

**WEDNESDAYS AT FIRST  
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, SPARTANBURG  
DR. THOMAS E. EVANS  
APRIL 22, 2015**

**HOW PEOPLE VIEW THE BIBLE**

**LITERAL:** The person believes the events of the Bible happened. The meaning is found in the words of the Bible.

**FIGURATIVE:** The person does not believe that all of the Bible happened as it says it did. The meaning is behind the words.

**THE ROLE OF SCRIPTURE IN PEOPLE'S LIVES**

**ESSENTIAL:** The Bible is felt to be a necessary condition for the life of the disciple.

**SUPPLEMENTAL:** The Bible may add significant understanding but we could get along without it.

**HOW PEOPLE READ (RECEIVE) THE BIBLE**

**EXPERIENTIAL:** The Bible comes alive to the reader. The reader enters into the world of the Bible. The reader encounters the Bible story as her/his story.

**ANALYTICAL:** The Bible is dissected and studied to learn truth. The reader draws out the meaning.

**WHAT PEOPLE DRAW FROM THE BIBLE**

**PRACTICAL:** The Bible is seen as a tool which can be applied to certain situations in life.

**FORMATIVE:** The Bible shapes our very being.

**Do you Agree or Disagree with the following statements?**

**Please mark “A” or “D” beside each one.** (There are no right or wrong answers.)

1. We can come close to knowing the age of the earth by analyzing the Bible
2. The universe came into being in six 24-hour periods
3. Man came before woman
4. I need to read or hear the Bible regularly or else I just don't feel right
5. It is our duty to read it
6. The Bible has played a deeply significant part of my life
7. When I read the Psalms I find myself filled with praise for God
8. Sometimes I feel like I am the prodigal son or elder brother
9. I prefer a devotional supplement to a Bible commentary
10. I prefer Bible lessons that I can apply to my daily living
11. Every story has a moral
12. The purpose of scripture reading is to learn how to love God