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# WEST COAST BAPTIST COLLEGE

*Training Laborers for His Harvest*

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## **BI 522 – Corinthian Letters**

### ***Online Syllabus***

**Course Instructor: Mr. Dane Keely**

#### **I. Course Description**

This course is to be an in-depth study of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> letters of the Apostle Paul addressed to the church in Corinth.

First Corinthians is unique among the Pauline letters because of the variety of practical concerns. Second Corinthians is one of Paul's most personal letters, containing a wealth of insights into the heart of Paul the Pastor.

Both letters reveal the degree to which Paul identified with his churches, suffering in their shortcomings and celebrating in their victories.

#### **II. Course Purpose**

The Purpose of this study is to provide the student at the post-graduate level a foundation on dealing with issues within the church. The Corinthian correspondence draws us into a world much like our own. Paul the anxious pastor wrote to young Christians who were concerned with problems involved in living the Christian life in a non-Christian environment.

#### **III. Course Objective**

This course will aid the student in viewing Paul's heart as he appeals, reminds, builds, reproves, and answers questions which were brought to him by the Corinthians. On such matters Paul appealed for a responsible use of Christian freedom – not for self-gain. He reminded them that he conducted his own ministry this way, and warned against becoming fixed on anything that could lead to idolatry.

The problems which Paul faced in the church at Corinth were complex and explosive. The correspondence which resulted is rich and profound in theological insight. Since many of the problems arising at Corinth concerned behavior and morals, Paul majored on ethical advice.

Christianity is designed to enable us to make our way through this world, on our way to the world to come. As evidenced at Corinth, the world had come into the church.



What Paul had to say about that is the subject matter of his Corinthian letters, and we should be the wiser to heed Paul's heart and devotion to God and His people.

#### **IV. Course Goals**

As a result of this course, each student should be established in his understanding of the problems and challenges addressed by the Apostle Paul in this local church and how they are relevant to the work of the ministry in today's age. These issues will become the basis for understanding and will be measured through testing.

#### **V. Course Requirements**

- A. The student is required to read First and Second Corinthians in his Bible through twice. The required reading is due one time at the mid-term and one time by the final. The required reading is critical to the overall final grade and will assist in familiarizing for lectures.
- B. Read *Exploring 1 Corinthians/Exploring 2 Corinthians* from the John Phillips Commentary Series. Write a 2-3 page synopsis of his commentaries (i.e. his thoroughness, attention to details, outlines, etc.)
- C. From the Appendix of *Exploring 1 Corinthians* write a 4-page essay on the historical background of the City of Corinth in Paul's day. Include its: beginning, strategic location, complex population and its corrupt morals. Along with the paper you may include research and pictures of the city of Corinth.
- D. The student is to prepare (on his own) at least one sermon outline or Sunday School lesson from each chapter. Each outline or lesson should include an introduction, main points, sub-points, illustrations and applications and a conclusion. The points should be supported by scripture.
- E. Give a brief description of each chapter by providing a word, phrase, or key verse for every chapter.
- F. Write a 2-4 page synopsis on "What is the gift of Tongues?" Look up references to tongues in the Bible to see how it is used.
- G. You are to keep notes of all your lecture notes, handouts, assignments, projects, papers, etc. Part of the responsibility of the student at this level is to take all of this material and present it in such a way that is pleasant to the eyes. Your notes are due on the day the final exam is scheduled by e-mail.

#### **VI. Course Grading Factors**

Your grade will consist of the following:

- Quizzes

Quiz Schedule:

Quiz 1 - Introduction/Lecture 1

Quiz 2 - Lectures 2-4

Quiz 3 - Lectures 5-6



Quiz 4 - Lectures 7-8

Quiz 5 - Lectures 9-11 (p.4)

Quiz 6 - Lectures 11 (p.4) -13 (p.4)

- Reading
- Projects
- Mid-term - (after Quiz 3) over Introduction to Lecture 7 (written)
- Final exam - over all Lecture Notes (written)
- **Note: Final cannot be taken until all projects are completed.**

