**Lamont Christian Middle School**

**2020-2021 Syllabus**

**7th grade and 8th grade Bible**

Mr. Benton

5-8 grade Bible

jbenton@lamontcs.org

(616) 677-1747 (school)

(616) 690-6984 (cell)

Welcome back to school! It has been a long break and summer. I hope you were able to enjoy your summertime with friends and loved ones. I am excited to be your Bible teacher this school year.

Things are different this year with COVID-19. Jesus says that we are to love our neighbor as ourselves (Mark 12:31). Because of this, I ask that you please wear your mask in class and practice social distancing to the best of your ability. You will be expected to also use hand sanitizer before and after class. The hand sanitizer will be provided.

We will be meeting Monday through Thursday each week with chapel on Friday.

**Bible**

 This class is all about the Bible. The Bible is God’s Word to us. It is in fact God-breathed and useful to us in teaching in righteousness (2 Tim 3:16). We will be looking at the Bible from three different perspectives—Academic, Spiritual, and Practical. We will take God’s Word seriously and look at it from a scholarly point of view. We will also look at how it affects us in our faith walk with Christ. Finally, we will see how it is relevant to us today and how we can apply it to our lives each and every day.

 You will be expected to bring your Bible to class each class period. The main translation of the Bible that we will be using will be the English Standard Version (ESV) translation. Most of you should have one already. If you do not, we will provide one for you. The ESV translation does its best to stay true to the original meaning of the Greek and Hebrew words and imagery. If need be, other translations will be used if warranted. Those scripture passages will be provided in a handout.

**Classwork and Homework**

 There will be regular class work assigned during the week. The classwork will range from readings from the textbook, worksheets, quizzes, and Bible memory work. More information on these will be given out during class. Grading will be done on a 100-point scale. There will be time during the week to work on classwork and homework during class time.

 Each student will receive a planner for recording homework due date, tests, and other important events. Schoolwork should be handed in on its due date. For each day work is late, 10% will be deducted from its overall grade with a maximum deduction of 50%.

We will be using the Christian Schools International textbook *A Light to the Gentiles* for this school year. Below is a tentative schedule of the school year. Please note that though I will do my best to stay on schedule, there will be also room for flexibility.

Overview

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| Unit 1: The Message of the Gospels | We will examine the 4 Gospels, looking at the differences and similarities of them along with why they were written |
| Unit 2: Jesus’ Early Ministry | We will be examining the ministry of Jesus, the kingdom of God and what that means |
| Unit 3: Who is Jesus? | We will study who Jesus is and what it means to follow Jesus |
| Unit 4: The Suffering and Sacrifice | We will examine the last week of Jesus and what it meant for him to have to suffer and die |
| Unit 5: Resurrection and Ascension | We will study the importance of Jesus’ resurrection and ascension and what it means to be a witness to this |
| Unit 6: The Birth of the Church | We will examine the beginnings of the Church, how the Holy Spirit operates in this, and the movement from Jewish roots to Gentiles |
| Unit 7: Expanding the Church | We will study the life and work of Paul and how the church expanded during his missionary journeys.  |
| Unit 8: Strengthening the Church | We will continue studying Paul and how he encouraged and strengthened the Church |
| Unit 9: Encouraging the Church to Stand Firm | We will examine other New Testament authors such as the book of Hebrews and the Apostle John |
| Unit 10: The Church Finds Its Way | We will begin examining the Church’s work and expansion through Church history looking at the Apostolic Fathers, martyrs, and other important figures in Church history |

**Behavior**

 As followers of Jesus Christ we are Kingdom people. We live our lives reflecting the Kingdom of God. In fact, in the Lord’s Prayer, we pray “your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven” (Matthew 6:10). As Kingdom people we are have God rule us by the Holy Spirit in such a way that we submit to Him in everything (Lord’s Day 48). Because of this, our behavior as Christians should reflect the Kingdom of God. Therefore, we are to be respectful to others in class, treating them as image bearers of God and fellow Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

 Though we are to act in such a way that we reflect the Kingdom, we don’t always. There is also need for rules. We will continue the “three strikes” policy. Each student will receive two warnings for disruptive behavior. On the third warning, the student shall be sent to the office with a “think sheet” to fill out and will have a conversation with the principal. Two or more dismissals shall result in a call to parents.

**Weebly**

 Access our Weebly site to find daily lessons, homework assignments, and other items and special events. God to lamontcs.weebly.com, hover over the “teacher” tab (a list of teachers will come up), hover over “Mr. Benton,” then choose “daily work.”

 The Weebly site for Bible isn’t set up just yet but will be soon. Please check it on a regular basis.

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Parents, after reading over the syllabus with your student, please fill out, then sign and date below. Please then cut/tear at the dashed lines and return this portion to me by class on September 8. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Parent’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Child’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Signature Date