

# ARLINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY & ENCORE LEARNING

~~~~~SPECIAL EVENT~~~~~

## Meet the Speaker Series

**Dr. Douglas L. Griffin**

Moderated by Dwight Rodgers,  
Encore Learning Instructor,  
and Claire McCarthy



### ***Reforming Biblical Spirituality: Exploring Ancient Texts with Modern Eyes***

**Date: Monday, May 22, 2017**

**Time: 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm**

**Place: Arlington Central Library**

Dr. Douglas L. Griffin is a scholar of the Historical Jesus movement, and views the texts of the Jewish and Christian tradition through the eyes of the critical historian as well as Christian practitioner. Dr. Griffin's PhD is in religion and culture from Catholic University, and he is a long-term affiliate of the scholarly Westar Institute. In addition, Dr. Griffin has a firm attachment to Buddhist tradition.

Dr. Griffin writes in his provocatively titled *If You Find Jesus Bury Him!: Reforming Biblical Spirituality* that doubt is not bad and that reading the Bible literally is not necessary for taking it as a set of important texts. His book describes why literal readings of the Bible are not only unnecessary, but often misleading. He then demonstrates how what he calls a "Discipline of Doubt" can be a gateway to a more complete understanding of the texts. In the end those who doubt the supernatural face of Jesus can actually identify biblical traces of Jesus that could reform religious thinking. His book is available from Amazon in Kindle form and from Barnes and Noble in Nook form. His presentation will be suitable for an audience of all or no religious persuasions.

**Note:** Dwight Rodgers will provide introductory remarks and Claire McCarthy will moderate the Q&A after the presentation.

**Registration:** No registration required. This event is free and all are welcome

**Directions:** The Arlington Central Library is located at 1015 N. Quincy Street between Washington Boulevard and Fairfax Drive. Parking is free at the Library or take Metro to Virginia Square on the Orange line.

*This program is jointly sponsored by Encore Learning and the Arlington Public Library. For details, call the library at 703-228-5996 or call Encore Learning at 703-228-2144. See [www.encorelearning.net](http://www.encorelearning.net) for more information on special events, clubs and academic courses for those over 50.*

