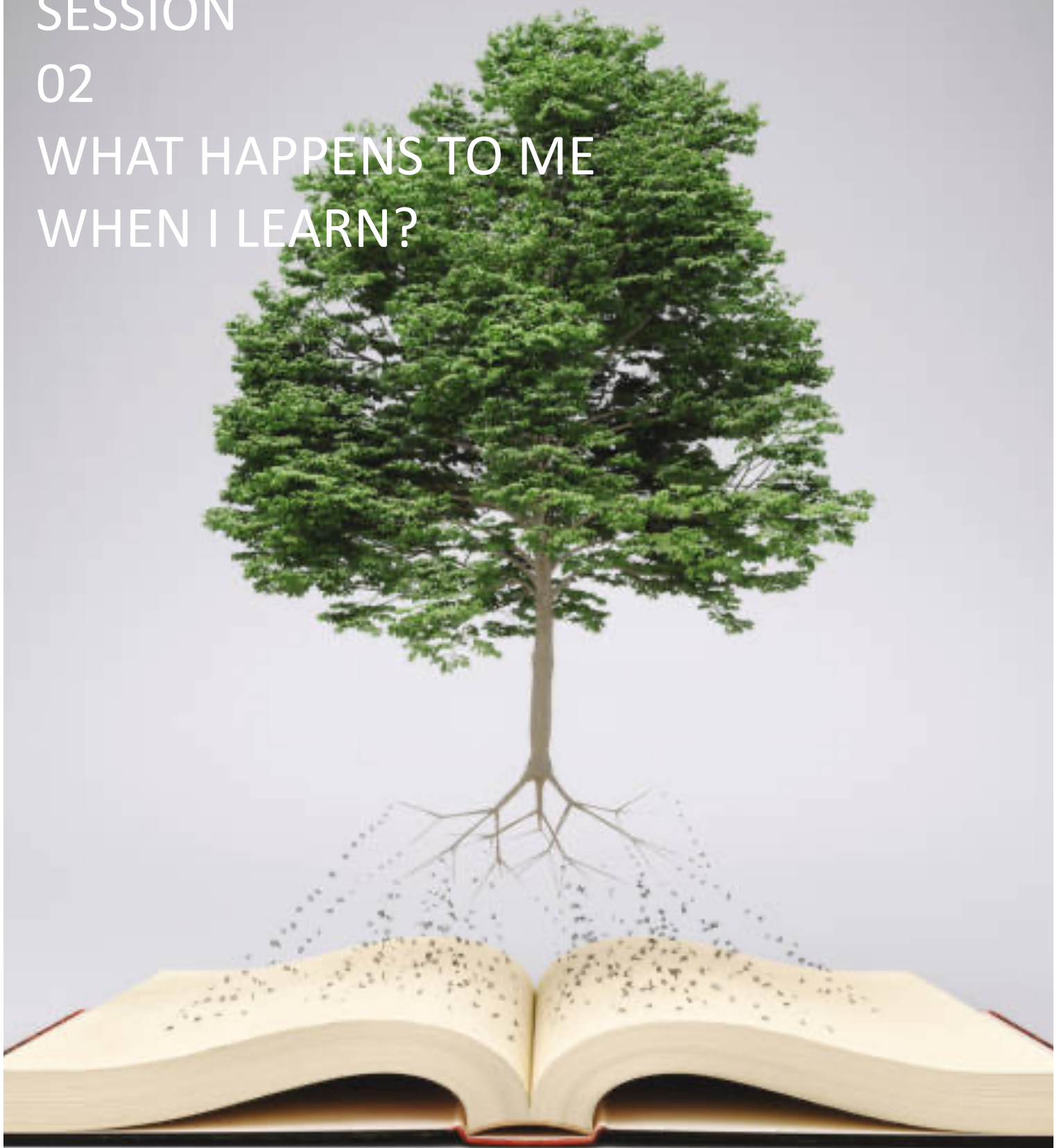


SESSION

02

WHAT HAPPENS TO ME
WHEN I LEARN?



INSTRUCTOR**THOMAS GERLACH**

I was born 1961 into a Christian family close to Cologne, Germany. As a young man of 18 I faced my saviour Jesus Christ, who challenged me through a preaching about John 11 – from this moment I knew in my heart that following Christ is life itself.

I was called to a Church in Hagen in the Ruhr area. Here I met people from many nations in 2015 as they came to Germany. Today I am serving them full time to help them to find a home in Germany, both spiritually and physically as they must overcome many obstacles.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The course is broken down into six specific sessions. Each session will include a video lecture, course guide, and in some cases short assignments to help you grow. We encourage you to not only do this course on your own time, but with others who share the same passion to expand God's Kingdom.

SESSION OVERVIEW

01 Learning from God & Learning about God

02 What Happens to me When I Learn?

03 Logic as a Tool for Learning

04 Logic Connects Meaning

05 Logic Helps to Understand Truth

06 We are Made to Learn

Session Summary

What happens to me when I learn?

We look at the brain to understand how we learn. We see how the issues you are working with are sinking into your mind to make you grow in wisdom.



2. What happens to me when I learn?

Romans 12:2

2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Jak.1:22- 25

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. 25 But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

Learning is gain

What is your concept of learning?

Assignment:

- Find the words in the languages you know for:
knowledge, understanding, wisdom
- Ask yourself what does it really mean.
- Try to tell a story that takes in all meanings of your word for learning.

Colossians 2:3

"In Christ himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge."

Proverbs 1:1-7

1 The proverbs of Solomon son of David, king of Israel: 2 for gaining wisdom and instruction; for understanding words of insight; 3 for receiving instruction in prudent behaviour, doing what is right and just and fair; 4 for giving prudence to those who are simple, knowledge and discretion to the young— 5 let the wise listen and add to their learning, and let the discerning get guidance— 6 for understanding proverbs and parables, the sayings and riddles of the wise. 7 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction

Learning is a question to be solved

Asking the right questions. Dear LORD:

- What does this say to my head? Knowledge
- What does this make with my heart? Understanding
- What does he or she wants me to do? Practical help

Head – Heart – Hand

Assignment:

Choose one passage of the Bible, best would be a parable of Jesus and use these questions to open it for you.

Note on learning with the Bible

In many cultures the Holy Scripture are revered in the way that it only can be read but never being marked or underlined. In my culture we revere the Bible for its content not for its form. For this reason, I encourage you to take the text of the Bible and mark it what helps you to remember the content better. You might not like to use your Bible book like this. Take the computer and print out the texts you choose to learn from in the way that is good to you.

Brain development

The brain takes the new information and checks it on:

1. Parallelism/ Similarity
2. Development of something more simple
3. The contrast or the other extreme
4. Contradiction to what I already learned

Brain – 2 major parts

The left side of brain thinks:

- Systematically
- Uses language – words and grammar
- Creates terms and concepts
- Uses arithmetic, mathematics
- Things are investigated analytically, they are checked by the different parts they have

The right side of the brain thinks:

- Intuitive, that is your gut feeling, you know something without being able to say why
- It understands the character of music and pictures
- Uses geometrics that is the understanding of plain and room
- Things are understood in its unity, in its entirety.

The **left** side uses abstract terms, forms and language

The **right** side uses concrete pictures and stories.

Our identity in Christ perceived by the brain.

John 14,23

23 Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them."

This imprints in me new pattern of thinking

Romans 12,2

2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing, and perfect will.

Mind and memory

Memory for Seconds

Up to 120 seconds

For short attention – driving car, etc.

Memory of Minutes

Between 6 minutes up to 2 hours

For daily interactions

Memory for a long time

- Through repetition
- Through association

What you have learned sinks in step by step!

1. **Perceiving** – hearing, reading
I hear somebody telling me something, I read something,
2. **Understanding** – language, content
I understand what is said as I understand the language well.
3. **Interpreting** – connecting to my story
I interpret it for me by answering the question: What does this mean to me? Where does this fit into my life story
4. **Explaining** – show somebody how I understand it
I start to explain what I have understood to somebody else.
5. **Applying** – put it into practice
Emphasized by the teaching of the Bible. By doing what you have learned, it becomes part of yourself

What you have learned sinks in step by step!

Jak.1,22- 25

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Wisdom

The ultimate wisdom is found in Jesus himself

Colossians.2,3

2 My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ, 3 in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.

Ephesians1,8-9

With all wisdom and understanding, 9 he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ,