

St. Andrew Center for Christian Learning
BIBLE ACADEMY

The Spirit-filled Life
Spring 2005
Monday Evenings

Class Times: Monday evenings
6:45 – 7:00, gathering time
7:00 – 8:30, class time

Class Dates: 3/28, 4/4, 4/11, 4/18, 4/25, 5/2, 5/9, 5/16

Instructor: Scott L. Engle, Ph.D.

Reaching me: Office (214) 291-8009 (day and evening)
e-mail: sengle@standrewccl.org

You can find the syllabus and other course materials at the website for the St. Andrew Center for Christian Learning: www.standrewccl.org. Simply go to the Bible Academy page and you'll find the link to the materials for this class.

IN THE EVENT OF BAD WEATHER, CHECK THE CENTER'S WEBSITE, WHERE I'LL POST ANY CANCELLATION ANNOUNCEMENTS. If we have to cancel a class, we'll simply reduce the class to seven weeks and I'll modify the lectures so we can get back on schedule. If we have to cancel two or more classes, then we'll extend the class further into May.

Course materials:

- The set of weekly readings
- The weekly Bible readings worksheets
- The overhead handouts
- A study Bible

Course Description

The UMC Book of Discipline reminds us that *“We believe in the Holy Spirit who proceeds from and is one in being with the Father and the Son. He convinces the world of sin, of righteousness and of judgment. He leads men through faithful response to the gospel into the fellowship of the Church. He comforts, sustains and empowers the faithful and guides them into all truth.”*

We are Christians. We are new creations, empowered by God to be the light to the world and charged with the responsibility to make disciples of Jesus Christ. At St. Andrew, we are committed to inviting people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ and one another through worshiping, learning, loving and serving. In all this, we are not on our own. We are God’s children and God empowers us to do his work as the people of God. God is with us in this, through the presence of the Holy Spirit. In this class, we’ll look at our Spirit-filled lives.

Learning Objectives

Those who complete this course should be able to:

1. Better appreciate the Holy Spirit as God’s personal presence.
2. Understand that we are created for community and appreciate the role of the church in the kingdom of God.
3. Explain the basic Christian understanding of last things, the consummation of God’s kingdom, and the resurrection of God’s people.
4. Articulate the Christian understanding of salvation, as well as share with others the Wesleyan distinctives.
5. Understand and embrace the Christian commitment to growing in holiness, ever better reflecting the image of God in our own lives. Appreciate and understand the Wesleyan commitment to “perfection.”
6. Discuss what we mean by discipleship and commit to a life focused on being an ever-truer disciple of Jesus Christ.
7. Better understand the role of the Holy Spirit as God’s personal presence in our prayer life and our worship of God.
8. Develop a framework for beginning to consider the moral choices we all face.

Expectations

To get the most out of this class, you should attend every meeting and be prepared to devote at least a couple of hours each week to the assignments. I suggest that you devote a half-hour each day, rather than do the reading and the worksheet at one sitting. This class can be a good means of building a daily “Bible habit” that can sustain and enrich our lives and our congregation. The weekly worksheets are designed to help you build a daily habit.

I would expect you to bring to the class all the questions and uncertainties about the Holy Spirit that have puzzled you. I certainly won’t be able to answer them all, but we want the class to be responsive to your needs, while still ensuring that we cover most of the material in the syllabus.

I expect you to enjoy the class and I will do all I can to exceed your expectations!

Schedule of Class Activities
The Spirit-filled Life
 Spring 2005 - Monday Evenings

| Class Date | Topic | Chapter Assignments/Worksheets |
|------------|---|---|
| 3/28 (#1) | Introduction to the class Our goals for the class <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application!! Paul as our guide - why? The Holy Spirit as the presence of God The Holy Who? | |
| 4/4 (#2) | The Beginning of the End <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Already/Not yet!! • Last things • Resurrection | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Christian Hope," from <i>Faith Seeking Understanding</i>, by Daniel Migloire, Eerdmans Publishing, 1991 • Bible readings for Week 2 |
| 4/11 (#3) | The Church - the People of God <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created for community • The believing community • Unity and denominations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "A People for His Name - The Spirit and the People of God," from <i>Paul, the Spirit, and the People of God</i>, by Gordon Fee, Hendrickson Publishers, 1996 • Bible readings for Week 3 |
| 4/18 (#4) | Conversion - Part I <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting In/Salvation • What do we mean by "justified" or "righteoused"? • Repentance • Chosen and free! | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "What Conversion Is and Is Not," by John Stackhouse, in <i>Christianity Today</i>, February 2003 • Bible readings for Week 4 |
| 4/25 (#5) | Conversion - Part II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staying In/Sanctification • Growing in holiness • The fruits of the spirit • What do we mean by Christian perfection? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "We Believe in Conversion, Assurance, and Scriptural Holiness," from <i>Major United Methodist Beliefs</i>, by Mack B. Stokes, Abingdon Press, Revised Edition in 1984 • "Distinctively Wesleyan Doctrines about the 'Way of Salvation'", from <i>Methodist Doctrine: The Essentials</i>, by Ted A. Campbell, Abingdon Press, 1999 • Bible readings for Week 5 |
| 5/2 (#6) | Discipleship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students and apprentices • Why is our mission to make disciples of Jesus Christ? • The role of the Spirit in our discipleship | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "On Being a Disciple, a Student, of Jesus," from <i>The Divine Conspiracy: Rediscovering our life in God</i>, by Dallas Willard, HarperCollins, 1998 • Bible readings for Week 6 |
| 5/9 (#7) | The Spirit in Prayer & Worship <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayer empowered by the Spirit • Spirit-filled worship • The sacraments • Tongues, prophecy, healings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The Discipline of Worship," from <i>Celebration of Discipline</i>, revised edition, by Richard J. Foster, HarperCollins, 1998 • Bible readings for Week 7 |
| 5/16 (#8) | Remembering Jesus - Christian Ethics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building a moral community • The use of scripture • The role of the Spirit | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The Task of New Testament Ethics," from <i>The Moral Vision of the New Testament: Community, Cross, New Creation</i>, by Richard B. Hays, HarperCollins, 1996 • "Able to Instruct One Another: The early church as a community of moral discourse," from <i>Remembering Jesus - Christian community, scripture, and the moral life</i>, by Allen Verhey, 2002. • Bible readings for Week 8 |