

St. Andrew Center for Christian Learning
Bible Academy

Paul: On a Mission from God
Spring 2006

Monday mornings and Tuesday evenings

Class Times: Monday mornings:
9:45 - 10:00, gathering time
10:00 - 11:30, class time

Tuesday evenings:
6:45 - 7:00, gathering time
7:00 - 8:30, class time

Class Dates: Monday mornings:
3/27, 4/3, 4/10, 4/17, 4/24, 5/1, 5/8, 5/15

Tuesday evenings:
3/28, 4/4, 4/11, 4/18, 4/25, 5/2, 5/19, 5/16

Instructor: Scott L. Engle, Ph.D.

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You can find the syllabus and other course materials at the website for the St. Andrew Center for Christian Learning, www.standrewccl.org. Simply go to the Bible Academy page and you'll find the link to the materials for this class.

IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER, CHECK THE CENTER'S WEBSITE, WHERE I'LL POST ANY CANCELLATION ANNOUNCEMENTS ON THE HOME PAGE.

If we have to cancel a class, we'll simply reduce the class to seven weeks and I'll modify the lectures so we can get back on schedule. If we have to cancel two or more classes, then we'll extend the class further into May.

Course materials:

Study Bible - see *Practical Bible Study Tools* if you'd like some advice. I very much recommend that you use an NRSV translation for this class. The NIV simply doesn't do a very good job with Paul. The TNIV is better, but the NRSV is best.

If you would like a "textbook" on Paul, I'd recommend Michael J. Gorman's, *Apostle of the Crucified Lord: A theological introduction to Paul and his letters*, Eerdmans, 2004. It is accessible and does a good job of taking the reader to the heart of Paul and his vocation. The structure of this class is patterned after portions of Gorman's book.

There are many other excellent books on Paul. I'd be happy to recommend something.

Course description:

Paul, a sophisticated Pharisee from Asia Minor and a persecutor of Jesus' followers, was visited by the risen Christ and given a new vocation. Paul was to take the Good News to the non-Jewish world. This mission would shape the rest of Paul's life, as he traveled through the Roman Empire proclaiming the Gospel, starting and nurturing communities of believers. In this lecture-oriented class, we'll learn about Paul - his world, his life, his travels, his work, and his ideas. And we'll seek to discover what Paul really said!

Schedule of Class Activities – Spring 2006

Paul: On a mission from God

Class Date	Topic	Reading Assignments
Mar 27 & 28 (Wk #1)	Introduction to the class Paul's worlds	
Apr 3 & 4 (Wk #2)	Paul's resume and letters	1 and 2 Thessalonians
Apr 10 & 11 (Wk #3)	Paul's Gospel	Galatians 1 Corinthians 1-7
Apr 17 & 18 (Wk #4)	Paul's Spirituality	1 Corinthians 8-16 2 Corinthians
Apr 24 & 25 (Wk #5)	<i>Paul's big ideas, Part 1:</i> The covenant God of Israel The power of sin and the powerlessness of the Law The righteousness of God: Faithfulness to Israel and mercy to the Gentiles	Romans
May 1 & 2 (Wk #6)	<i>Paul's big ideas, Part 2:</i> Jesus' crucifixion: revelation, representation, and reconciliation The Lordship of Jesus The climax of the covenant and "already/not yet"	Philippians Philemon
May 8 & 9 (Wk #7)	<i>Paul's big ideas, Part 3:</i> Justification by grace through faith The Trinitarian experience of God Conforming to the cross: The Law of Christ	Colossians Ephesians
May 15 & 16 (Wk #8)	<i>Paul's big ideas, Part 4:</i> The Spirit as promise fulfilled and hope guaranteed The church as an alternative community The parousia, the resurrection, and the final triumph of God	1 and 2 Timothy Titus