

The next meeting of the New Story Group at Friends Meeting at Cambridge is Monday, September 26, from 7:00 to 9:00pm. Come at 6:30 for fellowship. First timers are always welcome!

To participate in this event [click this link](#) or call 1-646-558-8656 and provide the Meeting ID 875 6881 1869 and passcode 101225

For more information and list of resources, please visit the New Story [web page here](#). To be placed on the email list for New Story News and notices of future meetings contact Cornelia Parkes new-story@fmcquaker.org.

Program for September's meeting:

How to deal with the Bible with Gail Thomas, Santa Monica Friends Meeting, CA

Many challenges confront those of us seeking "Truth." One is the language we speak- I am not fluent in any but English, and English, like all languages has advantages and disadvantages. I experience English as full of words, with lots of influences from other languages and therefore somewhat flexible. It is, however, a fairly black or white language. Thank god for poetry which helps us sing since English words themselves tend to mean what they mean.

I say that having spent hours (it seems) in New Testament Greek class considering the possibilities in a single word. In Judaism there is an entire system—Midrash--that ponders words, and the Kabala sees individual letters as a mystical pathway.

So how to deal with what we read in the Bible? Some stories date back thousands of years and reflect the violence of the fertile crescent. All presume a god "outside" and "up there." Yet, for me, since we as a species developed self-consciousness, we seem to struggle to articulate and communicate our sense of being one with all consciousness and seek to understand what it is we experience. That experience and the attempt to articulate that experience is why I do Bible study. Bring your questions, reflections etc. and discover if there is "truth" there worth finding.

See you there! Be ready to share!

Cornelia Parkes, Convener
FMC New Story Group