

Pilgrim Rest Education Enrichment

Adult Education Series

“Reading Homer’s *Iliad*”

with Prof. Myles Lynk, Arizona State University

Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church, 1401 E. Jefferson St. Phoenix, AZ.

Art illuminates life. *The Iliad* of Homer is a seminal work in western culture. We think we know it, though few of us have actually read it. We are more familiar with Homer’s *Odyssey*, yet *The Iliad* is the greater work. Also, did you know that the Ethiopians play a role in the Trojan War cycle, or that *The Iliad* references a mythical “war” between the pygmy tribes of Africa and the storks; birds of Europe that migrate to Africa each winter? In this workshop we will undertake a close reading of *The Iliad* and its mythological context, to explore how the ethos of this pre-Christian society differs from our own, yet it’s themes of hope, fear, anger and regret still resonate today. *The Iliad* does not tell the story of the Trojan War; rather, it tells the stories of grasping men and vulnerable women who are caught up in that war. Homer paints vivid character sketches as he illustrates the human cost of war and the consequences of arrogance and delusion. No prior knowledge of *The Iliad* is required. Supplemental material will be provided. The class will read and discuss the poem over five class sessions. These five sessions are spread over seven weeks to give everyone time to read the poem. Richmond Lattimore’s translation (Univ. of Chicago Press paperback; available on line at: Amazon.com) is preferred.

Instructor: Prof. Myles Lynk

Dates: 5 Sessions - Saturdays, March

3, March 17, March 24,

April 17, and April 24.

Time 1:30-2:45 PM.

ASU Sandra Day O’Connor
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