

Christian Life College

Life of Christ

BI 111

Instructor: Dr. Daryl Merrill, Jr.
Phone: 847-259-3090 x19
Website: www.darylmerrill.com
Email: pastordaryl@christianlifechurch.org
Meetings by appointment only

Fall 2004

Course Syllabus

Course Description

Jesus Christ is the founder of Christianity and the central figure in its teaching. All Christian theology hinges on the appearance of Jesus in history. Confident understanding of the evidence for the historical Jesus and of his teaching in its historical context is therefore of supreme importance to all Christian leaders. Not only a historical perspective will be examined but also there will be a close analysis of the biblical text and its assembly.

Course Rationale

This course introduces in a deeper way the student to the person and work of Jesus Christ. A proper understanding of who Christ was and what He did is essential for all that are studying within the context of a Christian worldview. The classroom discussion, textbooks, and requirements are all designed to provide a more academic look into Christianity's central figure, Jesus Christ.

Course Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites for this course.

Course Objectives

1. To expose students to the cultural, social, political, and religious background against which the Gospels were written.
2. To understand the purpose and context of each Gospel.
3. To study the person and work of Jesus during his life and ministry here on this earth.
4. To understand in particular the central themes of the teaching of Jesus and their inter-relationship.
5. To understand the critical problems associated with the study of the life of Jesus, and to be able to defend a positive approach to the historicity of the Gospels.
6. To draw from the teachings of Jesus and from His life, spiritual truths to enable the Christian to have growing love for Jesus and to experience practical helps for the Christian's growth to maturity.

Course Methodology

The primary methods of study will be lecture and reading. Outside assignments will help to reinforce in class discussion but will not be contained on the midterm or final exam. Classroom discussion, small group interaction and video presentations will also be utilized. Class participation is strongly encouraged.

Course Textbooks

Pentecost, J. Dwight. The Words and Works of Jesus Christ. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981.

Yancey, Philip. The Jesus I Never Knew. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.

A Harmony of the Gospels. (Recommended)

NIV, KJV, NKJV, or NAS Bible.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance – Students must attend all classes. Missing more than two classes will result in the lowering of one's grade. If missing or tardy the student is responsible for obtaining class material. Missing more than three classes a student need not return to class.
2. Notebook - Students will maintain an organized record of all class work in a notebook. This notebook will be required at the final exam. (200 points)
3. Book Report - Each student will read the textbook, *The Jesus I Never Knew*. Each student will then write a comprehensive review discussing what they learned from the book. This book report must be typed and due at the midterm exam (10/26/04). The report should be three to five pages in length. (200 points)
4. Gospel Reading Reports - Each student will read the four Gospels in their entirety. Weekly reports on the student's weekly reading will be due on Tuesday's at 12:30PM. (150 points)
5. Quizzes – In class quizzes will be given from student reading assignments. (150 points)
6. Tests - A midterm and final exam will be given. (150 points each)
7. Class Participation - The student is strongly encouraged to participate in class discussions.

All work must be done! If not, there will be a failing grade given at the end of the course.

All work is to be handed in before class on the day it is assigned. Failure to do so will result in the lowering of ones grade.

Course Grading

1000 - 900	A
899 - 800	B
799 - 700	C
699 - 600	D
599 and below	F