

**Joint Central & First Study Group**  
**Making Sense of the Bible (4 part series)**

**Feb 1st & 15th at First UC**

**March 1st & 15th at Central**

**Wednesdays 7p.m. to 8:30p.m**

The bible has long been a primary source of Christian inspiration and direction.

But how can we trust the bible to be meaningful today:

- when its miracle stories don't fit with science,
- when the bible contains racist and objectional material
- when it contains contradictions
- when it presents Jesus in two differing ways?

**Bring your questions and insights!**

**1. Miracle stories verses Science – Feb 1st at First**

Nature of stories: Difference between facts and truth, history and story

Example of facts leading to untruths: 1 billion spent on political pacs same as amount spent on gum....meant to minimize pacs by comparing it to trivial gum but two different things

Special effects as powerful symbols and attention grabbing

Creation and Evolution

**2. Inspirational scripture verses Objectional material – Feb 15th at First**

How do we determine what is true and what is false?

Separating cultural norms from Loving norms

Repairing the damage of those beaten up by parts of the bible

### **3. Contradictions as Differing Points of View – March 1st at Central**

Bible debates that continue today

Original Sin verses Original Blessing

Rules verses Justice

### **4. Two differing presentations of Jesus – March 15th at Central**

Mat. Mark, Luke verses John

Jesus as only way verses Love as only way

Jesus moving beyond Tribal racism verses tribalism