

COURSE SYLLABUS

Ten Reasons to Believe in a God Who Allows Suffering

Our Daily Bread University

Course Description

Ten Reasons to Believe in a God Who Allows Suffering is intended to challenge students to wrestle with difficult issues of faith. The Bible calls its readers to “test all things” (1 Thessalonians 5:21), and this course will show that students can do that because the Christian faith is grounded in fact and well-reasoned thought. Difficult questions, such as, “Why does God allow suffering?” can find deep, soul-satisfying answers in the pages of Scripture, resulting in confidence borne out of eternal truth.

Course Objectives

- To introduce students to the basic fundamentals of the Christian faith
- To provide scholarly and historical evidence for the validity of Christianity
- To encourage logical thinking in evaluating the authenticity of the teachings of Jesus and of the Bible

Course Methods

Throughout this course, a number of methods will be used to engage the students in learning and processing information, interacting with other students (when possible), and applying the learning to their lives. These methods include the following:

- **Video-based teaching**
The primary teaching session in each lesson is provided in video format. If you do not have the bandwidth required to view the video, we provide the option of listening to the lesson or reading the lesson from a transcript.
- **Readings and other media**
Students should have a copy of the Bible available in order to read the sections of the Bible assigned in each lesson. In addition, Scripture passages are linked to online Bible tools for convenience. These online resources also provide an opportunity for students for whom English is a second language to read the Bible passages in one of numerous international translations available.

For all other reading assignments, Our Daily Bread University provides the texts for this course in a downloadable Adobe® PDF format.

Course Requirements

To earn a Certificate of Completion, you must complete the course requirements. Course requirements include:

1. Viewing the following for each lesson:
 - **Lesson Overview:** A brief outline of what the lecturer will cover in the lesson.
 - **Lesson Objectives:** Objectives describe the learning outcomes you should achieve by the end of the lesson.
 - **Reading:** Suggested readings that will supplement your learning.
 - **Lectures:** 5-10 minute lessons that can be viewed as many times as needed.
 - **Further Study:** Suggested further study that will help you dig deeper into the material.
2. Responding to the discussion questions for each lesson.
3. Earning a 70% or higher score on each lesson Quiz and the Final Exam.
Quizzes and the Final Exam will cover the material presented in the lectures.