

## Karl Belgum Forums

Good news! Virtual Sunday Forum is alive and well. Joe Jennings did his Slow Religion class on the Gospel of John this morning via Zoom, an internet meeting app, and 19 people showed up online!

People are rising to the challenge, they are energized, and they are connected. 20 people asked to be added to the mailing list last week!! All good stuff.

This coming Sunday, March 29, we are doing a very interesting book, "Educated," by Tara Westover. The author was home schooled (non-schooled) in a fundamentalist Mormon family in rural Utah. Her father modeled his role in the family on his vision of an Old Testament patriarch, or perhaps a prophet. Tara broke away and ended up getting a PhD in history at Cambridge. A fascinating journey.

If you have read the book, ask yourself these questions: Is it pro or anti-religion? Is it anti-Mormon? Is it a feminist book? Anti-patriarchy? What is the big takeaway here? Second question, what grade would you assign to her father as self-proclaimed Old Testament patriarch of the family? Did he achieve what he wanted to, on his own terms at least? It should be a super interesting discussion. What did Tara gain, and lose, by leaving the family behind? Come even if you have not read it.

Joe has kindly set up a Zoom meeting for us for this coming Sunday. Now, don't be intimidated. If you are anti-technology or just don't want to mess with it, just call in the old school way on any phone, like we did last Sunday:

### Old School Dial In Method:

A few minutes before 9:00 a.m. on Sunday dial 669 900 9128  
When prompted, enter the code 814 820 7402# -- That's it! Simple.

### Zoom method

Now, if you are up for it, I encourage you to try the Zoom video route. People enjoyed seeing each other on the screen today. It definitely added a dimension.

Step 1: get yourself signed up with the Zoom app on your laptop. Tap <https://zoom.us/signup> and follow the instructions. It wasn't horrible. Even I could do it. If you have Zoom already, skip this step.

Step 2: a few minutes before 9:00 next Sunday tap <https://zoom.us/j/8148207402>. That should connect you right to the meeting. If they ask for a meeting ID use the same code as for the phone: 814 820 7402# I don't not think they will ask.

That's it. If it fails just dial in using the old school method and don't worry about it.

Next book (April 12) : Varieties of Religious Experience, William James. Buy it online and read chapters 1 and 2 please! (This book will probably be three sessions total) Can someone who has read it volunteer to help me lead this?

So stay strong, stay healthy, stay connected. We are getting through this. In fact we are "virtually spiritual!" -Karl Belgum