



## **SAINTS & SCHOLARS PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Bible describes those who have a saving faith in Christ as “saints” and everyone, regardless of faith, could be described as a theologian. However, we are all in need of growing in Christ-likeness and in theological clarity. We all need to grow into our label as a “saint” and need to develop into biblically faithful scholars. The Saints and Scholars Program is a 29 week discipleship program that guides students through theological and biblical study in the context of community with the aim of spiritual formation.

### **PROGRAM GOALS**

The S&S Program seeks to offer a more advanced, higher commitment track of study within the Grace Road Institute. The program is designed to enhance the spiritual formation of the students by way of systematic theology, biblical theology, and spiritual discipline study. There will be lectures, readings, discussions, papers, and formation exercises.

### **BASIC INFO & SCHEDULE**

The S&S Program consists of a total of **29 weeks** over the course of a school year.

**Cost: \$100** (covers all books and materials)

**Tuesdays from 6-7:30 PM**

**Fall Semester (13 weeks): September 13th - December 13th**

*\*No class November 22 for Thanksgiving Week*

**Spring Semester (16 weeks): January 10th - May 9th**

*\*No class February 14 or 21*

## EXPECTATIONS

**1. Charity:** We could know all there is to know about all doctrine but without love for Jesus and love for one another, it is all for nothing (1 Cor. 13). Respect, grace, and patience for one another is expected of every student.

**2. Humility:** Students in the program will likely be at different places in their theological and biblical studies. Some will know more, some less. Some will demonstrate great critical thinking and eloquence, others less. However, we should all be humble in our studies. We will (hopefully) learn a lot, but **we all have a lot to learn.** It's ok—and often right—to say, “I don't know.”

**3. Commitment:** This is a high commitment program. While most students will be able to thrive in this program with hard work and determination, please do not over extend yourself by participating in the program and allowing other areas of your life to suffer. Should you commit to the program, however, you are expected to attend class, stay up to date with readings and assignments, and participate in discussions. **Students will be allowed to miss three (3) classes each semester. Missing more than three classes in a semester will result in the student being dropped from the program.**

## ASSIGNMENTS

### 1. Reading

In addition to assigned weekly Bible reading, all students will read a total of seven books and portions from others (roughly 1,100 pages of reading = average of about 38 pages a week).

Books to be read in their entirety:

Allison, Gregg R. *The Church: An Introduction*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2021.

Bray, Gerald. *The Attributes of God: An Introduction*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2021.

Cole, Graham A. *Faithful Theology: An Introduction*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2020.

Ortlund, Gavin. *Finding the Right Hills to Die On: The Case for Theological Triage*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2020.

Payne, J. D. *Theology of Mission: A Concise Biblical Theology*. Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2021.

Swain, Scott R. *The Trinity: An Introduction*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2020.

Wellum, Stephen J. *The Person of Christ: An Introduction*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2021.

Selected chapter and articles will also be read from:

Allison, Gregg R. and Andreas J. Köstenberger. *The Holy Spirit*. Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 2020.

Aquinas, Thomas. *Summa Theologica*.

Barrett, Matthew. "The Battle of the Will," Parts 1-4. *The Gospel Coalition* (www.thegospelcoalition.org)

Calvin, John. *Institutes of the Christian Religion*. Translated by Henry Beveridge. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 2008.

———. *Theological Treatises*. Translated by J. K. S. Reid. Philadelphia, PA: Westminster Press.

Carey, William. *An Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens*. 1792.

Coakley, John W. and Andrea Sterk, eds. *Readings in World Christian History, Volume 1: Earliest Christianity to 1453*. Maryknoll, NY: Orbis, 2021.

Johnson, Keith L. *Theology as Discipleship*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2015.

Kidner, Derek. *The Wisdom of Proverbs, Job, and Ecclesiastes*. Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 1985.

Luther, Martin. *The Bondage of the Will*.

Walsh, Gerald G. *The Apostolic Fathers*. Catholic University Press, 1947.

## 2. Deeper Discussion Questions (DDQ)

Consistently asking good questions about a text makes you a better reader. We all can get better at reading; the key is habitually reading more *actively*. You must cultivate a habit of curiosity, which makes everything you read more enjoyable. To facilitate this habit, we want you to bring questions to the text and form questions as you read. The dialogue you have with the text forms your discussion questions.

Each week, every student will upload one DDQ question to Pathwright by 9 am on Tuesday. Questions from your submissions will be incorporated into in-class discussions and play an integral part in the group learning process.

## 3. Formation Assignments

Theology is for all of life, therefore, theological and biblical study in discipleship is incomplete until it bears on our lives. There will be seven assignments that will aim at applying theology to our every

day lives. More details about each assignment will be given during the course of the program. These assignments are:

- A. Life Story Paper
- B. Sovereignty & Sabbath Reflection Paper
- C. Rhythms of Life Reflection Paper
- D. Letter from My Tempter Project
- E. Mission Project
- F. Prayer Assignment
- G. Final Reflection Paper