GNT 532 Exposition of First Corinthians   **Dr. Daniel Stevens, Professor**
Course Syllabus   **Maranatha Baptist University**
       Spring 2021

Instructor Contact Information:
Email: Daniel.Stevens@mbu.edu
Availability: Email is checked frequently throughout the day I will do her best to respond to your email within 4 hours. NOTE: If you send an email and don't receive a response within 24 hours, please assume it was accidentally and unintentionally overlooked and send a follow-up email.

Course Texts

     A. Required:

           Gordon D. Fee, The First Epistle to the Corinthians. (NICNT) Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1987.

     B. Recommended:

         1. David E. Garland. 1 Corinthians. Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 2003.

         2. Robert Gromacki, Called to Be Saints: An Exposition of I Corinthians. The Woodlands, TX: Kress Christian Publications, 2001.

Course Description

     GNT 532 is an expository and exegetical study of Paul's first letter to the church at Corinth, with special attention given to the solution of the problems within the church and the application of those solutions to the problems within today's church. (3 Credits)

Teacher Goals

     A. Instill in students a healthy enthusiasm for personal study of the Bible

     B. Direct students to the Bible for principle of Christian living for every aspect of their lives

     C. Demonstrate to students the importance of interpreting Scripture within its historical and grammatical context

     D. Glorify God for the relevance that 1 Corinthians has to the issues facing believers in today's church

     E. Challenge students to consider vocational Christian ministry

Course Objectives

    A. Understand the reason that Paul wrote 1 Corinthians

    B. Understand Paul's argument in 1 Corinthians and how the content of each book supports that argument

    C. Correctly interpret the content of 1 Corinthians, especially those passages of Scripture that are problematic

    D. Make proper relevant application from 1 Corinthians to the present-day believer

    E. Formulate some initial conclusions on the topics of tongues/healing, Christian liberty, role of women in the church, and divorce as dealt with in 1 Corinthians

Course Requirements

    A. Reading

        1. Bible reading--Each student must read through the book of 1 Corinthians two times. The first reading through 1 Corinthians should be done one chapter at a time. For each of these 14 readings (2 chapters are combined into one reading assignment two times), you must submit a Bible reading report form (supplied). For the second reading through 1 Corinthians you must read (or listen to) the entire book in one sitting (without interruption). You must fill out a 15th Bible reading report form for this reading (commentary reading will be the introductory material only).

            The following method must be employed for your reading of 1 Corinthians: 1)prior to reading the text, spend a few minutes in prayer asking the Lord to help you properly understand the text, 2)carefully read the text, 3)read the commentary, 4)spend at least ten minutes meditating\thinking about the text (what it means and how to apply it), and 5)record meaning, application, and implementation statements on the reading report form. Only Bible reading done according to this method will be given credit for this class. Reading report forms must be submitted by the due date into the drop box provided in MyMaranatha.

        2. Commentary reading--The reading from Fee's commentary should be read along with the Bible reading. Generally, you must read the pages in the commentary that correspond to the chapter in 1 Corinthians. This reading must be reported on the Bible reading report form for the chapter you are reading. You will not likely agree with everything that 3 Fee says, but he does an excellent job describing the flow of thought in 1 Corinthians. I particularly disagree with him on the role of women in the church, the place of tongues in church today, and his view of the kingdom in 1 Corinthians 6.

3. Other reading or viewing—occasionally other reading or viewing of video lectures will be required. This reading will be reported on the Bible Reading Report Form as well.

B. Sunday School Lessons

1. The student should write a series of three Sunday School lessons. You may select any passage(s) from 1 Cor. as the basis for these lessons.

2. Step 1: Read at least 400 pages of outside reading on the passage(s) you have chosen. The student should keep a record of all reading done for this assignment. You must read from at least 15 different sources, five of which are journal articles. Try to avoid internet sources if you can. Maranatha's online library and Google books may be helpful for sources. Your reading must be complete by the date assigned. Just add the number of pages you read for each source on your bibliography and total the pages at the end of your bibliography.

3. Step 2: Each student should produce a 5-6 page text of the content of each SS lesson (write what you would actually say in the class as much as possible). You should explain your preferred interpretation of the text(s) of 1 Corinthians you chose. Explain the meaning the original author intended for his original readers. You should also include application for the 21st century believer where appropriate. You should document sources with parenthetical notes. You should give evidence that you have interacted with views differing from your own in this part of the assignment.

4. Step 3: Produce a 1-page outline for each of your SS lessons that you can use to teach your lessons.

    **Summary: for each of the 3 lessons you should include: 5-6-page text and 1-page teaching outline. The 400 pages of reading are total pages (not for each lesson).

C. Discussion Forums

    Students are required to view and/or read material each week. Students are required to interact with this material, the professor, and other students several times a week by posting comments in discussion forums. The grade for these posts will be based on the timeliness and quality of the posts.

D. Exams

    There will be two exams in this course: a midterm and a final. They will be essay tests that assess your ability to apply what you learned about 1 Corinthians to real life situations.

Course Overview

Tuesday	Friday
3/16 Module 1-1 Corinthians 1	**3/19** Module 2-1 Corinthians 2-3
3/23 Module 3-1 Corinthians 4	**3/26** Module 4-1 Corinthians 5
3/30 Module 5-1 Corinthians 6	**4/2** Module 6-1 Corinthians 7
4/6 Module 7-1 Corinthians 8	**4/9** Module 8-Midterm Exam
4/13 Module 9-1 Corinthians 9	**4/16** Module 10-1 Corinthians 10
4/20 Module 11-1 Corinthians 11	**4/23** Module 12-1 Corinthians 12
4/27 Module 13-1 Corinthians 13	**4/30** Module 14-1 Corinthians 14
5/4 Module 15-1 Corinthians 15-16	**5/7** Module 16-Final Exam

Final projects: **Due June 4th**
1. SS Lessons
2. Reading report for 1 Corinthians 1-16 (with commentary introduction reading)

Course Grading

A. Reading   25%

B. SS Lessons   25%

C. Discussions Forum   25%

D. Exams   25%

Course Policies

A. **Late Work** - All work is due by 11:55pm (your time zone) on the day it is due. All work is expected to be completed on time. Any work turned in after the due date will have its grade 5% per calendar day.

B. **Plagiarism** - Copying the work of others (web articles, other writers, other students, etc.) and claiming it as your own is plagiarism and will not be tolerated. Plagiarism may result in failure or dismissal from the University.   For more information about MBU's policy on cheating and plagiarism, please read this excerpt from the Student Life Handbook.

C. **Netiquette:** Netiquette refers to the standards of behavior for online communication.
   1. All communication in discussion forums and through email should be respectful and professional.
   2. If someone asks you a question in a discussion forum, take the time to respond.
   3. If a course mate or the instructor sends you an email, acknowledge that you received it by responding with a quick email.
   4. Your posts should be related to the course content. If you would like to chit-chat with someone, use email or the Virtual Café found on the Collaboration page.
   5. Don't type your posts in ALL CAPS. This makes the reader think you are yelling

Academic Success Center - One source for academic help in any course is the Academic Success Center. If you require specific targeted academic help for any reason contact the Academic Success Center located in the Cedarholm Library. If you would like more information regarding targeted academic help, please contact the Academic Success Center director at academicsuccess@mbu.edu.

D. **ADA Policy** - The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, the law requires that all students with disabilities be given a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Academic Success Program Director, in the Library, (ph. 920/206-2340) or email academicsuccess@mbu.edu .

E. **Library Services** - The Cedarholm Library is committed to providing services to distance education students that are equivalent to residential students. You can search the library resources by clicking on the Library link found under Quick Links on the sidebar in MyMaranatha. When prompted for a username, please type your entire email address and then enter your password.

F. **Technology -** As a teaching professional in the 21stcentury, you will need to be a proficient user of technology. This online course is designed to help you make use of some of the great sharing and cloud options that are available to you for free.

Technology Problems are Not an Acceptable Excuse: Let's face it . . .technology breaks, servers go down, discussion forums don't post, files become corrupted. The list goes on and on. These are not considered emergencies. They are part of the normal process of working with technology. Any issue you may have with technology is no excuse for late work. Assume technology will fail you. Plan ahead. Manage your time. Back up your work.