

Exegetical Project

As a part of your participation in the Capstone *God the Son* module of study, you will be required to do an exegesis (inductive study) on one of the following Scripture passages:

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| <input type="checkbox"/> John 1.14-18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Titus 2.11-14 | <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 1.5-14 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hebrews 2.14-17 | <input type="checkbox"/> Colossians 1.13-20 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 Timothy 3.16 |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Philippians 2.5-11 | |

The purpose of this exegetical project is to give you an opportunity to do a detailed study of a major passage that speaks to the nature of the person and work of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. Christian leadership essentially is anchored on the truth regarding the person of Jesus. It is neither possible nor credible to become an effective urban minister while retaining false, low, and ignoble views about Jesus. In one sense, error in this doctrine is detrimental not only in the area of faith, but also crippling in the area of discipleship, service, and ministry. In Colossians, Paul asserts that it is Jesus Christ who is the heart of all ministry; “Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ” (Col. 1:28). Christian ministry rises and falls with a biblical, life-honoring response of the Scriptures regarding the divinity and humanity of Jesus, God’s Son.

Therefore, this project will allow you to use one of the above texts as a base to explore your understanding of its relevance to the person of Christ. As you study one of the above texts (or a text which you and your Mentor agree upon which may not be on the list), our hope is that your analysis of the text will make more clear to you the glorious nature of the person for whom we have sacrificed our entire lives to serve and embody. Truly, to be a Christian leader is to become like Christ himself (1 Cor. 11.1; Phil. 2.5; Rom. 8.29). Our desire is that the Holy Spirit will give you insight into the person of Christ in order that you may love him more in spirit and truth, obey him heartily in your own personal walk of discipleship, and serve him gladly as a servant leader in the role God has given you in your church and ministry.

This is a Bible study project, and, in order to do *exegesis*, you must be committed to understand the meaning of the passage in its own setting. Once you know what it meant, you can then draw out principles that apply to all of us, and then relate those principles to life. A simple three step process can guide you in your personal study of the Bible passage:

1. What was *God saying to the people in the text’s original situation?*
2. What principle(s) does *the text teach that is true for all people everywhere, including today?*
3. What is *the Holy Spirit asking me to do with this principle here, today, in my life and ministry?*

Purpose

Outline and
Composition

Once you have answered these questions in your personal study, you are then ready to write out your insights for your *paper assignment*.

Here is a *sample outline* for your paper:

1. List out what you believe is *the main theme or idea* of the text you selected.
2. *Summarize the meaning* of the passage (you may do this in two or three paragraphs, or, if you prefer, by writing a short verse-by-verse commentary on the passage).
3. *Outline one to three key principles or insights* this text provides on the person and work of Jesus Christ.
4. Tell how one, some, or all of the principles may relate to *one or more* of the following:
 - a. Your personal spirituality and walk with Christ
 - b. Your life and ministry in your local church
 - c. Situations or challenges in your community and general society

As an aid or guide, please feel free to read the course texts and/or commentaries, and integrate insights from them into your work. Make sure that you give credit to whom credit is due if you borrow or build upon someone else's insights. Use in-the-text references, footnotes, or endnotes. Any way you choose to cite your references will be acceptable, as long as you 1) use only one way consistently throughout your paper, and 2) indicate where you are using someone else's ideas, and are giving them credit for it. (See Appendix 3, *Documenting Your Work*, for more information.)

Make certain that your exegetical project, when turned in meets the following standards:

- It is legibly written or typed.
- It is a study of one of the passages above.
- It is turned in on time (not late).
- It is 5 pages in length.
- It follows the outline given above, clearly laid out for the reader to follow.
- It shows how the passage relates to life and ministry today.

Do not let these instructions intimidate you; this is a Bible study project! All you need to show in this paper is that you *studied* the passage, *summarized* its meaning, *drew out* a few key principles from it, and *related* them to your own life and ministry.

Grading

The exegetical project is worth 45 points, and represents 15% of your overall grade, so make certain that you make your project an excellent and informative study of the Word.