

Effective Bible Study

Objectives / Requirements / Schedule

Course Objectives:

1. Learn how to genuinely enjoy doing Bible study
2. Train our eyes, minds, imaginations, and hearts to experience the living word of God
3. Adopt a method for Bible study which will yield rich rewards in personal knowledge and growth
4. Practice in communicating effectively the exciting lessons of the scriptures to others

Course Grade:

1. (10%) Reading of the required textbooks in their entirety.
2. (20%) Notebook - well organized and developed notebook of notes, examples and projects from the class.
3. (50%) Assignments - given out regularly throughout term
4. (20%) Exams - Midterm and Final

Required Textbooks:

Principles of Interpretation, Clinton Lockhart, Gospel Light Publishing, Delight, AR
How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth, Gordon D. Fee and Douglas Stuart, Zondervan Publishing House, Grand Rapids, MI.

Reference Books Used in the Course:

Each student will be expected to have and use the following types of books.

1. A comprehensive, modern Bible dictionary, such as:
New Bible Dictionary by IVP Press, © 1993.
Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Broadman & Holman Publishing, © 2003.
Nelson's New Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Thomas Nelson Publishers, © 1995.
New International Bible Dictionary, Zondervan Publishing House, © 1999.
The New Unger's Bible Dictionary (Revised), Moody Publishers, © 2006.
International Standard Bible Encyclopedia, 4 Volumes, Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing, © 1988.
2. Good Bible background book(s), such as:
Nelson's Illustrated Manners and Customs, Thomas Nelson Publishers, © 1999.

Nelson's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Bible Facts, Thomas Nelson Publishers, © 1980, 1995.

3. A good Greek and English New Testament. You may find it more useful if it also includes Strong's Numbering System.

4. A highly recommended Greek Expository Dictionary or Lexicon:

Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words, various publishers. Originally published 1940 with numerous revisions and reprints since.

Mounce's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words, Zondervan Publishing House, © 2006.

A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature, 3rd Edition, Frederick W. Danker & Walter Baur, University of Chicago Press, © 2000.

Effective Bible Study • Instructor: Richard Cravy • Winter Term 2008, SIBI
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Course Schedule – Spring Term 2008

Effective Bible Study – SIBI

(Subject to changes)

- 1/15 Introduction, Need for Effective Bible Study, Right Mindset Necessary
- 1/17 Goal of Hermeneutics, Bridging a Gap, Our Methodology
- 1/22 Reference books and good translations. Examples of usage.
- 1/24 NO CLASS: Sunset Workshop
- 1/29 ***Principles of Interpretation, I***
- 1/31 ***Principles of Interpretation, II***
- 2/05 Exercise: “The Temple Project,” I – research on what the Temple was like in Jesus’ time using Bible, dictionary, Bible background reference books
- 2/07 “The Temple Project,” II
- 2/12 RESEARCH WEEK
- 2/14 RESEARCH WEEK
- 2/19 ***Reading the Bible for All Its Worth***, - context, general and immediate; working with literary style, grammar, figures of speech, more.
- 2/21 Language – words, meanings, synonyms; learning the Greek alphabet; introducing Interlinear Bible, Expository Dictionaries and Lexicons.
- 2/26 Interpretation and Application, I
- 2/28 Interpretation and Application, II. Respecting the original intent when making modern application; commonsense rules for application, generalizing, role of culture, respect for God’s sovereign rule, avoiding legalism.
- 3/04 Communicating effectively, role of storytelling, descriptive exegesis, imagination, avoiding speculation, using multimedia resources
- 3/06 Practicing effective teaching – role of emotions, awe and reverence, humor, personalizing, more; crediting sources
- 3/11 Wrap-up

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