

## Programs and Ministries at Pilgrim Baptist Fellowship

As a smaller church PBF works hard to minister in whatever ways we practically can. As some of our membership is quite geographically dispersed, there is a special emphasis on teaching so that our people are equipped to live for Christ throughout the week.

### Missions

PBF strives to keep the great commission practically active in our support for foreign missionaries and local ministries in Hamilton. Wycliffe Bible Translators, Move-In, World Evangelism for Christ, Neighbour to Neighbour Food Bank, Pregnancy Support Services of Hamilton, and others are among the foreign and local ministries that have a special place in our heart. We believe that a vibrant church is one that actively reaches out locally and beyond in an effort to minister Christ's Gospel love to the world.

### SGF Canada

Other ministries such as Youth, Women, Men and family ministries are often run internally and/or in conjunction with the Sovereign Grace Fellowship of Canada and its member churches. More information can be obtained by visiting the SGF website at <http://www.sgfcanada.com>.

## Christian Education at Pilgrim Baptist Fellowship

"...that their hearts may be encouraged, having been knit together in love, and attaining to all the wealth that comes from the full assurance of understanding, resulting in a true knowledge of God's mystery, that is, Christ Himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." Colossians 2:2-3

### Why we have Christian Education:

- In the Grace of God, by His Power, and for His glory, we strive to live authentic Christian lives before a watching world: to that end, Christian Education at Pilgrim is designed to encourage growth in the Grace and Knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ through Bible teaching and instruction in Christian living. Our aim is to help one another in our Christian walk and to train up the church for service to each other and the world.

### When we run Christian Education:

- Christian Education at Pilgrim runs from **September to June**, beginning at **9:30am** and ending at 10:10am, followed by a coffee/tea/juice fellowship time. Sunday morning Worship Services begin at 10:30am.
- **Summer holiday:** During the months of July and August, there is no Christian Education program. Sunday morning Worship Services begin at 10am during the summer months.

## What we offer:

- We offer Sunday School and Christian Education classes for all ages:

**Nursery** (ages 0-2)

**Primary class** (ages 3-7)

**Junior class** (ages 8-11)

**Senior class** (age 13- grade 12)

**Adult class**

## Our Christian Education program focuses on five areas of study:

### 1. Bible and Theology courses

- examples of courses offered in the past: Bible book studies, e.g., Ruth, Esther, Survey of Romans; “Christian Foundations” course based on J.I. Packer’s *18 Words: The Most Important Words You Will Ever Know*; “What is the Gospel?”; “The Holy Spirit”, “Biblical Leadership”; etc.

### 2. Christian Living and Ethics courses

- examples of courses offered in the past: “Spiritual Disciplines”; “Stewardship: From our gifts and talents to the environment and our finances”; “Raising Kids for the Kingdom in a Chaotic and Confused World”; “This Momentary Marriage” based on John Piper’s book; “A Healthy Church Member”

### 3. Apologetics (Defending our Faith)

- examples of courses offered in the past: “World Religions”; “Why the Bible is Reliable”; “Islam and Christianity”

### 4. Church history courses

- examples of course offered in the past: “Biographical Sketches from the Early Church”; “Monks, Missionaries, and Missteps: The Church in the Middle Ages”; “Reform, Rebirth, & Resistance: The Church during the Reformation and Renaissance”; “Age of Ideologies: Missions and the Modern Church”

### 5. Studies in Arts and Literature

- examples of courses offered in the past: “Art and the Bible”; novel studies of C.S. Lewis’s *Screwtape Letters* and John Bunyan’s *Pilgrim’s Progress*; “A Study of Seven Christian Authors”; “Creation, Imitation, and Idolatry: Studies in Visual Arts from Bezael to Jackson Pollack”

## How we run Christian Education:

- At Pilgrim, the academic year is typically divided into four quarters, where we offer a variety of ten week courses based on the age and spiritual stage of the classes. Courses are taught by Elders and able members of the congregation. In addition to locally developed courses, we have also facilitated guided book studies and DVD studies. Participation and discussion are encouraged during our classes.