

TOPICS, READING ASSIGNMENTS, DISCUSSION QUESTIONS, AND DUE DATES

Date	Topics	Reading Assignments	Due Dates
<p>Friday, <u>April 17, 2020</u> 3:30-6:00 p.m.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the course • The worlds of Jesus 	<p>Gospel of Mark Gospel of Matthew <u>Powell:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preface, pp. 11-15 • 1. New Testament Background, The Roman World, pp. 17-37 <i>For discussion:</i> -How does learning about the first century political situation in Palestine help us understand the New Testament? -What are honor and shame, and why were they important? -Your own questions. • 2. New Testament Background, The Jewish World, pp. 39-57 <i>For discussion:</i> -What did Judeans living in Palestine have in common? What divided them from each other? -Why do you think that wisdom theology, dualism, and apocalypticism (pp. 53–54) were popular in the first century? What needs did they address? -Your own questions. • 3. The New Testament Writings, pp. 59-75 <i>For discussion:</i> -Review the methods for studying the New Testament (text pp. 66-72). What are the advantages and potential problems of each method? -Your own questions. 	<p>Friday, April 17, 2020, 3:30 p.m. > Assignment #1</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5. The Gospels, pp. 95-117 <i>For discussion:</i> -Why four different gospels in the same New Testament? What are the advantages and disadvantages of having four? -What is the Diatessaron, and why did Tatian construct it (p. 116)? Why might this kind of a gospel have been so popular in the early Eastern churches? How do we still see this tendency to unite all four Gospel perspectives at work in the Christian Church today? -Your own questions. • 7. Mark, pp. 141-59 <i>For discussion:</i> -What to you is Mark's special witness? -What are the similarities and differences between the teaching of Jesus and the teaching of the Pharisees, including purity? -Your own questions. • 6. Matthew, pp. 119-39 <i>For discussion:</i> -What did you learn about Jesus' life that you didn't know before? -What to you is Matthew's special witness? -Your own questions. <p><u>Levine:</u> <i>For discussion (all Levine chapters):</i> -What challenged you in this chapter? -With what did you disagree? -Your own questions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3. The Kingdom of Heaven Is Like Yeast, pp. 117-37 • 4. The Pearl of Great Price, pp. 139-64 • 5. The Mustard Seed, pp. 165-82 	
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7:00-9:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss Assignment #1: Synoptic Comparison • The Synoptic problem • What is a gospel? • Discussion of reading 	See above	
<u>Saturday,</u> <u>April 18, 2020</u> 8:00-10:55 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gospel of Mark • Discussion of reading, including Levine 	See above	
1:00-3:15 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gospel of Matthew • Discussion of reading, including Levine 	See above	
<u>Friday,</u> <u>May 15, 2020</u> 3:30-6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parables • Discussion of Levine reading • Gospel of Luke 	Gospel of Luke Gospel of John <u>Powell:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4. Jesus, pp. 77-93 <i>For discussion:</i> -Who are the earthly Jesus, the exalted Jesus, and the historical Jesus? -What can be known about Jesus by using the discipline of historical New Testament study? -Your own questions. • 8. Luke, pp. 161-81 <i>For discussion:</i> -How is Luke's view of poverty and riches similar or different from your view of class and money? In our world, who for Luke would be the poor, marginalized or disadvantaged? -What to you is Luke's special witness? -Your own questions. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9. John, pp. 183-203 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -What is salvation, according to this gospel? -What are some of the problems (and unresolved questions) regarding the authorship, writing, and dating of John? -What to you is John's special witness? -Your own questions. <p><u>Levine:</u></p> <p><i>For discussion (all Levine chapters):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -What challenged you in this chapter? -With what did you disagree? -Your own questions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction: How We Domesticate Jesus's Provocative Stories, pp. 1-26 1. Lost Sheep, Lost Coin, Lost Son, pp. 27-76 2. The Good Samaritan, pp. 77-115 8. The Widow and the Judge, pp. 239-65 	
7:00-9:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gospel of Luke, cont'd. Discussion of reading Historical Jesus 	See above	
<u>Saturday</u> <u>May 16, 2020</u> 8:00-10:55 a.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Historical Jesus, cont'd. Discussion of Assignment #2: Exegetical paper and sermon on the Gospel of John Gospel of John 	See above	
1:00-3:15 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gospel of John, cont'd. Discuss reading 	See above	
			Friday, May 29, 2020 8:00 p.m. > Assignment #2