



Summary: Our third BCM BIO cohort will be a “hybrid” course that draws on the theology and ethics of Elaine Enns and Ched Myers (supplemented by interviews with and /or material from other colleagues, and bibliographies for further reading). The course overviews BCM’s take on embodied Radical Discipleship traditions and engagement, and mentors participants in the work of scaffolding their own theology and practices. It consists of five primary components:

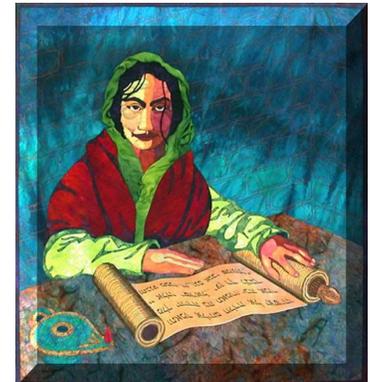
1. two in-person gatherings (Sept 22-24, 2017 and Feb 19-23, 2018 in Oak View, CA);
2. five online classes (BIO-A01 thru A04 and BIO-B01);
3. monthly online conversations with Elaine and Ched (additional conversations as a cohort if desired);
4. six to eight sessions of spiritual direction and/or relationship counseling
5. and a final project.

Participation requires an average of 3-4 hours per week of study and discussion; we estimate that this course material is equivalent to six units of seminary curriculum. Tuition is \$725, and seminary credit is available through St. Andrews College, Saskatoon Theological Union (for an additional fee). Limit ten participants (there must be a minimum of five participants for the cohort to go forward).

Syllabus and Schedule (*dates subject to revision if necessary*):

Week of August 21, 2017: **Initial online conversation.** Introduce ourselves, discuss class expectations and logistics for online work and Institutes, schedule monthly calls.

September: **BIO-A01, Intro to Radical Discipleship.** Presents a critical, constructive and practical alternative to the prevailing paradigms of Christian faith and practice in the First World context. Class includes Bible studies and overviews key practices of contemporary RD communities.



(Above: *The Prophet Huldah*; www.lovingjustwise.com)

September 22-24: **In-person Colloquium I in Oak View, CA.** Begins Friday at 5pm, concludes Sunday at 2pm. Retreat, reflection, share discipleship journeys, story-telling, discuss BIO-A01 (*Note: Tuition covers home or church hospitality, meals and transport to/from Ventura/Oak View; you must get yourself to and from Ventura, CA.*)

October: **BIO-A02 Restorative Justice.** Explains principles and theory of RJ, and explores their application to various situations of personal and political violation; highlights the testimony and witness of diverse contemporary practitioners; explores analytical models of power and privilege; investigates historic violation and healing.

Week of October 23: **BIO-A02 Restorative Justice conversation online.**

November: **BIO-A03, Intro to Sabbath Economics:** Outlines the ecological and social rationale for why economics is a matter of Christian faith and practice; explores a hermeneutic that “reads the Bible economically and the economy biblically”; traces footprints of Sabbath Economics through both Testaments; critiques dominant economic cosmology; overviews Household Covenanting.

Week of November 30: **BIO-A03 conversation online:** focus on Sabbath economics theology, biblical roots.

Dec 19: **BIO-A03 (continued) conversation online:** focus on money autobiography.

January, 2018: **BIO-A04, Intro to Biography as Theology.** Outlines framework for exploring embodied narratives as theological “texts,” including our own, drawing on the work of James McClendon and others; urges literacy in traditional & non-traditional “saints”; profiles exemplary disciples past & present.

Feb 18-23: **Bartimaeus Kinsler Institute**, Oak View, CA. Theme: “TBD.” Schedule:

- *Sun 4-9 pm:* **Cohort Colloquium II:** Dinner, discuss participant “autobiography as theology” reflections.
- *Mon 9 am-12noon:* Continue reflections; bring potential names for breviary final project work (see below).
- *Mon 5 pm:* Institute Opening/BCM Annual Party
- *Tues-Thurs 9 am – 9 pm:* Institute (plenary presentations, workshops, discussion, worship)
- *Fri 9 am - noon:* Closing session and ceremony
- *Assignments to be completed prior to Colloquium:*
 1. *Prepare a 15-20 minute reflection that expresses an intersection between your autobiography and one of the themes we have studied so far.*
 2. *One reading relevant to Institute theme.*

(*Note:* BIO tuition covers Institute fee, lodging, meals and transport within Oak View from Feb 19-24; you must get yourself to and from Ventura, CA.)

March, 2017: **BIO-B01, Watershed Discipleship: Reinhabiting Bioregional Faith and Practice.** This final, advanced class explores the interlocking ecological and social crises of the Anthropocene through a just-published anthology on Watershed Discipleship.

Final Project: Women’s Breviary. Cohort will continue a project begun by the “Feminary” cohorts of compiling testimonies of women whose lives have embodied radical discipleship. Each participant will research and write at least one (500-800 words); *circulate draft(s) by May 15.*

Week of April 3: **BIO-B01, Watershed Discipleship online conversation, debrief of Institute.**

Week of May 22: **Final Online Conversation:** Feedback/editing conversation on breviary pieces, each person offer one appreciation and one suggestion for improvement for each; evaluation of whole course.

June 15: Final version of Breviary pieces due.

Credit/Certificate: In addition to a BCM “Certificate of Completion” we can work with students who want to obtain academic credit (you will need to do this either through your academic or ecclesial institution or with St. Andrews College Saskatoon).

Fees/Payment Schedule:

- Registration and first payment due *Aug 15th, 2017*
- Tuition = **\$725 (U.S. dollars)**
 - \$300 due August 15th, 2017
 - \$225 due October 10th, 2017
 - \$200 due January 9th, 2018

[For more information: inquiries@bcm-net.org](mailto:inquiries@bcm-net.org)