

SYLLABUS

Course Description

Ethics is the study of good and evil, right and wrong. Ethics deals with what is morally right and wrong while Christian ethics deals with what is morally right and wrong for Christians. Christian Ethics cannot be separated from a theological perspective because it begins with the character of our God. The study of Ethics requires us to determine what conforms with God's character and what does not. To define and comply with the definition of Christian ethics we need only go to the New Testament and read Colossians 3; 1-6; "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever belongs to your earthly nature: sexual immorality, impurity, lust, evil desires and greed, which is idolatry. Because of these, the wrath of God is coming." NIV.

Course Objectives

1. To introduce the discipline of ethics and its role in the development of clergy.
2. To apply this discipline to current moral issues in society.
3. To promote reflective thoughts within ourselves as to critical and constructive thinking.
5. To create a desire to further our understanding and promote a sense of ethical acceptance in our lives.

Method:

In order to fully investigate the realm of Christian ethics this course will incorporate both a broad overview in the reading assignments as well and an in-depth textual analysis. The student should have read the required texts prior to attending class and be prepared to discuss both practical and theological applications of Church ethics.

Responsibilities:

1. read assigned texts
2. attend class
3. participate in class discussion
4. prepare a 3-5 page paper on a subject relating to ethics

Required Readings:

"Ethics After Easter", Stephen Holmgren, Cowley Publications, ISBN: 1561011762
"Beyond Bumper Sticker Ethics", Steve Wilkins, Intervarsity Press; ISBN: 083081527-9