
THEOLOGY CLASS

for College & Career

A Ministry of Philadelphia Brethren Assembly

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Syllabus

I. Purpose

Theology Class is intended to be a class in which the doctrines revealed in the Word of God and the theology surrounding them are properly examined and understood in the context of the whole Scripture, in order that it may spur the believer to further advance and implement a Biblical worldview, edify the believer in his or her walk with the Lord and with each other, and draw the believer closer to conforming to the likeness of Christ through holy living (2 Tim. 4:3-4, 2:15; 1 Tim. 4:15-16).

Theology Class is also intended to be an environment in which the believer may develop a closer relationship with fellow believers, and through this fellowship, be encouraged to love and serve each other, share in each other's joys and sorrows, and pray in unity of mind, spirit, and purpose (Heb. 10:24-25; 1 Cor. 12:25-26; Rom. 12:10, 12; Php. 2:2).

II. Student Participation

Devotions

For the encouragement of the class and the edification of the student, a devotion will be assigned to a willing student who will share their meditation of a passage or thought that the Lord has placed upon their heart or that is assigned to them. Devotions will be done as often as the progress of the class allows, or as often as their immediate need is apparent. It is desired that every student eventually participate in this assignment (Rom. 12:8; 1 Tim. 4:13).

Teaching Assignments

On occasion, students will be assigned to teach certain chapters, in order that they may further their skills, confidence, and growth in the knowledge, communication, and defense of sound doctrine. The hopes of this assignment are that the student(s) will take special ownership of the lesson's truths, apply it in his or her daily life, and

strengthen their teaching and communication abilities. This assignment may also serve the student as a self-assessment for their consideration of teaching being a possible spiritual gift indwelt in their life, for the edification of the Church (Titus 1:9; 1 Cor. 1:4-7; Rom. 12:7).

Teaching assignments may be done as a group project (no more than 4 students per group). Each group holds the same responsibilities as would an individual student teacher, including a brief review of the previous class' lesson, teaching the group's assigned lesson, and incorporating an interactive activity related to the lesson (such as a quiz, a game, use of multimedia, etc.).

Readings

Students are expected to read the chapter and/or reading portion(s) that are assigned for the following class meeting. Students will be expected to demonstrate an understanding of their readings during class time.

Preparation Questions

To help the student keep up with the chapters, preparation questions will be assigned based on the next chapter to be studied. These preparation questions must be answered and handed in for credit.

Memory Verses

Memory verses pertinent to the lesson being studied will be assigned for the edification of the student. Students may recite their memory verses or may write them down and hand them in. Memory verses that are handed in will be returned the following class meeting.

Accountability Partners

Students desiring to share their struggles and support in keeping up with their devotion to Theology Class as well as with their spiritual walk and growth are encouraged to form accountability partnerships. These accountability partners will check in with each other at least once a week to share burdens, encouragement, prayer matters, and keep up with Theology Class related matters. The progress of the partnerships will be recorded.

III. Class Guidelines

Attendance & Punctuality

Regular attendance is required to keep up with the progress of the class. Being on time is also vital to participating in the activities prepared for the students.

Participation & Assignments

Each student should be prepared for class and be an active member in class. The amount of time and quality of effort the student invests in this class is a factor directly proportional to the extent of spiritual growth the student receives. All assignments must also be completed and handed in on time to receive full credit.

Progress Reports

Students will be issued progress reports once every two months so that they may see how well they are managing their Student Participation assignments.

Sharing Your Thoughts

Everyone's opinions matter, so everyone is encouraged to gently and respectfully share their views with the class (1 Pet. 3:15). However, legitimate views have legitimate Scripture references, taken in the correct context of the passage and spirit of the whole Scripture (Acts 17:11; 2 Peter 3:16). This principle of interpretation should be applied while in our discussions and discernment.