

# The Foreword for TROF-OT

## *Student “Need to Know” Stuff*

### Dual Involvement Levels

- 1. Course Leader Training:** The ultimate goal of this course is to equip you to use these materials in evangelism and/or discipleship, with people who know very little about the Bible. The facilitators will provide tips for doing that throughout the course. They will also provide a lot of additional Biblical content that is not found in **The Roots of Faith—Old Testament** workbook.
- 2. Basic Student Level:** In order to accomplish the above goal, you will be going through the course in a similar way to that of the students you may teach later. Thus, some of the workbook content will purposefully be very simple for some of you. But, you will be given additional more-in-depth Bible (“grouting”) content and tips for using the material with beginner-level students.

### Major Learning Focuses

- **Key content**
  - **Chronology of Bible events**
  - **Most significant map locations**
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- **Key content:** You will be asked to look for key content that you need to learn and retain. Below, you will learn how this relates to the “key content cards” that you will be developing through the course.
  - **Chronology of Bible events:** You will asked to master the basic chronology of the Old Testament, as it is arranged in this course—12 Old Testament eras and 50 major Bible stories/events.
  - **Most significant map locations:** You will be asked to master a basic understanding of an Ancient Near East (ANE) map and an Old Testament Canaan map, as they relate to major stories in the Old Testament.

## Student Materials

Each student will receive...

- The Roots of Faith—*Old Testament: Exploring the Old Testament from Beginning to End* workbook
- Set of highlighter pens for your general use and for specific activity assignments given by the course facilitators
- Set of spiral bound index cards for key content notes
- Set of 50 ChronoBible Cards—Old Testament
- Lesson commentaries for the Bible passages covered in each of the 50 event-lessons
- Access to the online Instructor's Resource Center (IRC)

### Key Content Cards (spiral bound 50 index cards)

- An important part of this course will be the development and review of your personalized set of key content cards. You will be asked to look for at least three (perhaps more) key content learnings that you think are important for you to know and retain, from each of the 50 event studies. These should be facts or concepts that are either (1) new to you or (2) that you may have heard previously but have not fully or permanently grasped.
- You will be given a spiral bound set of 50 index cards—one card for each story study in the course. As you proceed through the studies, you will write down at least three key content learnings from each study on a single card and put a number on that card to identify the story/event associated with those key content learnings.
- You will use those key content cards in a variety of ways during the several “Velcro (making it stick) Activities” in the course.
- Some of the kinds of key content learnings to be looking and listening for:
  - Names of people, places, things, etc. in the Bible
  - Events
  - Theological concepts

Note: This course very intentionally develops major theological issues progressively throughout the course.

- Interpretations—suggested ones and variant ones.
- Terms—Biblical, theological, historical, etc.
- Some key dates (for historical orientation)
- Etc., etc. etc.

These key content learnings may come from...

- Content in the workbooks
- Facilitator comments, not included in the workbooks
- Comments from other students
- Your own additional insights

## Table Groups

You will be working in a table group setting with four to five other students. Many of your learning activities will be done cooperatively with your table group.

## Key Chronological Study Terms

- **Front loading:** thinking and (especially) talking ahead of the historical point in the Bible's Big Story where we are at the time  
**Rule:** Front loading is *not allowed* throughout the course, unless the reason for the exception is clearly stated.
- **Back filling:** providing important additional background information that is important to understand a Bible story/event  
**Rule:** Backfilling is *allowed and helpful*, at times.
- **Gap filling (grouting):** providing additional important information related to a story, expanding the content of a story/event  
**Rule:** Gap filling (grouting) is *allowed and helpful*, especially in training you to use these resources for your own ministry with newbie (beginner) Bible students.

## Basic Ground Rules

- **Computers and mobile pads:** We ask that you not have a computer or mobile pad at your table during class times. But please feel free to access them during lunch or break times.
- **Cell phones:** We ask that you keep your cell phones turned off during class times. Break and lunch times are good times for phone calls. For emergency calls, you can have friends contact the ABWE receptionist at (717) 774.7000. The receptionist will get the message to you.
- **Breaks and lunch times:** Please help us by returning from lunch and breaks at the appointed times. The opening minutes of each story study in this course are some of the most important minutes of the class. Returning late from lunch and breaks not only limits your participation in the class, it also creates disturbances for other students.
- **Meetings with home office personnel:** If someone from one of the ABWE offices asks to meet with you during class time, please explain that this would not be a good idea.

## Final Activity (Friday afternoon, concluding at 5:30 p.m.)

You will participate in some activities on Friday afternoon to “test” your knowledge of...

- Key content in the course
- Chronology of Old Testament events
- Map location of major Old Testament events

A “celebration party” will be held immediately after this final activity—with pizza and other goodies.