SYLLABUS

1ST526: Principles of Sanctification

Dr. Sean Michael Lucas

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Office hours: By appointment.

Course description:
This course emphasizes methodology, responsibility for personal growth in Christ, and a concern for the spiritual well being of others. This involves the study of Scripture for personal nurture and the exercise of certain disciplines necessary for spiritual growth.

Goals:
1. The student will be introduced to the history of the Christian church over the past five centuries, particularly emphasizing the way certain beliefs and practices have shaped Christian identity.
2. Through the lectures, the student will be exposed to the cultural and political contexts of Christian thought and develop a greater critical appreciation for the Christian tradition.
3. Through the reading and discussions, the student will be oriented to key figures, beliefs, practices, and stories in the life of the Christian church and will explore how they relate to contemporary Christian life and ministry.
4. Through the book On Being Presbyterian, the student will appreciate Presbyterian identity as a confluence of beliefs, practices, and stories, which continues to have importance in our postmodern world.
5. Through the final exam, the student will reflect on how Christian identity, as represented over the past five centuries, and how Presbyterian identity may have relevance for contemporary Christian life and ministry.

Required texts:
Bryan Chapell, Holiness by Grace: Delighting in the Joy that is Our Strength (Crossway, 2011); ISBN: 978-1433524424
John Piper, When I Don’t Desire God: How to Fight for Joy (Crossway, 2013); ISBN: 978-1433543173

Recommended texts:

**Requirements and Grading:**

1. *Regular attendance and class participation* (20%). You will only be allowed to miss one classes without it adversely affecting your grade. If you plan on missing a class, it would help greatly to notify the instructor in advance.
2. *Reading* (40%). The reading grade is broken into three parts:
   a. Two 3-5 page reaction papers (each worth 10%).
   b. Final reading summary (20%)
3. *Catechism tests* (20%). You will have two tests on Westminster Shorter Catechism Q’s 29-36, and on 86-94, 96-98.
4. *Devotional Bible Reading Check-list* (20%). At the end of class, you will turn in a check-list of your personal, devotional Bible reading through the semester.
5. *Grading scale (standard RTS scale):*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score Range</th>
<th>Grade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>97-100</td>
<td>A</td>
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<tr>
<td>94-96</td>
<td>A-</td>
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<tr>
<td>91-93</td>
<td>B+</td>
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<td>88-90</td>
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<td>86-87</td>
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<td>78-79</td>
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<td>72-74</td>
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<td>70-71</td>
<td>D-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Below 70</td>
<td>F</td>
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As part of our purpose to train servants of the triune God to walk with God in all of life, we expect godly integrity in the academic work done at RTS. God’s covenant with His people calls for honesty and a commitment to truth (as in the 9th commandment). As we live in that covenant and in community with one another, upholding truth is an essential duty. Specifically applied to academic labors, this means that we accurately represent our work to others. In other words, neither cheating nor plagiarism is tolerated.

**A fuller syllabus will explanations of the assignments and a proposed lecture schedule will be distributed the first day of class, Monday, January 26, 2015.**