

## The Great Adventure continues

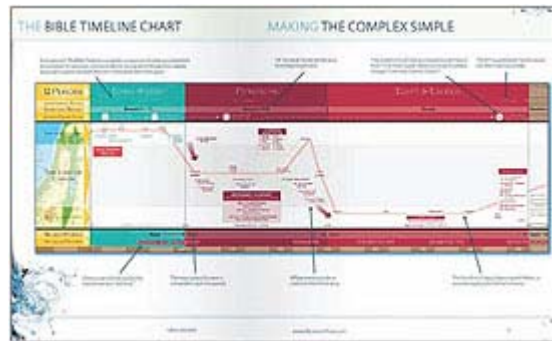
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Fire broke out recently at St. Matthew's Church in Surrey. Also at Immaculate Conception in Delta, St. Ann's in Abbotsford, and some 20 other parishes that are clamoring aboard The Great Adventure.

Parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Vancouver have been stoked with enthusiasm for the breakthrough Bible program that takes the study out of Bible study and replaces it with learning.

"I just can't believe it," said one participant in The Great Adventure series of Bible studies. "Every single week I hear what I need to hear."

At St. Matthew's alone, more than 100 parishioners are involved in the series, produced by Jeff Cavins, who with evangelist/convert Scott Hahn has in recent years been reopening Catholics' eyes to an appreciation for the Bible.



### **The Great Adventure**

The cornerstone of the Great Adventure is The Bible Timeline learning system, which is built upon a chart that arranges the key people, places, and events of the Bible in chronological order.

"People grasp the big picture of the story of salvation and are amazed at God's plan for their lives," said Kyle Neilson of the Office of Religious Education, who for the past year has been assisting parishes implement the program in the Archdiocese of Vancouver. "Hearts are truly on fire."

More than 20 parishes in the Archdiocese of Vancouver are embracing The Great Adventure program as part of their adult faith formation strategies. The eight-part Quick Journey through the Bible consists of DVD presentations and group discussions. What follows in the series is a six-month examination from Old Testament to New.

Diane Slaney, parishioner and co-coordinator of the program at St. Matthew's Parish, said "Participants are so happy to be coming to the Great Adventure, gaining knowledge and totally looking forward to what new insights they will receive at the next session. One man told me: 'I can never repay you for the happiness and newfound love I have discovered in reading God's word.'"

Slaney said she has been enlightened, inspired and humbled by the series, which showed her "the greatness of God's mercy, patience and unceasing love."

"Getting to know my Father through salvation history is so rich, so deep, so transforming that at times I find myself speechless in trying to describe the overwhelming spiritual benefits of this incredible Bible Study."