



JESUS EXALTED + WORD EXPLAINED
EASTERN STAR CHURCH

JEWEL BIBLE INSTITUTE

About

Jewel Bible Institute is a ministry of Eastern Star Church's Christian Education Department. It functions as an institution of higher learning for the instruction of primarily adult students committed to the study of God's Word and growth in their discipleship journey in Christ.

Course Syllabus

"Do the Right Thing – Why Christian Ethics Matter"

Rev. Dr. Kimberly R. McElroy-Jones, Ph.D., DMin.

Fall 2025

Tuesdays 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Dates: September 16 – November 11, 2025

Location: Eastern Star Church – Cooper Road Campus

******Prerequisite: None***

Instructor's Name: Kimberly R. McElroy-Jones, PhD, D.Min., MHA, M.S., B.S., FACHE

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Office Hours & Location: by appointment only

Brief Faculty Bio:

Dr. Kimberly McElroy-Jones earned her Bachelor's Degree in Organizational Leadership and Supervision from Indiana University - Purdue University at Indianapolis in 2001. In addition, she earned a Master of Science degree in Adult Education from IU Indianapolis in 2004 and a Master of Health Administration degree from the University of Southern Indiana in 2013. Dr. Kim also earned a Ph.D. in Organization and Management from Capella University in Minneapolis, Minnesota. In 2015, she graduated with her Doctor of Ministry degree from United Theological Seminary in Dayton, Ohio.

Dr. Kim devotes a significant amount of time to volunteer pursuits, church activities and other community activities. Dr. McElroy-Jones is Chief Culture Officer at Health & Hospital Corporation and a Fellow of the American College of Health Care Executives. She is also a member of the boards of the United Northeast CDC, Firefly Children and Family Alliance, Hands of Hope, and the Avondale Meadows YMCA. Dr. Kim is a native of Indianapolis, and she is very passionate about improving the quality of life of others.

Course Description:

This course will teach you what the whole Bible teaches about which acts, attitudes, and personal character traits will receive God's approval and which ones do not. Christian ethics teaches us how to live. It is important to study Christian ethics so that we can know God's will better, and so that each day we can "walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him" (Colossians 1:10).

God delights in His own moral character, which is supremely good, unchanging, and eternal. His moral standards for human beings flow from his moral character, and therefore they apply to all people in all cultures for all of history.

One of the purposes of the Bible is to teach us how to live a life that is pleasing to God. Because it is the Word of God, the Bible is a higher authority in ethics than tradition, reason, experience, expected results, or subjective perceptions of guidance. While these other factors can never override the teaching of Scripture, they can still be helpful for us in making a wise decision.

Additionally, this course explores what it means to be a person of integrity and Spirit-led character in leadership and everyday life. Using *Ministerial Ethics* by T. Burton Pierce as our foundation, we will examine how ethical behavior is not just a matter of good judgment but a call to holiness and accountability. The course speaks to leaders and laypeople alike who desire to lead lives that reflect Christ in all areas—ministry, work, relationships, and society.

"... God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."
Acts 10:38 (NKJV)

Course Materials: Required Textbook

- *Ministerial Ethics: A Guide for Spirit-Filled Leaders* by T. Burton Pierce
- *The Holy Bible*

Additional Resources:

Supplemental handouts and Scripture references will be provided weekly.

Course Objectives:

The course objectives are related to the Bloom's Taxonomy framework that classifies the educational learning into levels of complexities and specificity. Through this course, students will understand, apply, analyze and evaluate the following:

- Define Christian ethics and their biblical foundation
- Identify ethical challenges in ministry and daily life
- Explore the role of the Holy Spirit in moral decision-making
- Apply ethical principles to real-world dilemmas
- Create a personal ethical framework rooted in Scripture and spiritual maturity

Student Learning Outcomes:

By contrast (with Course Objectives), Student Learning Outcomes are always concrete and measurable. These outcomes will translate high-level course objectives into measurable course-level outcomes in a way that students understand what the course intends for them to achieve. Student Learning Outcomes make clear to students and professors the standards that will be measured throughout the course, as students practice for mastery through a variety of formative, scaffolded learning activities, leading to assessments that measure student learning.

- Identify and declare a moral framework (religious, philosophical, theological, commercial) that will ground the assignments in the course.
- Choose a contemporary issue to which your selection applies
- Make use of action lists, calendar, and note-taking systems
- Develop competencies in self-directed research and writing activities
- Improve critical thinking skills (writing as thinking, discourse as thinking)
- Identify and collect reliable and credible sources of information

Teaching Methodology:

Andragogy is the preferred methodology for adults. This is a specific theoretical and practical approach, based on self-directed and autonomous learners and teachers as facilitators of learning. Instructional methods for this course may include videos, group exercises, case studies, lectures, guest speakers, and the use of practical application modeling.

Class Schedule

Week	Course Content	Reading & Assignments
1 9/16/25	Introductions Syllabus Review Review of Course Assignments Lecture – Chapter 1: <i>The New Morality of Christ: Ethics Defined</i>	Read Chapter 2 Complete 1-page weekly reflection
2 9/23/2025	Lecture – Chapter 2: <i>The Basis of Morality: The Ten Commandments</i>	Read Chapter 3 Complete 1-page weekly reflection
3 9/30/2025	Lecture – Chapter 3: <i>Transition from Law to Grace: The Sermon on the Mount</i>	Read Chapter 4 Complete 1-page weekly reflection Final Paper Summary Proposal
4 10/7/2025	Lecture – Chapter 4: <i>Ethical Concepts from Church History</i> Discussion – Case Studies on Ethics	Read Chapter 5 Complete 1-page weekly reflection Final Paper Outline
5 10/14/2025	Lecture – Chapter 5: <i>The Work of the Holy Spirit: The Minister's Response</i> Discussion: 3-page paper on Your Personal Ethical Framework and Presentation	Read Chapters 8 and 10 Complete 1-page weekly reflection Review paper and presentation guidelines
6 10/21/2025	Lecture: Chapter 8 - <i>The Minister and the Congregation: Providing Spiritual Leadership</i> Lecture: Chapter 10 - <i>The Minister and Money: Filthy Lucre in Clean Hands</i>	Read Chapter 11 Complete 1-page weekly reflection
10/28/2025	No Class - Revival	
7 11/4/2025	Lecture: Chapter 11: <i>The Minister and Sex: Joy and Jeopardy</i> Discussion – Planning for Presentations and Personal Ethical Frameworks	Final Paper and Presentation Reflection: What kind of ethical leader will you be?
8 11/11/1015	Final Presentations/Personal Ethical Frameworks	

Classroom Expectations:

- Engage in respectful and Spirit-led discussion
- Complete readings before class
- Come with a heart open to conviction, growth, and accountability

Grading Scale: **A = 90-100** **B = 80-89** **C = 70-79** **D = 60-69** **F = Below 60**

Assignment Guidelines

Note: Instructor will provide detailed instructions for each assignment in class as a handout.

Assignment Overview

Your Points	Points	Graded Assignments	Due Date
	50	Reflection Paper	September 23, 2025
	50	Reflection Paper	September 30, 2025
	50	Reflection Paper	October 7, 2025
	50	Reflection Paper	October 14, 2025
	50	Reflection Paper	October 21, 2025
	100	Final Paper Summary Proposal	October 7, 2025
	100	Final Paper Outline	October 14, 2025
	200	Final Paper	November 11, 2025
	150	Final PowerPoint for Presentation	November 11, 2025
	100	Attendance	Class duration
	100	Class Participation	Class duration
	1000 points		

Late Policy:

Attendance is a graded activity. Punctual students who attend the entire class will receive a total of 100 points over the semester. A student who arrives or leaves within 15 minutes after the start of class or before the end of class will receive a deduction of 7.5 points. A student who arrives or leaves more than 15 minutes after the start or before the end of class will receive a deduction of 5 points. An absent student will receive a zero grade. Attendance grades are factored into the student's overall grade for the course.

NOTE: May not miss more than 2 sessions in order to get a completion certificate.

<i>Attendance Rubric</i>			
Punctual and attends the entire class for each semester	Arrives 15 minutes late or departs 15 minutes early	Arrives more than 15 minutes late or departs more than 15 minutes early	Absent for each occurrence
100 points	-7.5 points	-5 points	-10 points

Course Disclaimers: The instructor reserves the option to modify and adjust the course syllabus and schedule based upon the need to ensure that the student learning outcomes are met.