.

IV. The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit

We believe the Holy Spirit is the person of the Godhead who in this present age convicts the world of sin, righteousness, and judgement; who regenerates and baptises into the Body of Christ those who believe; and who indwells and seals them unto the day of redemption (John 16:8-11; Rom. 8:9; 1 Cor. 12:12-14; 2 Cor. 3:6; Eph. 1:13, 14).

We believe the Holy Spirit is the Divine Teacher who guides believers into all truth and it is the privilege of believers to be filled with, and their duty to walk in, the Holy Spirit (John 16:13; Gal. 5:16; Eph. 5:18; 1 John 2:20, 27).

V. The Complete Sinfulness of Man

We believe man was created in the image and likeness of God; in Adam's sin the race of man fell, inherited a sinful nature, and became alienated from God (spiritually dead); and man is totally sinful and unable to remedy his lost condition (Gen. 1:26,27; Rom. 3:22, 23, 5:12; Eph. 2:1-3, 12).

VI. Salvation and Security

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice for all people and all who trust Him are saved by grace through faith on the ground of His shed blood, accepted in the beloved, kept by God's power, and thus secure in Christ forever (John 1:12, 6:37-40, 10:27-30; Rom. 8:1,38, 39; 1 Cor. 1:4-8; Eph. 1:7, 2:8-10; 1 Pet. 1:5, 18, 19).

We believe every saved person possesses two natures (spiritual and flesh), with provision made for victory of the spiritual over the flesh through the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit, and all claims to the eradication of the flesh in this life are unscriptural (Rom. 6:13, 8:12, 13; Gal. 5:16-25; Eph. 4:22-24; Col. 3:10; 1 Pet. 1:14-16; 1 John 3:5-9).

We believe it is the privilege of believers to rejoice in the assurance of their salvation through the testimony of God's Spirit through His Word which, however, clearly forbids the use of Christian liberty as an occasion to the flesh (Rom. 13:13, 14; Gal. 5:13; Titus 2:11-15; 1 Pet. 2:13-20).

VII. The Church

We believe the Church, which began with the baptising work of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, is the body of Christ. It is the spiritual organism made up of all born-again persons of the present age (Acts 2:1-13; Eph. 1:22, 23; 5:25-27; 1 Cor. 12:13-14; 2 Cor. 11:2). We believe the establishment and continuance of local churches is clearly taught and defined in the New Testament Scriptures (Acts 14:27; 20:17, 28-32; 1 Tim. 3:1-13; Titus 1:5-11).

VIII. Ordinances

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ established two ordinances for the Church in this present age. These are believer's water baptism, practiced by immersion, and the Lord's supper, observed as a memorial of His death (1 Cor. 11:23-34; Acts 8:12, 35-39, 10:47, 48; 1 Cor. 1:14).

IX. Missions

We believe the Church is commissioned to make disciples from among all nations, to baptise them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and to teach them to observe all things whatsoever Christ has commanded (Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 2 Cor. 5:19, 20).

X. The Ministry and Spiritual Gifts

We believe the Lord Jesus Christ gives the Church evangelists and pastor-teachers. These gifted men are to equip the saints for the work of the ministry (Eph. 4:7-14). We believe the Holy Spirit bestows spiritual gifts upon believers for Christian service and the edification of the Church (Rom. 12:3-8; 1 Cor. 12:4-11; 1 Pet. 4:10, 11).

We believe the church age was initiated through the ministry of the apostles and prophets accompanied by sign gifts to confirm their message. These sign gifts gradually ceased by the time of the completion of the New Testament (1 Cor. 12:28-31, 13:8-10, 14:1-28; 2 Cor. 12:12; Eph. 2:19-22; Heb. 2:3, 4).

We believe God hears and answers prayer in accord with His own will for healing the sick and afflicted (John 14:13, 14; 15:7; 1 John 5:14, 15).

XI. Dispensationalism

We believe the Scriptures interpreted in their natural, literal sense reveal divinely determined dispensations that define man's responsibility in successive ages. A dispensation is not a way of salvation, but a divinely ordered stewardship by which God directs man according to His purpose (John 1:17; 1 Cor. 9:17; 2 Cor. 3:9-18; Gal. 3:13-25; Eph. 1:10; 3:2-10; Col. 1:24, 25; Heb. 7:19; Rev. 20:2-6).

We believe salvation is always by grace through faith regardless of the dispensation in which the believer may have lived. God's purpose of salvation by grace through faith alone has always been based upon the substitutionary atonement of our Lord Jesus Christ upon the cross (Eph. 2:8-10; Heb. 11:6; 1 Pet. 1:10-12).

XII. The Personality of Satan

We believe Satan is a created being, the author of sin, the tempter in the fall, the declared enemy of God and man, and the god of this age. He shall be eternally punished in the lake of fire (Job 1:6, 7; Is. 14:12-17; Matt. 4:2-11; 25:41; Rev. 20:10).

XIII. The Second Advent of Christ

We believe in the "Blessed Hope" – the personal, imminent, pretribulational and premillennial coming of the Lord Jesus Christ for His redeemed ones. We believe at the end of the seven-year tribulation He will return to earth with the saints in power and glory to reign for a thousand years (Zech. 14:4-11; 1 Thess. 1:10; 4:13-18; 5:9; Rev. 3:10; 19:11-16; 20:1-6).

XIV. The Eternal State

We believe in the bodily resurrection of all men, the saved to eternal life and the unsaved to judgement and everlasting punishment (Matt. 25:46; John 5:28, 29; 11:25, 26; Rev. 20:5, 6, 12, 13).

We believe the souls of the redeemed are, at death, absent from the body and present with the Lord, where in conscious bliss they await the first resurrection, when spirit, soul, and body are reunited and glorified to be forever with the Lord (Luke 23:43; 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:23; 3:21; 1 Thess. 4:16,17; Rev. 20:4-6).

We believe the souls of unbelievers are, at death, absent from the body and in conscious misery until the second resurrection, when with soul and body reunited they shall appear at the Great White Throne Judgement and shall be cast into the lake of fire, not to be annihilated, but to suffer everlasting conscious punishment (Matt. 25:41-46; Mark 9:43-48; Luke 16:19-26; 2 Thess. 1:7-9; Jude 6,7; Rev. 20:11-15).

XV. Creation

We believe the triune God, by a free act, in the beginning and for His own glory, without the use of existing materials or secondary causes, brought into being – immediately and instantaneously in six literal days by the word of His mouth – the whole visible and invisible universe (Gen. 1:1-27; Ex. 20:8-11; Neh. 9:6; Ps. 104:25-26; Is. 40:21-31; John 1:1-5; Col. 1:16-17).

XVI. Human Sexuality

Sexual intimacy is a wonderful gift of God that is only to be expressed between a man and a woman within the love and bonds of marriage. Therefore, we believe that any other form of sexual intimacy is both immoral and a perversion of God's gift. (Gen. 2:24-25; Prov. 5:18; 1 Cor. 7:5; 1 Thess. 4:3-5; Heb. 13:4; Lev. 18:1-30; Prov. 6:32; 1 Cor. 6:18; Rom. 1:26-27).

XVII. Biblical Separation and Unity

We believe the saved should be separated unto the Lord Jesus Christ, necessitating holy living in all personal and ecclesiastical associations and relationships. We believe we are responsible to identify false teaching and dangerous movements where they relate to the conduct of BBISA's teaching and ministries. We believe separation is required in those instances where people, groups, and organizations whose doctrinal position is the same as BBISA's engage in contradictory practices which compromise the faith. (Rom. 12:1-2; 14:13; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; Titus 2:14; James 4:4-5; 1 Pet. 2:9; 1 John 2:15-17; Matt. 18:15-17; Rom. 16:17; 1 Cor. 5:7-11; 2 Cor. 6:14-18; Eph. 4:1-6; 2 Thess. 3:11-14; 2 Tim. 3:1-5; Titus 3:10; 2 John 9-11).

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