

BN9009W Paul, the Cross-shaped Church, and its Mission (BN9709W – Online)

Offered: 2018: Semester 2 (Also available online Semester 2 as BN9709W)

This unit will examine the call of the church to participate in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus according to Paul's letters. The students will study key passages in Romans, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Philippians, and other Pauline letters concerning the call of the church to be conformed to the crucified Christ. The unit will explore the concept of participation in Christ and its interrelationship with the mission of the church in the Pauline corpus. More specifically, the unit will survey the outworking of the corporate life of cruciform Christ-communities in the first century, which includes hospitality, multi-ethnic harmony, economic justice, peace-making, faithful witness, and the embodiment of the justice of God in the context of the Roman Empire.

Upon successful completion of the unit, it is expected that students will be able to:

1. Articulate Paul's understanding of conformity with the crucified Christ and its relationship to the call and mission of the church.
2. Critically analyse relevant texts in the Pauline corpus in their rhetorical and socio-historical context.
3. Identify and articulate elements of Pauline thought and teaching that are interconnected with participation in Christ's death and resurrection.
4. Critically evaluate, through independent research, the concept of "participation in Christ" in view of recent developments in Pauline scholarship.
5. Reflect critically on the implications of the Pauline concept of conformity with the crucified Christ for the mission of the church today.

Prerequisites: Foundational unit in New Testament (BN1001W or equivalent)

Class Time: Three hours per week

Assessment:

Classroom:	One 1,000-word thematic tutorial paper	(20%)
	One 2,500-word exegetical essay	(40%)
	One 2,500-word thematic essay	(40%)

Online:	Online tutorial participation (at least five entries of approximately 200 words each) responding to set readings and peer interaction	(20%)
	One 2,500-word exegetical essay	(40%)
	One 2,500-word thematic essay	(40%)

Faculty: Siu Fung Wu

Recommended Reading:

* = set texts recommended for purchase

Campbell, Constantine R. *Paul and Union with Christ: An Exegetical and Theological Study*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012.

Campbell, Douglas A. *The Quest for Paul's Gospel: A Suggested Strategy*. London: T&T Clark, 2005.

Gaventa, Beverly Roberts. *Our Mother Saint Paul*. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 2007.

* Gorman, Michael J. *Inhabiting the Cruciform God: Kenosis, Justification, and Theosis in Paul's Narrative Soteriology*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2009.

* _____ *Becoming the Gospel: Paul, Participation, and Mission*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2015.

Hooker, Morna D. *From Adam to Christ: Essays on Paul*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1990.

Hooker, Morna D., and Frances M. Young. *Holiness and Mission: Learning from the Early Church About Mission in the City*. London: SCM Press, 2010.

Tannehill, Robert C. *Dying and Rising with Christ: A Study in Pauline Theology*. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock, 2006. [Previously published by Berlin: Alfred Töpelmann, 1967.]

Wright, N. T. *Paul and the Faithfulness of God*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 2013.

Wu, Siu Fung. *Suffering in Romans*. Eugene, OR: Pickwick, 2015.