

Back To School . . . Again

by Wayne Goff

This coming week our children will be going back to school and our teachers will be back in the classroom with them. So many things have changed since I was in school, but in college every course receives a **syllabus** outlining the course requirements, the intended goals, and the required materials for the course. Let's suppose our Bible classes and sermons in the local church had similar "course requirements." What might we expect them to be?

Aim Of The Course

- To instruct the disciple of Jesus Christ in all things pertaining to life and godliness through the knowledge of Him who called us to glory and virtue, 2 Peter 1:3.
- This knowledge should be used to obtain eternal life and to live soberly, righteously and godly in this present world, Titus 2:11-12

Required Materials For The Course

- A reliable English translation of the Bible
- A standard Bible encyclopedia
- A standard Bible dictionary
- A standard Bible atlas
- A notebook for keeping notes
- A supply of 3"x5" lined note cards
- In lieu of the above, one may use a laptop computer with proper Bible software

Absences

- Each quarter of the year the disciple is permitted 3 unexcused absences.
- Three unexcused tardies equal one unexcused absence.

Course Procedure

Each disciple of the Lord is expected to participate in all Bible classes and sermons by carefully listening to the lesson, doing homework in advance of the Bible classes and by taking notes of all given sermons.

Bible class participation is both invited and expected on any subject being discussed.

We will assume in this congregation that the Bible is verbally inspired of God and is the final authority on all subjects. Your preacher and teachers firmly believe this and will proceed on the assumption that all disciples recognize the same.

[Editor's Note: I can hear the wailing and gnashing of teeth already! But you are accountable to God for what you learn, 2 Corinthians 5:10; Hebrews 5:12-14. By the way, the above material was adapted from an old college notebook I have from one of my Bible classes. We really were expected to follow such guidelines and even paid to take the class!]

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