



BIB 390 - 3 credits

Biblical Dissertation

Description

In this course, you will be trained to do original Bible study utilizing the Greek and Hebrew, by learning to use some of the many resources available. No previous knowledge of Greek or Hebrew is required. You will do a complete scriptural study to discover what God has to say about the vocation/ministry you are planning to enter, giving you a standard against which to compare all other knowledge.

Texts:

Tools for the Workman by Mark Virkler

(NOTE: You must at least have access to all of the following resources, even if you do not personally own them.)

a marginal reference study Bible

a complete concordance (either *Young's Analytical Concordance* or *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance*)

a Bible dictionary (*Unger's Bible Dictionary* is recommended.)

a word study book (*Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words* is recommended.)

a Greek-English Interlinear New Testament

a Greek-English Lexicon

a topical Bible (*Nave's Topical Bible* is recommended.)

a Bible handbook (Halley's and Eerdmans' are very good.)

a manners and customs book

a complete Bible commentary

Objectives

- You will know what each of the following Bible study tools is, and confidently make use of them to improve your ability to correctly handle the Word of Truth:
 - ✓ a marginal reference study Bible
 - ✓ a complete concordance
 - ✓ a Bible dictionary
 - ✓ word study books
 - ✓ a Greek-English Interlinear New Testament
 - ✓ a Greek-English Lexicon
 - ✓ a topical Bible
 - ✓ a Bible handbook
 - ✓ a manners and customs book
 - ✓ a commentary
- You will quote the following Scriptures:
 - ✓ II Timothy 2:15
 - ✓ Psalm 119:23b, 24.
 - ✓ Psalm 119:45 - 48
 - ✓ Psalm 119:130,131
 - ✓ Psalm 119:43
 - ✓ Psalm 119:11-13
 - ✓ Psalm 119:97,98
 - ✓ Psalm 119:30

- You will define the following terms:
 - ✓ concordance
 - ✓ expository
 - ✓ transliteration
 - ✓ koine
- You will discuss the differences between analytical and interpretive Bible study tools, giving examples of each.
- You will discuss the difference between a Bible translation and a paraphrase, giving an example of each.
- You will list at least five types of information usually given in a marginal reference Bible.
- You will discuss three types of studies which can be done using only a marginal reference Bible.
- You will name two major complete concordances available to the Bible student.
- You will state three major uses of a complete concordance.
- You will discuss at least three ways in which an English translation differs from the original Greek text.
- You will discuss the precision of the Koine Greek language.
- You will state the three aspects of noun form which are indicated by the Greek spelling.
- You will state the four aspects of verb form which are indicated by the Greek spelling.
- You will state at least four “gaps” the typical American Bible student must bridge in order to accurately handle the Word of Truth, and at least one study resource which can help bridge each gap.
- You will state the three basic categories of commentaries and differentiate between them.
- You will develop a Biblically-grounded theological foundation for the vocation or ministry into which the Lord is calling you.
- You will always go first to the Word and the Spirit for revelation and knowledge, and only secondarily to other teachers and books for confirmation.

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, CLU is 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.

Course Requirements

- 1) Complete the entire text *Tools for the Workman* as assigned.
 - 2) Do a complete biblical study on the vocation/ ministry to which you are called, or, if it is too large a topic, on a related or specific aspect of it.
 - a) Submit your topic to your instructor not later than Lesson Three for his approval and/or recommendations. Include a list of all key words from which you will begin your biblical examination.
 - b) Use the “Pattern for a Concordance Study” as described on pages 19, 20 of the text, as well as all the different study tools examined in the course. You may contact your instructor whenever you have questions or need advice.
 - c) Present a summary paper (typed and double-spaced) which includes the following:
 - A clear statement of your research topic and why you chose it. Did you have any specific questions about the topic which you were hoping to answer? Were you facing any specific problems which you hoped to resolve through the study? What were you expecting to gain through the study?
 - Your conclusions, with all supporting evidence. This should include all of the work you have done in steps five through seven of the concordance study. (See page 28 of *Tools for the Workman*.)
 - Any insights, truths, and revelations which were especially interesting or significant to you.
 - Any ways in which the Spirit wants to integrate what you have learned in your previous “secular” studies of this vocation/ministry with what you have now learned from His Word.
 - What you have gained from the study. How has your life been affected by the study? How will you apply or implement what you have learned?
- 3) Earn at least a “B” on the Final Exam.



BIB 390 Biblical Dissertation Course Schedule

Lesson One

Assignment to be completed:

Carefully study the Introduction and Lesson One of the *Tools for the Workman* text.

Study the preface, foreword and explanatory information at the front of your Bible so you thoroughly understand the format of your personal study Bible.

Complete the exercises on page 16.

Memorize II Timothy 2:15. If you already know this verse, memorize it in a different translation.

Memorize Psalm 119:23b,24

Subjects to be explored:

Introduction

The Marginal Reference Study Bible

Related objectives:

- You will quote II Timothy 2:15 and Psalm 119:23b, 24.
- You will discuss the differences between analytical and interpretive Bible study tools, giving examples of each.
- You will discuss the difference between a Bible translation and a paraphrase, giving an example of each.
- You will list at least five types of information usually given in a marginal reference Bible.
- You will discuss three types of studies which can be done using only a marginal reference Bible.
- You will comfortably and effortlessly use the marginal references of your personal study Bible.

Lesson Two

Assignment to be completed:

Carefully study Lesson Two of the *Tools for the Workman* text. Complete Exercise 1 on page 29. Concerning Exercise 2, the topic for your research will be your ministry/vocation. Submit your topic to your instructor for his approval and/or recommendations. Include a list of all key words from which you will begin your biblical examination.

Study the preface, foreword and explanatory information at the front of your complete concordance(s) so you thoroughly understand the format used.

Memorize Psalm 119:45 - 48.

Subjects to be explored:

The Complete Concordance

Related objectives:

- You will quote Psalm 119:45 - 48.
- You will state the definition of "concordance".

- You will name the two standard complete concordances available to the Bible student.
- You will state three major uses of a complete concordance.
- You will comfortably and effortlessly use the complete concordance of your choice in your personal Bible study.

A note concerning the Complete Concordance Study (p.28), Step 3:

You may find it most useful to write each verse or passage on a separate 3x5 card. Write the reference in the upper right corner and a key word, phrase or topic in the upper left corner. Write the verse or your summary on the main body of the card. If a verse or passage relates to more than one important topic, create separate cards for each one. This will make Step 5 much easier. You will be able to simply group together all cards which have the same or similar words in the upper left corner, then arrange and rearrange them until you are satisfied that you have received the revelation the Spirit is giving you.