

Adults in Ministry

Bachelor Degree Program

BNT 115N

LIFE OF CHRIST

SYLLABUS

**Saint Louis Christian College
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Florissant, MO 63033
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Professor Contact Information

Professor Scott Womble

1. Office Hours: No appointment is required. However, if I am occupied at the time of your visit, we may set an appointment.
Monday or Thursday from 1:00 – 6:00 p.m.
2. Email – swomble@slcconline.edu
I prefer that you email me before calling! My email goes directly to my iPhone.
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

Course Instructor Contact Information	2
Mission Statement.....	4
Course Description.....	4
Course Rationale	4
Course Objectives	5

ASSIGNMENTS

Course Requirements	5
Course Assessment	8
Course Schedule.....	9
Reading Assignments.....	10
Course Student Learning Resources (Bibliography)	11

Saint Louis Christian College
BNT 115N LIFE OF CHRIST
Professor Scott Womble
3 Credits

Fall Semester, 2014
Course Prerequisites: None

Monday
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Louis Christian College pursues excellence in the Word and develops servant leaders for urban, suburban, rural, and global ministry.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Students come to know Jesus' purpose and significance by studying the major events and movements of His life as presented in the four gospels. Confidence in the gospels as historical resources is also attained.

COURSE RATIONALE

This course is required of all majors and degrees. It is viewed as Contributing toward Institutional Objective #1, aiding the student to demonstrate a base of Bible knowledge to accept, interpret, and apply scriptural principles, and Institutional Objective #6, aiding the student to demonstrate a personal biblically-grounded value system. The course leads toward the fulfillment of Biblical Education Division Objective #4, conveyed facts from the Bible, the student will score no less than 80 on an AABC content test, and Biblical Education Division Objective #8, shown values contained in the Bible and observable in Bible characters, the student will communicate personal application of these values in a journal to the satisfaction of the division.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon conclusion of this course, the learner should be able to:

1. demonstrate thorough knowledge of the synoptic theory of the gospels.
2. demonstrate thorough knowledge of the contemporary schools of critical thought as applied to the gospels.
3. demonstrate thorough knowledge of the world of the first century: language, government, cultural nuances, Judaism and its various facets, geography, etc.
4. demonstrate thorough knowledge of the theological issues of the gospels; the person of Jesus Christ, the Kingdom of God, the pedagogical and homiletic practices of Jesus, the meaning of Jesus' death and resurrection, etc.
5. demonstrate an ability to access, interpret and apply scholarly works like journals and introductions.
6. demonstrate an ability to engage research and utilize proper styles of writing for the purpose of producing a composition pertinent to the study of the gospels.
7. demonstrate the ability to delineate the chronological events of the ministry of Jesus.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Read One of the Gospels: (20%)

In no less than two sittings, read through an entire gospel of your choice.

Submit a 2 page paper noting the following:

- a. what you learned by reading the entire book in 1-2 sittings
- b. what you learned about how your writer portrayed Jesus
- c. new insights you gained

Jesus in Matthew

1. "king" 22xs
2. Five discourses ending with, "And it happened, when Jesus had finished saying these things" (7:28-29; 11:1; 13:53; 19:1; 26:1)
3. Jesus is the OT promised Messiah

Jesus in Mark

1. 24 miracles (1:23-11:21) ... as Servant
2. Jesus is the “suffering” (8:27-16:8) Son of God (1:1; 15:39)

Jesus in Luke

1. 24-40 parables (18 unique; e.g. Good Samaritan, Prodigal Son)
2. Jesus is “Savior” (1:47, 69, 71, 77; 2:11, 30; 3:6; 19:9)

Jesus in John

1. “sign” 17xs ... “glory” 14xs
2. Seven “signs” (2:1-11; 4:46-54; 5:1-18; 6:1-15; 6:16-21; 9:1-41; 11:1-57)
3. Seven “I AM” statements (8:52; chapters 6, 8, 10 [two of them], 11, 14, 15)
4. Jesus is God who became in the flesh (1:14) the “Son of God” (20:31)

2. Review a Movie: 20%

Review a movie which focuses on Jesus and submit a 2 page paper explaining in detail how Jesus was depicted in the film. You may watch any film which is about Jesus (not just any biblical movie, e.g. *The Ten Commandments*). A few recommendations are listed below:

- * *Jesus Christ Superstar* (starring Ted Neeley, 1973 musical)
- Godspell* (starring Victor Garber, 1973 musical with Jesus in New York City)
- Jesus of Nazareth* (starring Robert Powell, 1977)
- * *Jesus* (sometimes called *The Jesus Film*) ... (starring Brian Deacon, 1979)
- * The Visual Bible's, *Matthew* (starring Bruce Marchiano, 1993)
- Jesus* (starring Jeremy Sisto, 1999)
- The Miracle Maker* (2000 with mix of animation techniques)
- * The Visual Bible's, *The Gospel of John* (starring Henry Ian Cusick, 2003)
- The Passion of the Christ* (starring Jim Caviezel, 2004)
- * *The Perfect Stranger* (starring Jefferson Moore, 2005)
- * *Magdalena Released from Shame* (starring Brian Deacon, 2006)
- * *Another Perfect Stranger* (starring Jefferson Moore, 2007)
- The Encounter* (starring Bruce Marchiano, 2010)

The Chronicles of Narnia

- (based on C.S. Lewis novels ... fantasy films which depicts Jesus as the Lion Aslan)
- The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (2005)
- Prince Caspian* (2008)
- The Voyage of the Dawn Treader* (2010)

* you can watch for FREE on www.youtube.com Note that sometimes youtube has the movie labeled incorrectly, so be sure of what you are watching.

3. Memorization: 20%

Choose one of the following texts to memorize and recite during Class 10:

Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7)

5:1-20; 5:21-48; 6:1-18; 6:19-34; 7:1-14; 15-29

“I am” Statements (John)

6:26-40; 6:41-58 (bread of life)

8:12-30 (light of the world)

10:1-18 (the door of the sheep & the good shepherd)

11:17-37 (the resurrection and the life)

14:1-15 (the way)

15:1-17 (the vine)

4. Complete Reading and Reading Reports: 20%

A series of reading assignments have been strategically located in the lecture series. A reading report shall be due at the beginning of the assigned class lecture. As you are reading the assigned pages, choose the assigned number of quotes that strike you as key concepts. Include the exact quote and the page number of the reading in your submission. Write a paragraph (at least 3-4 sentences) about each reflecting upon how the concept helps you understand the life of Christ better.

These paragraphs may discuss concepts that challenge you, teach you something new, or with which you disagree. Superior grades will be given for journals that demonstrate personal reflection.

5. In Class Final Exam: 20%

The Final Exam will be a take home exam. It will be distributed on the last night of class. The questions will be multi-questioned essays.

COURSE ASSESSMENT

Synoptic Gospel Reading & Paper	Due Week 3	20%
Movie	Due Week 6	20%
Memorization	Due Week 10	20%
Reading Report Sheets	Due Weeks 1-11	20%
Final Exam	Due Week 11	20%

Box #:

All work without a box number on it will NOT be returned (unless you are a certificate student and do not have a box).

Late Work:

The professor does not accept late work.

MLA Compliance:

All papers should reflect MLA standards (including font size 12 Times New Roman). The first time the front page of your paper does not comply, the paper will be returned to you for correction and resubmission. The paper will not be counted late, but it must be turned in before the outset of the next class. If it is not, you will receive a zero. All second time offenders will receive a zero for their work.

Emailing Your Work:

The professor is not your secretary and will not print your assignments unless you are given prior approval. If you encounter a printing problem and would like to email your work so that it is not late, you may do so. Understand, however, you are still responsible for printing the assignment and turning in a physical copy. Your emailed document will only serve as proof that the work is not late. The hard copy of your work MUST be submitted before the outset of the next class. If it is not, you will receive a zero - NO EXCEPTIONS.

Tardiness:

Students arriving more than 15 minutes late for class will be counted absent for the entire hour.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Dates: Topics:

Weeks 1-2 Preliminary Issues & Childhood of Jesus

- Four Gospel Accounts
- Search for the Historical Jesus
- The Religious Environment of Jesus' Day
- Who is Jesus? (exploring John 1)
- Birth of Jesus
- Jesus' Childhood

Weeks 3-4 The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry (mostly in Judea)

- John the Baptist
- Jesus' Baptism
- The Temptations of Jesus
- Jesus' First Followers: Andrew, John?, Peter, Philip & Nathanael
- Jesus' First Miracle (turning water into wine)
- Nicodemus – “you must be born again”
- The Samaritan Woman – “worship in spirit and truth”

Weeks 5-6 The Ministry of Jesus in Galilee

(*Matthew 4:17-14:12; Mark 1:14-6:30; Luke 4:14-9:10; John 4:46-5:47*)

- @ Nazareth: “Today this Scriptures is Fulfilled”
- First Preaching Tour: Five Claims to Authority
- Sabbath Controversies
- The Twelve Disciples
- The Sermon on the Mount
- The Parables of Jesus

Weeks 7-8 The Ministry of Jesus around Galilee, in Judea and around Perea

(*Matthew 14:13-20:34; Mark 6:31-10:52; Luke 9:10-19:28; John 6:1-12:1*)

- Feeding of the 5,000
- The True Bread of Life (The “I AM” Statements)
- Peter the Rock
- The Transfiguration of Jesus

Weeks 9-10 The Ministry of Jesus in Jerusalem

(*Matthew 21:1f; Mark 11:1f; Luke 19:29f; John 12:2f*)

- The Triumphal Entry
- The Olivet Discourse
- The Last Supper
- The “Real” Lord's Prayer (John 17)
- Gethsemane/Arrest/Denials/Trial
- Crucifixion
- Resurrection (Empty Tomb & Appearances) & Ascension

READING ASSIGNMENTS

Week 1

1. Read and select Key Concepts from the following essays in *The NIV Harmony of the Gospels* by Thomas & Gundry (22 pages).

#3 Source Criticism	260-265
#4 Form Criticism	268-274
#5 Redaction Criticism	275-283
2. Read and select Key Concepts from *The Chronological Life of Christ*, pp. 11-31 (20 pages).

Week 3

1. Read and select Key Concepts from *Jesus and the Gospels*, pp. 250-269 (19 pages).
2. Read and select Key Concepts from *The Chronological Life of Christ*, pp. 78-81, 111-140 (29 pages).
3. Read a synoptic gospel of your choice (Matthew, Mark or Luke) and the appropriate corresponding chapter (6-9) in *Jesus and the Gospels*.

Week 5

1. Read and select Key Concepts from *Jesus and the Gospels*, pp. 270-309 (37 pages).
2. Read and select Key Concepts from *The Chronological Life of Christ*, Sections 54-54h, pp. 157-199 (43 pages).

Week 7

Read and select Key Concepts from *The Chronological Life of Christ*, pp. 337-355, 492-495, 510-533 (44 pages).

Week 9

1. Read and select Key Concepts from *Jesus and the Gospels*, pp. 365-418. (53 pages).
2. Read and select Key Concepts from *The Chronological Life of Christ*, pp. 608-656 (The Death of Christ) **or** pp. 657-689 (The Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus).

COURSE RESOURCES

Blomberg, Craig. *Jesus and the Gospels*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2009.

Moore, Mark E. *The Chronological Life of Christ*. Joplin, MO: College Press, 2007.

Thomas, Robert, and Stanley Gundry. *The NIV Harmony of the Gospels*. New York: HarperCollins, 1988.

Course Pack found on our web.

Recommended Books:

Bruce, F.F. *Hard Sayings of Jesus*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1983.

Colquhoun, Frank. *Four Portraits of Jesus*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1984.

Drane, John. *Jesus and the Four Gospels*. New York: Harper & Row, 1979.

Edersheim, Alfred. *The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1971.

_____. *Sketches of Jewish Social Life, Updated Edition*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1994.

_____. *The Temple*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 1997.

Foster, R. C. *Studies in the Life of Christ*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1971.

Guthrie, Donald. *New Testament Introduction*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1973.

Jeremias, Joachim. *The Parables of Jesus*. 2nd ed. New York: Scribners, 1972.

Kummel, Werner Georg. *Introduction to the New Testament*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1973.

Metzger, Bruce M. *The New Testament: Its Background, Growth, and Content*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 1983.

Schilder, Klass. His trilogy has been reprinted several times.
Vol 1 - *Christ in His Suffering*. Religious Publications, 1938.
Vol 2 - *Christ on Trial*. Religious Publications, 1939.
Vol 3 - *Christ Crucified*. 1940.

Stott, John R.W. *The Cross of Christ*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1986.

_____. *The Message of the Sermon on the Mount*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1978.

Strassen, Glen H. and David P. Gushee. *Kingdom Ethics*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2003.

Tenney, Merrill C. *New Testament Survey*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans Publishing, 1961.

Wright, Tom. *The Original Jesus*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1996.

Young, Brad H. *Jesus the Jewish Theologian*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1995.

Articles:

Bruce Corley, "The Trial of Jesus," *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels*, ed. Joel B. Green, Scot McKnight, and I. Howard Marshall (Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1992), 841-54.

Cranfield, C. "Some Reflections on the Subject of the Virgin Birth." *Scottish Journal of Theology* 41 (1988): 177-89.

Dunn, James D.G. "Pharisees, Sinners and Jesus." *Paul and the Law*. (Louisville, KY: John Knox, 1990):

_____. "The Messianic Secret in Mark." *Tyndale Bulletin* 21 (1970): 92-117.

Moule, C.F.D. "St. Matthew's Gospel: Some Neglected Features," *Essays in New Testament Interpretation*. (Cambridge/New York: Cambridge University Press, 1982): 67-74.

Murphy-O'Connor, J. "The Essenes and Their History." *Revue Biblique* 81 (1974): 215-44.

O'Neill, J.C. "The Silence of Jesus." *New Testament Studies*. 15 (1969): 153-67.