



True^North

Bible Study and Discipleship for Everyone.

Mission: *Connecting the People of God
to the voice of Jesus
Through the Word and the Spirit.*

More than half of Americans have read little or none of the Bible (Lifeway).

Few churches actually teach new believers “how to study the Bible.” They are handed a Bible and told that all they need is the Holy Spirit to guide them. If that statement was completely true, Biblical illiteracy would not be growing.

There is a pervasive spiritual hunger; both corporate and individual, for a return to the reading, study, and application of the Scriptures: not just in local church worship, but in every aspect of a Christian’s life.

True^North is a movement to recalibrate our spiritual compasses to point towards the “true north” of God’s Word. This recalibration will address these three areas:



LAITY: Train laity to read, understand, and apply the sacred Scriptures to their lives. New skills will be taught.



LEADERS: Train pastors and local church leaders “how to teach” the reading of Scripture to others. Pastors, small group leaders, Sunday School teachers, and youth leaders will discover that the reading of Scripture is THE chief way to make Disciples.



READING TOGETHER IN COMMUNITY: In the Wesleyan tradition, it’s clear that everyone learns to read much deeper as they do it “in community” than reading alone. Moreover, Christian Community is also the sacred space where people pursue transformation and personal holiness with higher success.

True^North helps local churches to create a culture where searching the Scriptures is the essential factor in disciple-making on every level.

What is True^North?

True^North is a set of workshops, which take place over a single weekend and then continue by follow-up communication and support. The ultimate goal is to transform disciples into the Image of Jesus through the reading, understanding, and application of the Bible.

Who leads the True^North experience?

The True^North ministry was created and is led by Dr. David Smith. He is Professor of New Testament (20 years) and Church Ambassador at Indiana Wesleyan University. Additionally, he serves as Pastor of the Ministry Development Program at College Wesleyan Church (Marion, Indiana), where he develops young pastors in their first ministry positions.



He has taught scores of local churches “how to read the Scriptures” as a tool for Disciple-making. You will discover that he is passionate about the Gospels and Paul’s letters and has done extensive study and teaching in the Hebrew Bible. Finally, he has traveled extensively around the world teaching and doing leadership development in multiple cultural contexts.

What does a True^North weekend look like?

The True^North experience is customizable for every local church context. In its fullness, it is comprised in two distinct but integrated workshops, often spanning Friday evening to Saturday afternoon.

Part I: Train the Disciple-makers

Teaching the Teacher to Impart Bible Study Skills. In summary, this workshop is the “Why” and “How” of Discipleship Through Bible Reading. This is often done in a 3 hour Friday Night workshop.

Part II: Train the Disciples-in-the-making

A full day of teaching your church laity introductory Bible Study skills with all church leaders watching.

Who in my church should be involved in the True^North experience?

Ultimately, everyone can and should be involved; in the prayerful preparation, in the leadership development, finally in the Laity training. But the most important part is the Church practicing in community the reading of Scripture and obeying the Voice of Jesus together.

What is the cost?

The only expense is to cover travel and housing costs for Dr. David Smith. Indiana Wesleyan University and College Wesleyan Church are True^North “sending” agents. They take care of much of the financial needs.

How do I learn more about True^North?

To learn more about True^North, visit ProfDaveSmith.com and fill out the “Contact Us” form.

