ESSENTIAL WRITINGS on CHURCH HISTORY AD 30-PRESENT



TEACHER GUIDE

Edited by Kevin Swanson & Joshua Schwisow



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COURSE INTRODUCTION

Summary

This one-year course provides students with the opportunity to study church history by reading some of the most influential writings from the history of the church. This course serves as both a history course and a literature course.

The major documents and writings that are studied in this course include:

- Selections from the Apostolic Fathers
- Eusebius' *Ecclesiastical History* (Books 1-8)
- Bede's Ecclesiastical History of the English People (Books 1-2)
- Phillip Schaff's *History of the Christian Church* (Selections from the Pre-Reformation and Reformation period)
- William's Carey's An Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians to Use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens

The student will also read summaries from each major period of church history as part of the reading assignments.

Assignments

This course consists of the following assignments:

- Daily reading assignments from Essential Writings on Church History
- Study questions for each reading assignment
- Essay assignments
- Exams at the end of major sections

Lesson Schedule

The lesson schedule included in this Teacher Guide/Student Workbook is a suggested schedule. Teachers and students may adapt the schedule to suit their needs.

Grading Assignments

The Teacher/Parent may determine how to grade the assignments. We offer these suggested guidelines to grade worksheets and exams. For each assignment, divide total number of questions correct with the total number of questions possible to calculate the percentage.

For example, if 8 out of 11 questions were correct, then the percentage grade for that assignment will be 72%.

8 / 11 = 72%

The following may be used for grade values:

90 to 100 percent = A 80-89 percent = B 70 to 79 percent = C 60 to 69 percent = D 0 to 59 percent = F

Credits

Upon successful completion of this course, we recommend assigning 1 credit for Literature and 1 credit for History.

For Christ's Kingdom,

Kevin Swanson & Joshua Schwisow The Generations Curriculum Team August, 2017 AD



SUGGESTED DAILY SCHEDULE

1st Semester—1st Quarter

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	\checkmark	Grade
	1	Read Introduction: Why Church is Important and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 1	3	Read The Early Church (To AD 400) and Complete Study Questions			
	4	Read Introduction to the Apostolic Fathers			
	5				
	1	Read The Didache			
	2	Complete The Didache Study Questions			
Week 2	3	Complete The Didache Study Questions			
	4	Read The Martyrdom of Polycarp			
	5	Complete The Martyrdom of Polycarp Study Questions			
	1	Complete The Martyrdom of Polycarp Study Questions			
~	2	Read The Epistle of Mathetes to Diognetus			
Week 3	3	Complete The Epistle of Mathetes to Diognetus Study Questions			
	4	Complete The Epistle of Mathetes to Diognetus Study Questions			
	5	Complete Essay Assignment for The Apostolic Fathers			



SUGGESTED DAILY SCHEDULE

1st Semester—1st Quarter

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	✓	Grade
	1	Complete Exam for The Apostolic Fathers			
	2	Read Eusebius - Book 1: Chapters 1-2 and Complete Study Questions			
Week 4	3	Read Eusebius - Book 1: Chapters 3-4 and Complete Study Questions			
>	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 1: Chapters 5-6 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 1: Chapters 7-8 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 5	3	Read Eusebius - Book 1: Chapters 9-12 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 1: Chapters 13 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 2: Introduction-Chapter 2 and Complete Study Questions			
Week 6	2				
	3	Read Eusebius - Book 2: Chapters 3-6 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 2: Chapters 7-14 and Complete Study Questions			



SUGGESTED DAILY SCHEDULE

1st Semester—1st Quarter

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	\checkmark	Grade
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 2: Chapters 15-20 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 7	3	Read Eusebius - Book 2: Chapters 21-25 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 2: Chapter 26 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 3: Chapters 1-5 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 8	3	Read Eusebius - Book 3: Chapters 6-7 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 3: Chapters 8-10 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 3: Chapters 11-20 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 9	3	Read Eusebius - Book 3: Chapters 21-24 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 3: Chapters 25-27 and Complete Study Questions			



SUGGESTED DAILY SCHEDULE

1st Semester—2nd Quarter

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	\checkmark	Grade
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 3: Chapters 28-35 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 1	3	Read Eusebius - Book 3: Chapters 36-39 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 4: Chapters 1-7 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 4: Chapters 8-14 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 2	3	Read Eusebius - Book 4: Chapter 15 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 4: Chapters 16-17 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 4: Chapters 18-23 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 3	3	Read Eusebius - Book 4: Chapters 24-30 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 5: Preliminary Introduction- Chapter 1 and Complete Study Questions			

$14\,$ – essential writings on church history



SUGGESTED DAILY SCHEDULE

1st Semester—2nd Quarter

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	\checkmark	Grade
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 5: Chapters 2-7 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 4	3	Read Eusebius - Book 5: Chapters 8-11 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 5: Chapters 12-14 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 5: Chapters 15-18 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 5	3	Read Eusebius - Book 5: Chapters 19-21 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 5: Chapters 22-25 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 5: Chapters 26-28 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 6	3	Read Eusebius - Book 6: Chapters 1-4 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 6: Chapters 5-12 and Complete Study Questions			



SUGGESTED DAILY SCHEDULE

1st Semester—2nd Quarter

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	\checkmark	Grade
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 6: Chapters 13-19 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 7	3	Read Eusebius - Book 6: Chapters 20-29 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 6: Chapters 30-40 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 6: Chapters 41-44 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 8	3	Read Eusebius - Book 7: Chapters 1-10 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 7: Chapters 11-18 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 7: Chapters 19-24 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 9	3	Read Eusebius - Book 7: Chapters 25-28 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 7: Chapters 29-32 and Complete Study Questions			

Mid-Term Grade



SUGGESTED DAILY SCHEDULE

2nd Semester—1st Quarter

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	\checkmark	Grade
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 8: Chapters 1-7 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 1	3	Read Eusebius - Book 8: Chapters 8-12 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Eusebius - Book 8: Chapters 13-16 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Eusebius - Book 8: Chapters 17-18 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 2	3	Complete Essay Assignment for Eusebius			
	4				
	5				
	1	Read The Middle Ages (AD 400-1400) and Complete Study Questions			
Week 3	2				
	3	Read Bede - Preface and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5				



SUGGESTED DAILY SCHEDULE

2nd Semester—1st Quarter

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	\checkmark	Grade
	1	Read Bede - Book 1: Chapters 1-5 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 4	3	Read Bede - Book 1: Chapters 6-8 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Bede - Book 1: Chapters 9-13 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Bede - Book 1: Chapters 14-19 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 5	3	Read Bede - Book 1: Chapters 20-24 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Bede - Book 1: Chapters 25-26 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Bede - Book 1: Chapters 27 and Complete Study Questions			
Week 6	2				
	3	Read Bede - Book 1: Chapters 28-34			
	4				
	5	Read Bede - Book 2: Chapters 1-2 and Complete Study Questions			



SUGGESTED DAILY SCHEDULE

2nd Semester—1st Quarter

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	\checkmark	Grade
	1	Read Bede - Book 2: Chapters 3-6 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 7	3	Read Bede - Book 2: Chapters 7-10 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Bede - Book 2: Chapters 11-12 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Bede - Book 2: Chapters 13-16 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 8	3	Read Bede - Book 2: Chapters 17-20 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Complete Essay Assignment for Bede			
	1	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book V: Sections 1-3 and Complete Study Questions			
Week 9	2				
	3	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book V: Sections 4-5 and Complete Study Questions		1	
	4				
	5	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book V: Section 6 and Complete Study Questions			



SUGGESTED DAILY SCHEDULE

2nd Semester—2nd Quarter

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	\checkmark	Grade
	1	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book V: Sections 7-8 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 1	3	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book V: Section 9 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book V: Section 10 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book V: Sections 11-12 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 2	3	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book V: Section 13 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book V: Section 14 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book VI: Section 1 and Complete Study Questions			
Week 3	2				
	3	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book VI: Section 2 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book VI: Sections 3-4 and Complete Study Questions			



SUGGESTED DAILY SCHEDULE

2nd Semester—2nd Quarter

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	\checkmark	Grade
	1	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book VI: Section 5 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 4	3	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book VI: Section 6 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book VI: Section 7 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Schaff The Late Middle Ages - Book VI: Section 8 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
Week 5	3	Complete Assignment for Schaff The Late Middle Ages			
	4	Read The Reformation (AD 1500-1600) and Complete Study Questions			
	5	Read Schaff The Reformation - Book VII: Sections 1-2 and Complete Study Questions			
	1	Read Schaff The Reformation - Book VII: Sections 3-6 and Complete Study Questions			
Week 6	2				
	3	Read Schaff The Reformation - Book VII: Sections 7-11 and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Schaff The Reformation - Book VII: Sections 12-16 and Complete Study Questions			



SUGGESTED DAILY SCHEDULE

1st Semester—2nd Quarter

Date	Day	Assignment	Due Date	\checkmark	Grade
Week 7	1	Read Schaff The Reformation - Book VII: Sections 17-22 and Complete Study Questions			
	2				
	3	Read Schaff The Reformation - Book VII: Section 23 and the 95 Theses and Complete Study Questions			
	4				
	5	Read Schaff The Reformation - Book VIII: Sections 1-6 and Complete Study Questions			
Week 8	1	Read Schaff The Reformation - Book VIII: Sections 7-8 and The Westminster Confession of Faith and Complete Study Questions			
	2	Complete Essay Assignment for Schaff The Reformation			
	3	Complete Exam for Schaff			
	4				
	5	Read The Post-Reformation Church: The Age of Revival, Apostasy, and the Worldwide Church and Section 1			
Week 9	1	Read The Post-Reformation Church: Section 2 William Carey			
	2				
	3	Complete Essay Assignment for The Post- Reformation Church			
	4				
	5				

Final Grade



INTRODUCTION

† Study Questions

1. What reasons does C.S. Lewis give to read the old books or the original sources?

2. What position does Christ hold in relation to the kingdoms of this world, according to Ephesians 1:22?

3. What are the seven themes that must be kept in mind as you complete this entire course on Church History?



THE EARLY CHURCH

(to AD 400)

† Study Questions

1. What is the first source to consult for studying the earliest history of the church?

2. What are some common characteristics of the Apostolic Fathers?

3. What was the worst persecution of the church during this era?

4. Why is this period called "the Patristic age"?

THE EARLY CHURCH - 27



THE DIDACHE

The Didache - Chapter 1

† Study Questions

1. What are the two ways in which people walk?

2. What are the two major commandments that constitute the way of life?

3. From what part of Jesus' teaching does the Didache draw?

4. What are the consequences to greed? Does the Didache speak of where the penalties are assessed?

& Chapter 2 – The Second Part of the Teaching

† Study Questions

1. Which of the Ten Commandments are covered in this chapter?

2. What are the sins of the pagans that are addressed here?

3. What is the completion of the hearing of the Word?

Chapter 3 – Further Advice to the Catechumen

† Study Questions

1. What are the roots and the fruits listed here?

2. What are the positive virtues commended?

3. What is the view of the Didache concerning the Sovereignty of God?

† Study Questions

1. What should constitute your relationship with your brothers and sisters in the church?

2. How do you interact with your pastor or elders? What do they do for you?

3. What should you teach your children? What is the basic theory on education in the early church? What biblical text backs this theory?

4. Whom does God call to salvation?

5. What is one of the important things you do in the church?

6. What is the "Ransom for sins?" Does this have biblical backing?

& Chapter 5 – The Way of Death

† Study Questions

1. What stands out in this summary of the way of darkness?

2. How are abortionists described in this chapter?

† Study Questions

1. What are the restrictions on food?

2. How do the authors look at the Old Testament law here?

† Study Questions

1. What are the basic requirements for the mode of baptism?

† Study Questions

- 1. How many times a day does the Didache recommend praying the Lord's prayer?
- 2. What part of the Lord's Prayer is not included in this version?

Chapter 9 – The Eucharist

† Study Questions

1. What does the Didache call the Lord's Supper and what does this word mean?

2. What is the one prerequisite for taking the Lord's Supper?

3. Who is holy vine of David? What comes out of vines? What comes out of the holy vine of David?

Chapter 10 – Prayer After the Feast

† Study Questions

1. What are the substantive confessions in this prayer after the Lord's Supper?

2. What is the prayer for the church?

3. Does the Didache teach transubstantiation where the elements turn into the body and blood of Christ?

† Study Questions

1. What is the effect of good teaching, according to the Didache?

2. What characterizes false prophets?

Chapter 12 – Traveling Christians

† Study Questions

1. Why does the Didache warn about showing hospitality to somebody for extended period of time?

Chapter 13 – Prophets who Desire to Remain

† Study Questions

1. What is the commandment concerning giving?

Chapter 14 – The Sunday Worship

† Study Questions

1. What are the elements of the worship service on the Lord's Day?

2. What is the other element of the Christian life that is essential before taking the Lord's Supper?

Chapter 15 – Bishops and Deacons

† Study Questions

1. How many offices are there in the church? What are they called?

2. What are the responsibilities of the church members?

† Study Questions

1. What is the best way to be watchful against the day of judgment?

2. What can we expect in the last days?

3. What can the saint look forward to, at the end?

† Summary Questions

1. What are the most important and fundamental teachings of the Christian church, according to the Didache? Do you agree or disagree with any of these core teachings?

2. What books of the Bible are referred to more than any other in the Didache? Matthew, Luke, James, Exodus, Leviticus, Deuteronomy.

† Application Questions

1. What are the indications that you are walking in the way of light vs. the way of death?

2. Do you walk disorderly? Are you idle and do you fail to work as all Christians are instructed to do? Or are you studying for your own "craft" and contributing to the household economy? Explain.

3. Does your church reflect some of these basic church practices? Do you pay your pastor? Do you baptize as they baptized? Does your church teach this way of life? Does your church have deacons and elders? Is your church prepared for the coming of the Lord?



THE MARTYRDOM OF POLYCARP

44 - THE MARTYRDOM OF POLYCARP

† Study Questions

1. Who authored this letter?

2. To whom did they write the letter?

3. What was the effect of Polycarp's martyrdom on the persecutions?

4. How do we know that Polycarp was willing to undergo martyrdom?

† Study Questions

1. How does this passage (2:1) speak to the sovereignty of God?

2. How were the martyrs able to suffer without crying or groaning?

3. What purchased for them an escape from the fires of hell? Why is this a failure to understand the doctrine of the atonement?

4. Why does the text refer to the martyrs as angels?

† Study Questions

1. How did Germanicus demonstrate courage?

† Study Questions

1. What was Quintus' first mistake?

2. What was Quintus' second mistake?

† Study Questions

1. How did Polycarp know that he would burned at the stake?

† Study Questions

1. Who turned Polycarp in to the authorities?

2. What was the name of the Captain of the Police?

† Study Questions

1. How did Polycarp show grace to the people who came to arrest him?

2. What was so amazing about the arrest (per the witnesses)?

† Study Questions

1. What did the authorities want him to confess? Why wouldn't he do it?

† Study Questions

1. Who told Polycarp to be strong?

2. How was Polycarp's confession contrary to what they wanted him to confess (9:2)?

3. How many years had Polycarp served Jesus Christ? What does this say about Polycarp's view of his childhood?

4. What does Polycarp believe about Jesus Christ (according to his confession)?

† Study Questions

1. What does Polycarp ask for from the proconsul?

2. Why didn't Polycarp want to defend himself before the people?

† Study Questions

1. What is repentance in Polycarp's view?

2. How does Polycarp present the doctrine of eternal punishment?

† Study Questions

1. Who in the crowd were calling for Polycarp's martyrdom?

2. What was it that encouraged Polycarp concerning his burning?

† Study Questions

1. What was the most impacting part of Polycarp's martyrdom for you?

52 - THE MARTYRDOM OF POLYCARP

2. Why did Polycarp bless God in his martyrdom?

3. Who prepared and executed this sacrifice (according to Polycarp)?

4. Some people today reject the idea that the body will be resurrected. What would Polycarp tell them?

5. Why did the men stab his body?

6. What happened to the fire?

† Study Questions

1. Who did Nietes think the Christians would start worshiping if they were able to obtain Polycarp's body?

2. For whom did Christ suffer and die, according to 17:2? Do these early believers from Polycarp's church in Smyrna believe that Christ died for the sins of every person and will save every person?

3. What was the heart motivation of the martyrs has they submitted to their martyrdom?

† Study Questions

1. Why did the early church celebrate or commemorate martyrdoms according to this passage?

† Study Questions

1. How many were martyred in Smyrna?

2. What are the titles used for Jesus Christ in this passage?

† Study Questions

1. Who elects his own servants?

2. How many times are the words "elect" or "election" used in this letter?

† Study Questions

1. Under whose reign did the arrest and martyrdom of Polycarp occur?

† Study Questions

1. Whom did Polycarp disciple?

† Summary Questions

1. What are the fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith upheld by this early church document?