**Bible 101- Session 3**

**“Different Kinds of Books in the Bible”**

**Types of Books in the Old Testament**

* ***Historical Books*** (also known as the Pentateuch)- Genesis- Job,
  + *Main intention*-to share the history of the Hebrew people.
    - ***As a Christian, what are the benefits we might get from knowing the history of the Jews?***
* ***Poetical Books***- Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon
  + *Main Intention*- acts of worship, words of wisdom
    - ***Which of these books do you relate to the most and why?***
* ***Prophetical Books***- Isaiah-Malachi
  + *Main Intention*- Call to repentance, words of hope, fore-telling of the future.
    - ***Of the above three intentions, which is the most interesting to you? Which makes the biggest difference in your life?***

**Types of Books in the New Testament**

* ***Historical Books-*** Matthew – The Acts of the Apostles
  + *Main Intention-* To share the history of the earthly ministry of Christ and the Apostles.
    - ***Knowing that these books record “history”, what do you make of the differing accounts of the same events found in the Gospels?***
* ***Pauline Letters***- Romans- Philemon
  + *Main Intention-* Paul wrote these letters to either churches or individuals in an effort to instruct them in appropriate Christian living and beliefs.
    - ***Do you think Paul had any idea when he wrote these letters that one day they would end up in the Bible and read by people for thousands of years?***
    - ***Does it impact the way you read them knowing that they are letters to a particular group of people?***
* ***General –*** Hebrews- Revelation
  + *Main Intention*- This last group of books was written by a variety of authors, having a wide range of intention. Most were written as *general writings* meant to be passed from church to church as instruction in Christian doctrine and living.
    - ***Knowing that these were written for a broader community does that change the way you look at them?***
    - ***How might the way you look at these books differ from the way you look at the Pauline letters?***