

# *Santa Cruz de la Canada*

## *Bible Study Ministry*

The Bible study ministry is focused on multiple themes, to include the liturgical calendar, the structure and meaning of the Mass; dealing with personal struggles such as anger, fear, temptation, core Catholic doctrines; salvation, grace, ethical dilemmas such as forgiveness, justice, principles of daily life, such as leadership, marriage and finances; for example.

### ***Faith and Salvation:***

- **The Gospel Message;** exploring the core message of Jesus Christ's death and resurrection as the means to salvation.
- **Grace and Mercy;** Examining God's unconditional love and forgiveness extended to humanity.
- **Justification by Faith;** understanding how faith in Jesus alone the basis for being declared righteous before God.
- **Repentance and Conversation;** studying the process of turning away from sin and committing to follow Christ.

### ***Christian Living:***

- **The Fruit of the Spirit;** analyzing the characteristics of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control that should be evident in a Christian life (Galatians 5:22-23)
- **Overcoming Temptation;** examining strategies from scripture to resist temptation and live a life of integrity.
- **Prayer and Fellowship;** exploring the importance and practice of prayer and connecting with other believers
- **Serving Others;** studying biblical teachings about serving others and living a life of compassion

### ***Relationships:***

- **Marriage and Family;** examining biblical principles for healthy relationships within marriage and family dynamics
- **Forgiveness;** exploring the concept of forgiveness and how to extend forgiveness to others
- **Love and Compassion;** studying the biblical definition of love and how to express it in daily life
- **Leadership;** examining qualities of a biblical leader and how to lead with

integrity, compassion and understanding (an example of a true disciple of God)

### **Ethical Issues:**

- **Stewardship of Finances;** understanding biblical principles regarding managing money and possessions
- **Social Justice;** examining the Bible's teachings on caring for the marginalized and advocating for justice
- **Persecution and Suffering;** reflecting on how to respond to hardships and persecution with a Christian perspective

### **Biblical Characters:**

- **The Life of David;** studying the story of King David to learn about leadership, repentance, and overcoming adversity
- **The Parables of Jesus;** analyzing Jesus' stories to understand deeper spiritual truths
- **The Apostle Paul;** exploring Paul's teachings on faith, grace, and the Christian life