

## **Life Application of Biblical Values**

This class is designed to aid in building a bridge between the discernment and identification of biblical values and their application in life through the process of ethical and moral decision-making. The in-class time has been designed to incorporate times of small group discussions of ethical issues and the development of an adequate foundation for decision-making. The study of specific biblical texts (including Exodus 20:1-21; Matthew 22:34-40; Matthew 5-7; Galatians 5:13-26; Romans 13:8-10) has been included as students seek to again make use of the principles-values-ethics pyramid as they explore and evaluate contemporary issues.

To prepare for class meetings participants are asked to read the assigned text(s) and be prepared to discuss them in class. As a catalyst to critical thinking various readings from outside sources will be suggested. Individual students might volunteer to read related articles or books and share their contents with the group.

### **Week One (Decalogue at Mt. Sinai):**

1. Introduction to the study of the ethical foundations found in the Ten Commandments.
  - a) Exodus 20:1-21
  - b) Reading assignments from the Old Testament— Exodus 20:1-11; 20:22-23:13; Deuteronomy 6:1-9, 20-25; Leviticus 19:9; Amos 5:11-15
  - c) Reading assignments from the New Testament— John 14:15, 21-24, 28-31a; Matthew 22:34-40; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
2. Books and articles for your review (choose at least one)
  - a) Sinai Summit, Rick Atchley, Chapters 1 & 2 (pp. 1-24)
  - b) Sinai Summit, Rick Atchley, Chapters 3 - 6 (pp. 25-99)
  - c) Any Absolutes? Absolutely! by Norman L. Geisler
  - d) Morality Apart From God: Is it Possible by Ray Cotton

### **Week Two (Sermon on the Mount):**

1. Introduction to the study of the ethical foundations found in the Sermon on the Mount.
  - a) Matthew 5 – 7
  - b) Reading assignments from the Old Testament— 1 Kings 19; Ecclesiastes 1:12-18; 2:1-11; 4:4-16; 5:8 – 6:30; 9:11 – 10:11; Proverbs 2
  - c) Reading assignments from the New Testament— Romans 6:1-14; 1 Peter 2:13-25; Galatians 3:19-25; Ephesians 4:17-5:21
2. Books and articles for your review (choose at least one)
  - a) Christian Counter-Culture, John R. W. Stott, *Matthew 5:17-20* (pp. 69-81)
  - b) Christian Counter-Culture, John R. W. Stott, *Matthew 5:3-12 AND Matthew 5:13-16* (pp. 30-68)
  - c) Ethics: Pick or Choose? Ray Cotton
  - d) An Approach to Christian Ethics by Gary DeLashmutt
  - e) Measuring Morality A Comparison of Ethical System by Erwin Lutzer

## **Integration of Biblical Principles**