Paul's Prison Epistles

Student Syllabus

ACADEMIC PACKET

RESOURCES FOR GROUPS
USING THE ACADEMIC PACKETS

THIRD MILLENNIUM MINISTRIES

© 2018 by Third Millennium Ministries

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form or by any means for profit, except in brief quotations for the purposes of review, comment, or scholarship, without written permission from the publisher, Third Millennium Ministries, Inc., 316 Live Oaks Boulevard, Casselberry, FL 32707 USA.

About Third Millennium Ministries

Founded in 1997, Third Millennium Ministries is a non-profit Evangelical Christian ministry dedicated to providing:

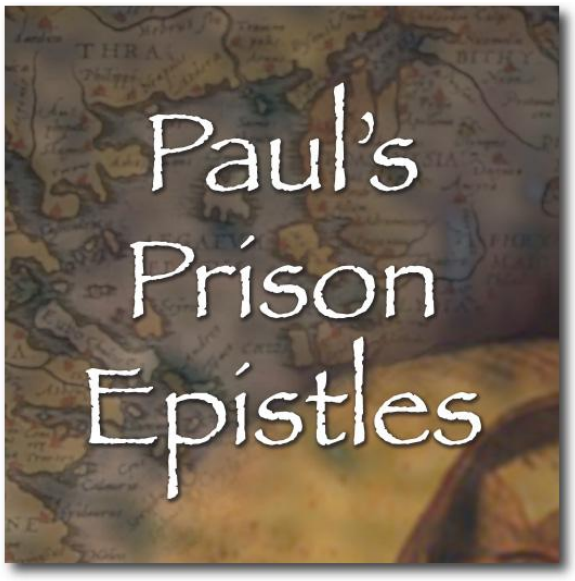
Biblical Education. For the World. For Free.

Our goal is to offer free Christian education to hundreds of thousands of pastors and Christian leaders around the world who lack sufficient training for ministry. We are meeting this goal by producing and globally distributing an unparalleled multimedia seminary curriculum in English, Arabic, Mandarin, Russian, and Spanish. Our curriculum is also being translated into more than a dozen other languages through our partner ministries. The curriculum consists of graphic-driven videos, printed instruction, and internet resources. It is designed to be used by schools, groups, and individuals, both online and in learning communities.

Over the years, we have developed a highly cost-effective method of producing award-winning multimedia lessons of the finest content and quality. Our writers and editors are theologically-trained educators, our translators are theologically-astute native speakers of their target languages, and our lessons contain the insights of hundreds of respected seminary professors and pastors from around the world. In addition, our graphic designers, illustrators, and producers adhere to the highest production standards using state-of-the-art equipment and techniques.

In order to accomplish our distribution goals, Third Millennium has forged strategic partnerships with churches, seminaries, Bible schools, missionaries, Christian broadcasters and satellite television providers, and other organizations. These relationships have already resulted in the distribution of countless video lessons to indigenous leaders, pastors, and seminary students. Our websites also serve as avenues of distribution and provide additional materials to supplement our lessons, including materials on how to start your own learning community.

Third Millennium Ministries is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) corporation. We depend on the generous, tax-deductible contributions of churches, foundations, businesses, and individuals. For more information about our ministry, and to learn how you can get involved, please visit www.thirdmill.org.



COURSE DESCRIPTION

AsChristians, we face many challenges to our faith. False teachings and worldviews assault our loyalty to Christ. Suffering tempts us to think that God is not in control or that he does not have our best interests at heart. Our relationships with other believers are often strained to the point that we doubt the value of the church. This course will help you deal with these issues as you explore the teachings of Colossians, Ephesians, Philemon, and Philippians. It is based on the lecture series *Paul's Prison Epistles*, produced by Third Millennium Ministries and presented by Dr. Reggie M. Kidd.

THE PROFESSOR

Dr. Reggie M. Kidd is a seminary professor and ordained minister. He earned his M.A.R., M.Div. and Th.M. at Westminster Theological Seminary and his Ph.D. at Duke University. He currently teaches at Reformed Theological Seminary in Orlando, Florida. He has published the following books: *Wealth and Beneficence in the Pastoral Epistles* and *How Can I Keep from Singing?*

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

GOALS

In this course, we would like to accomplish the following:

1. We hope that you will learn the key information regarding Paul, his background, and the epistles of Colossians, Ephesians, Philemon, and Philippians.
2. We hope that you grow in your love for Christ and in your commitment to serve Him and His people, willing to persevere even in the midst of conflict and suffering.
3. We hope that you will apply the teachings of these New Testament epistles to make changes in your own life. We hope you will become more faithful in your Christian walk, especially learning to persevere in the midst of suffering, to deal with false teachings, to resolve conflicts, and to encourage others in Christ.

OBJECTIVES

When you have done the following, it will show that the goals are met:

1. Obtain satisfactory grades on the tests, demonstrating that you can identify key information about the background, content, and modern application of Colossians, Ephesians, Philemon, and Philippians.
2. Complete the study guides and other assignments of the course, expressing your sentiments about Christ and about persevering in the midst of suffering and conflict, as well as showing how this course has affected your life, especially how you are learning to persevere in the midst of suffering, to deal with false teachings, to resolve conflicts, and to encourage others in Christ.

THE FACILITATOR

This course is designed to be studied in a group with a facilitator, supervisor, or mentor. If you do not have a facilitator, you may wish to speak with your pastor or some spiritual leader in your church. The facilitator should read the "General Guidelines for Facilitators."

OTHER MATERIALS

Besides this syllabus, there are other resources you will need for this course. They should be available in the same place, or same folder, where you found this file. If not, talk to your facilitator.

CREDIT

Third Millennium does not offer credit for their courses. However, the materials are offered freely to any institution that would like to use them. If the student would like to seek credit for the course, he needs to find an institution that will supervise his studies and give him credit. He should consult with them to see about their requirements and expectations.

THEMATIC OUTLINE OF THE COURSE

1. Paul's Imprisonment
2. Paul and the Colossians
3. Paul and the Ephesians
4. Paul and Philemon
5. Paul and the Philippians

GENERAL EXPLANATION OF ASSIGNMENTS

The guidelines for assignments below are meant to be suggestions. Each group or academic institution may customize the course according to the needs of their students. For example, some may prefer to require the additional reading, while others may not. The same applies to the optional written project. Furthermore, some may prefer to meet once a week, while others prefer to meet more often or less often. Some groups may prefer to restructure the assignments to fit a regular pattern of classes, possibly a period of eight weeks, for example.

Don't worry about the details now, since they will be given to you as you go through the assignments of