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The mission of Genesis is to prepare humble hearts to begin again. Our vision is to empower our graduates to fulfill God-sized dreams according to his purpose.

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## COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the 13 letters of Paul with emphasis on Paul's vocabulary, theology, and the various needs of the churches that he addressed. Special attention is given to the fundamentals of the gospel message, the Christian experience, and practical application of Paul's teaching relevant to both the church and world today.

### I. Prerequisites

None

### II. Measurable Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course, you will be able to:

- Memorize and recite Romans 1:16-17;
- Explain the key themes that form the basis of Paul's writings and define vocabulary terms relating to his theology;
- Analyze Paul's life experience, background, and their impact on his character, motives, and messages in his epistles;
- Defend and present the fundamentals of the gospel message as a witnessing tool to the unlearned, unconvinced, or unbelieving;
- Assess the distinctions that Paul makes between doctrinal truth and error;
- Apply and relate Paul's teachings to your daily Christian experience or church fellowship in order to enhance and promote spiritual growth;
- Create a daily devotional that draws on and unfolds Paul's various epistle themes;
- Critically assess a book detailing the evidence and examples of Paul's life as a model to impact your own;
- Demonstrate to others that you have a proficient theological understanding of the Pauline epistles both as a compilation and as individual letters.

### III. **Required Resources**

Waters, Guy Prentiss. *The Life and Theology of Paul*, 1<sup>st</sup> ed. Sanford, FL: Reformation Trust, 2017. Print.

*This book will be read progressively through the course as it correlates with each module.*

Piper, John. *Why I Love the Apostle Paul: 30 Reasons*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2019. Print.

*This book will be read and used for the book critique assignment due at the end of Module 4.*

Sell, Henry T. *Bible Studies in the Life of Paul*. Chicago: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1904. Section III Study VII – X.

*The required selection from this book is public domain and is included in the materials for this course. It will be read at the beginning of Module 1.*

**Students can disregard the questions Sell inserts at the end of each study.**

New Testament Epistles of Paul (ESV preferable)

Romans, 1&2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1&2 Thessalonians, 1&2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon

All thirteen epistles will be read prior to beginning Module 1, and excerpts from the epistles will be read and referenced in each module.

### IV. **Recommended Resources**

Bruce, F.F. *Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free*. United Kingdom: Paternoster Press Ltd, 1977. Print.

### V. **Course Requirements and Assignments**

#### **A. Scripture Memorization**

You will be memorizing Romans 1:16-17 in this course. God's Word is central to the life of every Christian, guiding and directing decisions, behaviors, values, and vision. Therefore, Genesis requires learners to memorize Scripture throughout their degree programs. Invest time everyday to hide God's Word in your heart and apply it to your life.

#### **B. Learning Activities**

In each of the six modules, you will answer questions that correlate to the content provided in Waters' *The Life and Theology of Paul* and to Paul's various epistles. Waters references many direct quotes, but your ability to answer the questions will be enhanced by a thorough reading

of all thirteen epistles. Each module contains seven foundational knowledge questions and one application question. Each response should be 50 words or fewer.

### **C. Book Critique**

You will submit a critical evaluation of *Why I Love the Apostle Paul: 30 Reasons*. The Book Critique, which is due at the end of Module 4, must be a minimum of 1000 words and must conform to MLA standards. See “How to Write Book Critiques” in the *Genesis Writer’s Manual* for additional help.

### **D. Portfolio Project**

Each master’s course at Genesis requires students to create a project that contributes to his or her Ministry Portfolio. A Ministry Portfolio is a usable, functioning body of work which demonstrates a student’s leadership skills, knowledge, and abilities.

Paul’s letters to the churches are full of valuable relevant truths that guide, encourage, empower, and correct believers’ behavior while uniting them in a common fellowship and Christian experience. In completing this course, you will gain a proficient and practical understanding of Paul’s message and mission and use that learning to bless others.

Create a 30-day Christian devotional based on the themes and theology of Paul’s epistles. Each entry should be 100-150 words and include within the content both an uplifting encouragement as well as a practical challenge to the reader. Remind the reader of the blessings and confidence that is gleaned from Scripture and inspire him/her to put lessons into practice with applicable suggestions or advice. Waters concludes each chapter of the book with “Lessons for Today” from which you may draw theme ideas for each entry. We have provided a list of suggested ideas below with correlating chapters referenced. Include 1-3 Scripture verses that support and align with your message.

### **E. Final Exam**

The Final Exam consists of material from the module presentations and assigned reading. The purpose of the exam is to measure your knowledge of course material. It will be administered after all six modules have been completed. It will include testing of your assigned reading and memorized Scripture.