

# Student Syllabus

## Foundations 101

### What is the Purpose of this Class?

A survey of Christian belief and Lutheran doctrine, addressing basic Bible teachings to help us consider Christianity as a worldview.

### Course Reading:

Basic Bible Teachings, an Introduction to the Lutheran Faith  
Concordia Publishing House, 2015

## CHAPTER 1: LIVING WITH EXPECTATIONS

### Notes on "Living With Expectations"

*[What does God expect of us? What does God tell us in His Holy Word?]*

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### Notes on "God Gives Us Value"

*[What's your score?]*

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**Table Talk:** "I can do it!" This is often seen as a positive statement in our culture. But how does that cause trouble when it comes to faith?

### Notes on "God Gives Us Grace"

*[Ephesians 2:8-9]*

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[See the glossary on pages 63-66 in the course book Basic Bible Teachings for the definition of "faith", "grace" and many more words used often in this course and in religious dialogue.]

**Notes on "God Gives Us Expectations"**

*[Missing the Mark. Picture Perfect. The Ten Commandments.]*

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**Notes on "God Gives Us the Law"**

*[Facing our sins. Is Satan real?]*

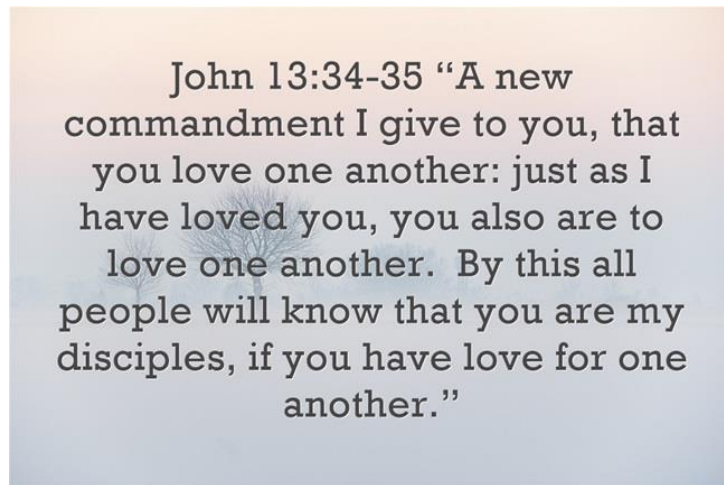
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**Table Talk:** List three ways God uses the Law for our good. Why does God give us the Law?



**Notes on "God Gives us the Gospel"**

*[John 14:6. Hebrews 11:1. The Truth will set you free.]*

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**Notes on "God Gives Us Strength"**

*[Why is there suffering in the world? Why does evil exist? How can we trust anyone?]*

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**CHAPTER 2: LIVING WITH JESUS AS SAVIOR**

**Notes on "God Gives Us His Word"**

*[Old Testament. New Testament.]*

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**Table Talk:** Lutheran Christians believe that the Bible is the very Word of God, without error. How does this affect the way we use the Bible?

**Notes on "God Gives Us Law and Gospel"**

*[Where is our hope? Romans 5:8]*

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**Notes on "God Give Us Salvation's Story"**

*[True Man. True God. We learn of Jesus in the Word. What is the Bible?]*

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**Notes on "God Gives Us Faith"**

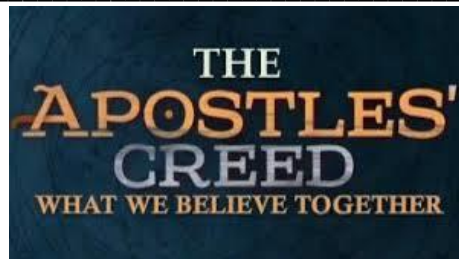
*[The Apostles' Creed]*

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**Notes on "God Gives Us Righteousness"**

*[Names of Jesus.]*

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**Table Talk:** Look at some of the names of Jesus (listed on page 26-27 in [Basic Bible Teachings](#)). What do these names say about who Jesus is and what He has done for us?

**CHAPTER 3: LIVING AS GOD’S CHILD**

**Notes on “God Gives Us New Life”**

*[Mark 16:16. Acts 2:38. The Sacrament of Baptism.]*

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**Table Talk:** What are three benefits God gives in Baptism? [see the Catechism explanation on the Sacrament of Baptism, page 32 in Basic Bible Teachings.]



**Notes on “God Gives Us a Name”**

*[Matthew 18:4. Who am I?]*

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**Notes on “God Gives Us What We Need”**

*[God provides, preserves, and protects.]*

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**Table Talk:** Do children always get what they want? What about the children of God?

**Notes on “God Gives Us Peace”**

*[1 Peter 5:7]*

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**Notes on “God Gives Us Free Will”**

*[We are not forced to love God.]*

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**Table Talk:** If someone believes in God, who gets the credit? If someone rejects God, who gets the credit?

**Notes on “God Gives Us Prayer”**

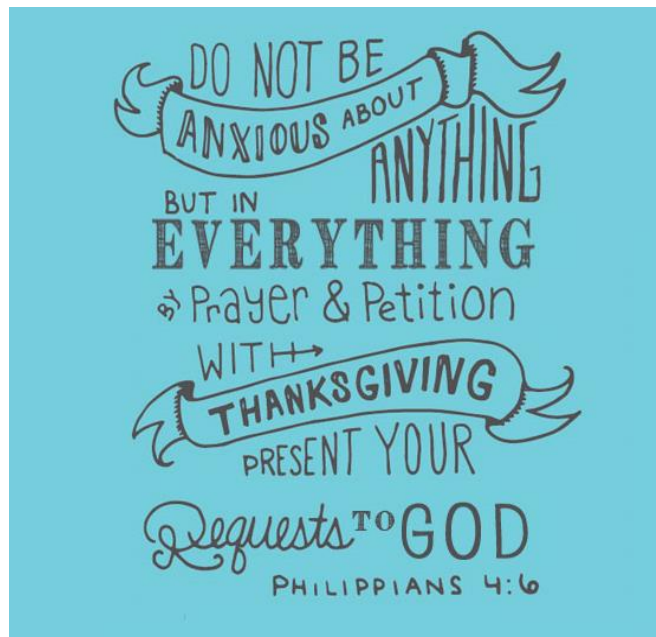
*[Why do Christians put so much emphasis on prayer and reading the Bible? God answers our prayers in different ways. The Lord’s Prayer.]*

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**CHAPTER 4: LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE**

**Notes on “God Gives Us Purpose”**

*[Freedom in Christ. Galatians 5:22-23]*

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**Table Talk:** Review Galatians 5: 22-23. This list is called the fruit of the Spirit. How is fruit a great image for these traits? How do they relate to our “purpose”?



**Notes on “God Gives Us Freedom”**

*[What is a saint? What is a disciple? Confession.]*

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**Notes on “God Gives Us Forgiveness”**

*[Children of Light. Forgiving Others. The Sacrament of Holy Communion.]*

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**Notes on “God Gives Us the Church”**

*[Ephesians 4:4-6. Christian denominations. Holy Communion.]*

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**Table Talk:** Share a story of a Christian in your life who has different skills or talents than you have. How is that person “shining the light of Jesus” through that talent?

**Notes on “God Gives Us Worship”**

*[Divine Service. Life of Praise. The Church in Action.]*

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**Notes on “God Gives Us a Commission”**

*[The Church witnesses. The Church prays. The Church serves. The Church waits.]*

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**CHAPTER 5: LIVING FOREVER WITH JESUS**

**Notes on “God Gives Us Eternal Life”**

*[What happens when we die? Why do we call the last day the Judgment Day? Can we be sure we will go to be with God?]*

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**Table Talk:** We are created for eternity. Everyone lives eternally somewhere. How does this truth impact the urgency to share with others God’s love in giving us a Savior?

