

Through the Bible VII - Acts and Epistles

Description:

We believe that a working knowledge of the Bible is an essential part of preparation for leadership, and indeed, for all of life. Our Through the Bible series was designed to give each student that foundation. As you complete this series, you will read through the entire Bible at a rate of about three chapters a day, creating a title for each chapter and answering discussion questions that help you follow important themes through Scripture.

In this course you will study the life of the early church as presented in the book of Acts and the letters to the Romans, the Corinthians, the Galatians, the Ephesians, the Philippians and the Colossians.

Course Objectives

Academic:

The graphs and questions for each book which are in your text contain all of the academic information you will be expected to learn. If you study them carefully, you will be able to give the following information on each book:

- The author
- The purpose, theme, or key verse
- Date written
- Key words or expressions
- Key events
- You will be able to quote ten verses of your choice from this section of Scripture.
- You will be able to quote the key verse of the book of Acts from memory.
- You will be able to quote the Kenosis Passage (Philippians 2:5-11) from memory.

Attitudinal:

As a result of your application of the truths you learn in this course, you may recognize certain changes taking place in your attitudes, including the following:

- You will have a deeper appreciation for who you are in Christ.
- You will understand more fully all that Christ's redemption of you has accomplished in this life and the life to come.
- Your understanding of these truths will cause you to rely more completely on the indwelling power of Christ to change you into His likeness.
- You will cease striving and enter into the Sabbath rest of life in Christ.

Behavioral:

If you allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you through the Scriptures you will be studying, you will be changed.

- You may be convicted of areas of sin or laziness in your life. If you are, you will respond with repentance and fruit in keeping with that repentance. As you learn more about your Lord, you will learn more ways to please Him and through His grace you will become obedient to whatever He shows you.
- As you hide God's Word in your heart through memorization, you will be changed more and more into His likeness, from glory to glory!

Texts:

Through the Bible by Mark and Patti Virkler

Wilmington's Bible Handbook

Through the Bible VII - Acts and Epistles CDs or DVDs by Dr. Andrew Hardy

Course Requirements:

1. Classroom students must regularly attend class sessions. Extension students must watch or listen to *Through the Bible VII -Acts and Epistles DVDs or CDs*.
2. Read all of the assigned chapters of the Bible and fill in chapter titles in the text. These titles are to come out of your heart, not simply copied from your Bible. Ask God to show you the essence of the chapter and record it as a chapter title. This will be a great help in keeping you focused on the text and tuned to the Holy Spirit to grant you a “spirit of revelation.”
3. Answer all the discussion questions in the text. These answers are to reflect your prayerful meditation on the questions and the Bible text. They will be submitted to your instructor for grading at the end of the course.
4. Read the entries in *Wilmington's* which correspond to the assigned Bible reading.
5. Earn a passing grade on all tests. The graphs and discussion questions form the basis for the test questions. These are not open-book tests.
6. Memorize one verse per week which especially speaks to you from the reading. These memory verses will also be part of the exams.
7. Memorize the Kenosis Passage (Phil. 2:5-11).
8. Submit a paper discussing how your life has been affected as a result of your encounter with God through His Word in this course. What changes has He brought in your attitudes and behavior? What new truths did you learn? How will you be different as a result of this study of God’s Word? This paper is to be a minimum of five type-written pages and is due in the ninth lesson.

Standards for Grading Assignments

As indicated below, “C” or 2.0 level work is considered average. **Leaders are not average people.** You are therefore expected (required) to put forth the effort necessary to demonstrate at least “B” (3.0) level work or higher on all assignments which you submit. Any which do not will be returned to you with input from your instructor on how you can raise your grade to the expected level. **A course grade will not be given until your assignments demonstrate that you have understood the material presented in the course and allowed your life to be transformed by the Spirit and the Word studied** — the requirements for attaining a “B”.

Your individual assignments (notebooks, tests, reports) will be graded according to the following standards. These grades will be averaged together to determine your course grade. Remember, we are training leaders and leaders are above-average people. Your work will reflect that.

- “D”
- Indicates barely passing work that is inferior to the average both in quantity and in quality.
 - Manifests a lack of initiative or sense of responsibility or both.
- “C”
- Average work; either steady work of an acceptable quality, or work of a high quality which is uneven, irregular or fragmentary.
 - May be mechanically or outwardly correct but shows little reflection upon or personal assimilation of the material.
- “B”
- Intelligently has fulfilled the requirements of this course.
 - Understands the subject matter presented and has applied it to his life in a limited manner but has not really made the truths his own.
- “A”
- Grasped the material with thoroughness, industry and correctness of detail.
 - Made the material his own by thinking about it and integrating it, using originality, natural ability, and insight.

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Course Schedule

Lesson 1

Assignment to be completed:

If this is the first course you have taken in the Through the Bible series, you must first carefully read and complete the introductory sections at the beginning of the text. This information will make your experience in this course much more beneficial to you.

Listen to CD one session #1 - "Acts pt. 1" by Andrew Hardy, taking notes as you listen. You will want to have your Bible handy as you listen to these lectures as Dr. Hardy will often refer to specific verses and passages.

Read Acts 1 - 8 and fill in chapter titles. Read the corresponding entries in **Wilmington's Bible Handbook** or a similar resource of your choice. Answer discussion questions 1, 2, 3, and 8.

Memorize the key verse (Acts 1:8).

Lesson 2

Assignment to be completed:

Listen to CD one session #2 - "Acts pt. 2," taking notes as you listen.

Read Acts 9 - 16 and fill in chapter titles. Read the corresponding entries in your Bible handbook. Answer discussion questions 4, 7, and 8.

Memorize a verse which the Spirit quickens to you.

Lesson 3

Assignment to be completed:

Listen to CD two session #3 - "Acts pt. 3," taking notes as you listen.

Read Acts 17 - 28 and fill in chapter titles. Read the corresponding entries in your Bible handbook. Answer discussion questions 5, 6, and 8.

Memorize a verse which the Spirit quickens to you.

Lesson 4

Assignment to be completed:

Listen to CD two session #4 - "Romans pt. 1," taking notes as you listen.

Read Romans 1 - 8 and fill in chapter titles. Read the corresponding entries in your Bible handbook. Answer discussion questions 1 - 3, and 7.

Memorize a verse which the Spirit quickens to you.

Lesson 5

Assignment to be completed:

Listen to CD two session #5 - "Romans pt. 2," taking notes as you listen.

Read Romans 9 - 16 and fill in chapter titles. Read the corresponding entries in your Bible handbook. Answer discussion questions 4 - 7.

Memorize a verse which the Spirit quickens to you.

Prepare for Test One to be taken at the beginning of your next lesson. This test will cover Acts and Romans.

Lesson 6

Assignment to be completed:

Complete Test One and submit it to your instructor for grading.

Listen to CD three session #6 - "I Corinthians pt. 1."

Read I Corinthians 1 - 8 and fill in chapter titles. Read the corresponding entries in your Bible handbook. Answer discussion questions 1 - 3 and 6.

Memorize a verse which the Spirit quickens to you.