

Continuous learning about the Bible is one of our tasks and privileges as CCC missionaries. So, sometimes we take Bible courses. They enable us not only to gain a deeper understanding of the Scriptures, but also prepare us for ministry. And since we both enjoy delving into the Old and New Testaments, it gives us great pleasure and we are grateful for this opportunity.

From October to January, we participated in the "**Review of the Old Testament Part I**". We discussed the Pentateuch of Moses. Our lecturer, Michael Brent (MDiv in Theology at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary), explained the intricacies of the text and gave a lot of historical and cultural information. He helped us better understand the meaning of the covenants e.g. with Abraham and Moses.

The course required us to do a lot of work - about 6 hours a week: reading Scripture, writing several papers and tests, and attending 12 lectures on Zoom. We consider this time to have been well spent, although it required us to work hard.

On Feb 13 the "Review of the Old Testament Part II" will be launched. We can't participate, but **if you would like to, let us know**. The course is free, and the lectures are in English, translated into Polish.

Please pray for:

- good fruits of this course in our relationship with God and with our neighbors;
- Karolina and Maciek to come closer to God and want to live for Him;
- health for Bartek's parents (89 years old) and wisdom in caring for them.

Gosia

A few words from Bartek:

I was interested in the Day of Atonement. It is a special holiday described in Leviticus 16, celebrated once a year. The high priest would bring two goats. The first was a sacrifice offered to God - with its blood he sprinkled the atonement cover, which showed purification and reconciliation with God. Then the priest laid his hands on the second goat and transferred all of Israel's sins to it. It was released into the desert to signify the removal of sins from the community.

What does this have to do with me? In the sacrifice of the goats I see the sufficiency and completeness of Christ's sacrifice. Jesus not only paid the penalty instead of me (the first goat), but also took all my guilt upon himself (the second goat). I don't have to sacrifice animals every year and beg for forgiveness. The perfect "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" has already done it for me (John 1:29)!