

The Intellectual and Spiritual Life of the Christian Philosopher

Spring, 2012

J. P. Moreland, Ph.D.
www.jpmoreland.com

Purpose: The purpose of this course is to help the student make progress in developing a solid and integrated intellectual/spiritual life appropriate to a calling as a Christian philosopher.

Objectives: By the end of the course, the student should be able to demonstrate growth in understanding and progress in living consistently with

1. the worldview struggle that currently constitutes the flow of ideas in Western culture.
2. integrative thinking as a Christian and a view of Christianity as a knowledge tradition and not a mere belief tradition.
3. the development of the different aspects of a human person under the Lordship of Jesus with special emphasis on a tender, inner heart and character.
4. the nature of classic happiness and the means by which it is secured.
5. the nature, practice and perils of petitionary prayer, including praying for the sick.
6. the role of spiritual warfare and the demonic in culture and individual life.
7. learning how to hear from God in a personal way.

Course Schedule:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Assignment</i>
1/30	Course Overview	
2/1	Spirituality and Worldview Struggle	Moreland #2, ch. 1-2
2/6	The Kingdom Triangle	Moreland, #2, ch. 3-5
2/8	On Being a Christian Philosopher	#5
2/13	The Christian's Two Tasks	#1
2/15	Christianity and Worldview I	Kraft #1, ch. 1-3
2/20	Christianity and Worldview II	Kraft #1, ch. 4-6
2/22	Christianity and Worldview III	Kraft #1, ch. 7-9
2/27	Summary of Course	
2/29	Ecclesiastes 1 & 2	
3/5	The Nature of Happiness	Moreland, #1, ch. 1-2; Willard #2
3/7	Dealing with Anxiety and Depression	Moreland, #1 ch. 7
3/12	Spiritual Formation and the Heart	Willard #1: ch. 1-2
3/14	Spiritual Formation and the Soul	Willard #1, ch. 3-4
3/19	Spiritual Formation and Change	Willard #1, ch. 5

3/26	Spiritual Formation and the Mind	Willard #1, ch. 6-7
3/28	Spiritual Formation and the Will/Body	Willard #1, ch. 8-9
4/2	Spiritual Formation and the Social Soul	Willard #1, ch. 10-11
4/4	Spiritual Formation and Outreach	Willard #1, ch. 12-13
4/16	Summary of Course	
4/18	Kingdom Power	Moreland, #2, ch. 7
4/23	Petitionary Prayer	#4
4/25	The Fact of Healing	#3, #6
4/30	How to Pray for the Sick	MacNutt
5/2	How to Pray for the Sick	MacNutt
5/7	Hearing God	#2
5/9	Hearing God	Deere
5/14	Hearing God	Deere
5/16	Spiritual Warfare	Kraft #2
5/21	Spiritual Warfare	Kraft #2

Texts and Additional Readings

Jack Deere, *The Beginner's Guide to Prophecy* (Ann Arbor, Michigan: Servant Publications, 2001).

Charles Kraft #1, *Christianity with Power* (Ann Arbor, Michigan: Servant Publications, 1989).

Charles Kraft #2, *Defeating Dark Angels* (Ann Arbor, Michigan: Servant Publications, 1992).

Francis McNutt, *Healing* (Notre Dame, Indiana: Ave Maria Press, 1999).

J. P. Moreland #1, *The Lost Virtue of Happiness* (Colorado Springs, Colorado: NavPress, 2006).

J. P. Moreland #2, *Kingdom Triangle* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 2007).

Dallas Willard #1, *Renovation of the Heart* (Colorado Springs, Colorado: NavPress, 2002).

Dallas Willard #2, *Knowing Christ Today* (New York, N. Y.: Harper Collins, 2009).

Additional Readings:

#1: Paul Gould, "The Two Tasks Introduced," in William Lane Craig, Paul Gould, ed., *The Two Tasks of the Christian Scholar* (Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway, 2007), pp. 17-54.

#2: Wayne Grudem, ed., *Are Miraculous Gifts for Today* (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1996), pp. 9-20, 175-223.

#3: Ronald A. N. Kydd, *Healing through the Centuries* (Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers, 1998), pp. 20-33.

#4: J. P. Moreland, Klaus Issler, *In Search of a Confident Faith* (Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2008), pp. 133-62.

#5: Alvin Plantinga, "Advice to Christian Philosophers" *Faith and Philosophy* 1 (October 1984): 253-71.

#6: Jim Rutz, *Megashift* (Colorado Springs, Colorado: Empowerment Press, 2005), pp. 2-54.

Assignments:

1. Turn in a reading card indicating the percentage of the reading you did on time. *2/3s of grade due 5/21*
2. Turn in a fifteen-page paper on any topic of your choice. *1/3 of grade due 5/14*