



The First Academy Lower School Christian Studies

CHRISTIAN STUDIES

VISION

The purpose of the Christian Studies program at TFA is to provide an academic environment for students to know God through Jesus Christ and to grow in their faith. It is our belief that God is a personal God who reveals to humanity His nature, purpose in history, and love for all creation. At the center of our faith is the crucified and risen Jesus Christ and our belief that "...the Son of God became a man so that humanity could become children of God" (*Mere Christianity*, Lewis, C.S. (1943). The purpose of the Bible curriculum is to provide the framework for a study of God's Word, and allow students to apply Biblical principles and examples to the choices and issues they face each day. The focus of the intentional classroom instruction consist of a) knowledge of the Bible, b) application of Scripture, and c) discernment to think and reason from a Biblical worldview. The ultimate goal is to help students formulate a Christ-centered biblical worldview. (Col. 2:8).

STANDARDS

What a TFA student will know and be able to do in Bible:

- Gain an in-depth understanding of character and demonstrate an understanding of its importance in everyday life.
- Learn to apply Scripture directly to his/her own life situations through application principles.
- Understand the value the Lord places on each individual.
- Demonstrate an understanding and realization of the need to live a life of purity and wholeness in order to gain freedom to learn all that God has planned.
- Demonstrate an internalization of The First Academy's Mission statement, "...service before self and participation as a way of life" by actively engaging in service to the community.
- Value the reading, memorization and understanding of Scripture and demonstrate the ability to apply its truth to his/her life situations.
- Examine the nature of God through the teaching of Scripture.
- Explain God's desire for a personal relationship through Jesus Christ.
- Develop biblical literacy and knowledge of the Christian faith.

- Apply Christian practices to his/her life (prayer, Bible-study, fellowship, worship, evangelism, and service).
- Discern the competing worldviews that compete for his/her attention and loyalty.
- Defend the biblical and historic Christian faith in a pluralistic marketplace of ideas.
- Demonstrate understanding of God's Truth in Veritology, Science and History

Kindergarten Topics:

- Worldview—Wisdom: 1. God is truth and always tells us what is right and true 2. God is the only true and almighty God. 3. God is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. 4. God is the Creator.
- Bible Survey—a God's Good Plan--The Story of the Creation, the Fall, and God's Plan for Redemption: 1. The Creation and the Fall 2. Noah 3. Abraham 4. Isaac 5. Jacob 6. Joseph

First Grade Topics:

- Worldview—Fellowship: 1. God created people to be His children and to praise His glory. 2. God created people to need Him for everything. 3. Sin causes separation and disharmony between people and God. 4. Jesus died to restore fellowship and harmony between people and God.
- Bible Survey—God's Special People--The Calling and Forming of the Hebrew Nation: 1. Review of God's good plan 2. Moses and the Exodus 3. Joshua and the Conquest of Canaan 4. The Period of the Judges

Second Grade Topics:

- Worldview—Image-Bearing: 1. God created people in His image. 2. God placed a crown of glory and honor on each of His image-bearers. 3. Sin causes disharmony within each of God's image-bearers. 4. Jesus died to restore harmony within each of God's image-bearers.
- Bible Survey—God's Chosen Kings--The Kings of the United Hebrew Nation: 1. Review of God's Good Plan 2. Review of God's Special People 3. Samuel and King Saul 4. King David 5. King Solomon

Third Grade Topics:

- Worldview—Servanthood: 1. God created His image-bearers to love and serve one another 2. God made the family and nation in which His image-bearers are to live and serve each other 3. Sin causes disharmony among God's image-bearers 4. Jesus died to bring His image-bearers into a new family and nation of harmony called God's church.
- Bible Survey—God's Brave Messengers--The Prophets' Message to the Divided Hebrew Nation: 1. Review of God's Good Plan, God's Special People, and God's Chosen Kings 2. The Kings and Prophets of the Northern Kingdom 3. The Kings and Prophets of the Southern Kingdom 4. Life and Captivity and the Return to Judah

Fourth Grade Topics:

- Worldview—Stewardship: 1. God holds His creation together by His power 2. God created His image-bearers to rule over His earth. 3. Sin causes disharmony between God's image-bearers and the earth 4. Jesus died to restore harmony between God's image-bearers and the earth
- Bible Survey—God's Greatest Gift--The Life and Ministry of Jesus: 1. Review of God's Good Plan, God's Special People, God's Chosen Kings, and God's Brave Messengers 2. The Birth of Jesus 3. The Baptism and Temptation of Jesus 4. The Early Ministry of Jesus 5. The Later Ministry of Jesus 6. The Crucifixion of Jesus 7. The Resurrection

Fifth Grade Topics:

- Worldview—Worldview: 1. Introduction to Worldviews 2. The Biblical Christian Worldview 3. The Humanist Worldview 4. The New Age Worldview 5. The Islamic Worldview
- Bible Survey—God's New Family--The Birth and History of the Early Church: 1. Review of God's Good Plan, God's Special People, God's Chosen Kings, God's Brave Messengers, and God's Greatest Gift 2. The Birth of the Church 3. The Early Growth and Persecution of the Church 4. Paul's Conversion and Missionary Journeys 5. Paul's Arrest, Trials, and Imprisonment 5. An Introduction to Selected Epistles