BIB101 Biblical Hermeneutics Syllabus Highlights

But he answered, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" —Matthew 4:4

Dr. Levi Berntson

Course Description

An introduction to the science and art of biblical interpretation, with an emphasis on the historical-grammatical method.

Learning Outcomes

- 1. To recognize what Scripture is and how one ought to approach it.
- 2. To develop the skills to read, understand, and apply Scripture in its various contexts and literary genres.
- 3. To appreciate how the New Testament authors use the Old Testament.
- 4. To understand the basic relationship between hermeneutics, biblical theology, systematic theology, and historical theology.
- 5. To identify the basic steps involved in writing an exegetical paper.
- 6. To nurture a love and reverent esteem for Holy Scripture.

Textbooks

- 1. The Holy Bible in any translation.
- 2. Louis Berkhof, Principles of Biblical Interpretation (Baker Books, 1994).
- 3. R.C. Sproul, Knowing Scripture, revised edition (IVP, 2009).
- 4. Henry A. Virkler and Karelynne Gerber Ayayo, *Hermeneutics: Principles and Processes of Biblical Interpretation*, 3rd edition (Baker Academic, 2023).
- 5. Campegius Vitringa, The Spiritual Life, trans. Charles K. Telfer (Reformation Heritage Books, 2019).

Course Requirements

- 1. Attendance and Participation.
- 2. Reading.
- 3. Short Exegesis Paper.
- 4. Discourse Analysis.
- 5. Midterm.
- 6. Final Exam.

*This abbreviated syllabus is subject to revision. A full syllabus will be provided on the first day of class.