

## **Essential Christian Doctrines**

7:00 – 9:00P.M.

**Detroit Bible Institute**

313-836-7324

**Class Dates:** Wednesdays – January 9, 16, 23, 30; February 6, 13, 20, 27; March 6, 13, 20, 27

**Textbook:** **Christian Beliefs: Twenty Basics Every Christian Should Know**, Wayne Grudem

**Instructor:** Min. Carol Smith, (734) 502-1186 (cell) (no calls after 9:30 please) or email at [carolsmith364@att.net](mailto:carolsmith364@att.net)

**Asst. Instructor(s):** Sis. Paula McDonald, (313) 549-2828 (no calls after 9:30 please) or email at [kmg0820@hotmail.com](mailto:kmg0820@hotmail.com)

**Office Hours:** Mondays, 6:00 – 7:00P.M. In classroom

**Course Description:** This course seeks to answer two main questions, namely what is a Christian and what do Christians believe? We will answer these two questions by an intensive examination of Scripture and thereby uncover the essential doctrines of the Christian faith. These doctrines separate us from other religions, even those who claim to be Christian, such as Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons. You will be able to confidently converse about such topics as salvation, the bible, who Jesus is, heaven and hell, to name only a few.

**Course Objective(s):** You will learn the 10 essential doctrines that define what it means to be a Christian as well as a few others that are very important to know. You will also learn via deductive bible study how we arrived at these doctrines. Lastly, you will present a doctrinal support/defense of a doctrine to be assigned by the instructor.

### **Assignments:**

**Quizzes** – 150 Points (There will be 5 quizzes)

**Reading** – 50 Points (A reading log will be submitted by **March 20th**)

**Homework** – 50 Points (doctrinal defense paper)

**Class Participation** – 50 Points (You are expected to be appropriately vocal and participatory in class)

**Final Exam** – 100 points (You will have to list all 10 essential doctrines and provide at least 3 bible passages in context to support each doctrine.)

**Make-up Assignments:** Any quizzes missed must be made up during office hours or by appointment. Late papers will be assessed a 10% penalty per week beginning at midnight of the due date.

**Attendance Policy:** In accordance with the Detroit Bible Institute policy, all students must attend a minimum of 10 classes in order to receive credit for the course. Excused absences are at the full discretion of the instructor and will not count against the student. In the event that a student does have an excused absence, the instructor reserves the right to assign extra homework and reading assignments to make up for lecture time missed by the student.

**Grading Policy:** Students must complete a minimum of 75% (300 points) of all coursework in order to pass the class.

**Behavioral Policy:** Students will fail the course and may be dismissed from the class if they are found cheating, being dishonest about work done in course, harassing other students or demonstrating destructive behavior.

**Course Schedule:**

January 9 - Introduction, Class Overview, Basic Doctrinal Study Method – **Read Ch. 1**

January 16 - **The Bible** – What do Christians believe? – **Read Ch. 2 & 3**

January 23 - **God** – Who/what is he? – **Read Ch. 4 – Quiz 1**

January 30 - **Creation** - What do Christians believe? – **Read Ch. 7 & 8**

February 6 – **Man** – What are we and are we any good at all? – **Read Ch. 9 – Quiz 2**

February 13 – **Jesus** – pt. 1 – Who/what is he? – **Read Ch. 10 & 11**

February 20 - **Jesus** – pt. 2 – What did/will he do? – **Read Ch. 13–15 – Quiz 3**

February 27 – **Salvation** – How do we get it?

March 6 - **Holy Spirit** – What is it/he? Who has it/him? – **Read Ch. 18 & 19 – Quiz 4**

March 13 - **Judgment** – Who? How many? On what basis? - **read Ch. 20**

March 20 - **Heaven & Hell** – Are they real? Who goes there? **Paper & Reading Log Due! – Quiz 5**

March 27 - **Final Exam**

**Suggested reading for further development:** Living By The Book, William & Howard Hendricks

**Note:** The instructor reserves the right to amend course assignments and scheduling if necessary. Any amendment(s) made will **not** increase previously stated requirements laid upon the students