



**C O V E N A N T**  
T H E O L O G I C A L S E M I N A R Y

**BS 6011 Sermon on the Mount**

WITH DISSERTATION THEORY OPTION

**Dr. Will Ryan**

# Covenant Theological Seminary

PO Box 1177 Greenville, NC 27835-1177 USA

[www.gocovenant.com](http://www.gocovenant.com)

## COMPLETED WORK IS TO BE SUBMITTED IN A SINGLE PDF DOCUMENT

1. A cover page which includes:
  - a. Name of course, author and instructor's name with title
  - b. Student's name, degree working toward, and the date completed
  - c. Facilitator's complete title/name the seminary's name and location (Greenville, NC)
2. Separate page & heading for each new section, capitalized at top center of that page SUMMARY, PRECIS, PAPER
3. All papers are to be typed with .5" margins using font & size: Calibri 11 pt. Summaries and book reports are to be double-spaced
4. Grading will be percentage based on questions, outlines, grammar, and theological and philosophical thought and execution of writing forms.

The file must be in Adobe PDF compatible format or it will be rejected. (5 MB is the maximum file size allowable.) A free PDF writer is available at [www.cutepdfwriter.com](http://www.cutepdfwriter.com). Once this file is installed on your PC, you simply Print the file and select CutePDF Writer as the "printer". You will be asked to name the file and select the location for the file. CutePDF Writer often precedes the file name with the name of the source software (i.e. Microsoft Word).

# COURSE ASSIGNMENT: BS 6011 Sermon on the Mount

## Textbook

*The Story of God Bible Commentary: Sermon on the Mount (Scot McKnight)*

ISBN: 978-0310327134

## Summary:

Emphasizing the historical distance between the New Testament and our contemporary culture, *The Sermon on the Mount* by Scot McKnight, part of the new *The Story of God Bible Commentary* series, offers helpful contextual insights for those seeking to discern how to live out the Bible in today's world. Perfect for pastors, students, Sunday school teachers, and lay people alike, this highly anticipated series provides a clear and compelling exposition of the text in the context of the Bible's overarching story. The authors move away from "application" language, which has been criticized as being too simplistic, encouraging instead a wider perspective and discussion of how the biblical story can be lived today.

Offering a new type of application commentary for today's context, the *Story of God Bible Commentary* series explains and illuminates Scripture as God's Story, with each New Testament text examined as embedded in its canonical and historical setting, in order to foster discernment in living the story faithfully and creatively with and for the Church in the 21st Century.

## 1. WATCH

- Intro & Beatitudes: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXPh7bHPg\\_4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXPh7bHPg_4)
- Fulfilling the Law: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXPh7bHPg\\_4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXPh7bHPg_4)
- Enemy Love: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXPh7bHPg\\_4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXPh7bHPg_4)
- Reconciling Violence: Yahweh and Jesus: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=soq1Pw2-k3o>
- Spiritual Disciplines: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGh694HZA6I>
- The Way of Discipleship: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NIHnDB8sU>

## 2. PRECIS

- Write a 2-page reflection and summary for each lecture. Combine into one document.
- Write a book report for the textbook. Pages according to degree work per degree for book report requirement:
  - Master: 5
  - Doctorate: 8

## 3. PAPER

- Write a paper on a pericope (not just 1 verse) from Matthew 5-7.
- Minimum pages and citations according to degree work per degree:
  - Master: 5
  - Doctorate: 8

## DOCTORAL RESEARCH STUDENTS DISSERTATION THEORY ASSIGNMENT:

- [Doctor of Theology](#)—ThD (*Requires a Dissertation*)
- [Doctor of Christian Education](#)—DCE (*Requires a Dissertation*)
- [Doctor of Christian Counseling](#)—DCC (*Requires a Dissertation*)

### READ ADDITIONAL TEXTBOOK:

*The Beatitudes Through the Ages* (Rebecka Ecklund)

ISBN: 978-0802876508

#### Summary:

The Beatitudes are among the most influential teachings in human history. For two millennia, they have appeared in poetry and politics, and in the thought of mystics and activists, as Christians and others have reflected on their meaning and shaped their lives according to the Beatitudes' wisdom.

But what does it mean to be hungry, or meek, or pure in heart? Is poverty a material condition or a spiritual one? And what does being *blessed* entail?

In this book, Rebekah Ecklund explores how the Beatitudes have affected readers across differing eras and contexts. From Matthew and Luke in the first century, to Martin Luther King Jr. and Billy Graham in the twentieth, Ecklund considers how men and women have understood and applied the Beatitudes to their own lives through the ages. Reading in the company of past readers helps us see how rich and multifaceted the Beatitudes truly are, illuminating what they might mean for us today.

### ASSIGNMENT DISSERTATION THEORY:

**Choose a beatitude and write 15 pages citing at least 15 sources and proposing at least one idea or argument as original as possible. The first page should separately represent your objectives and abstract for the following project.**

**Please use this LINK as a publications guide**

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## Course Summary

The Sermon on the Mount (as it was titled by Augustine) has been the center of Jesus' teaching for the church, yet the church of the modern era has wildly ignored its message. Jesus' message of the upside-down kingdom of God and what it looks like when his disciples live it out has been essentially lost in the modern context of the Western Church. This course explores the message that Jesus communicates as the core behaviors of the Kingdom and what it would look like to live as true followers and disciples of Jesus.

Topics that will be examined and explored in this course are the Beatitudes- are they actual attitudes or purely spiritual? How can we be salt and light, untangled to the world? Why is the heart so important to Jesus? What about loving enemies and violence- is Jesus a pacifist? What is the heart behind the spiritual disciplines of giving, praying, and fasting? Is Jesus talking about final judgement or discipleship in this (or both)?

In this course we'll look into these and much as we aim to be better followers and disciples of Jesus by looking at His meaning in the original context and applying it to our modern context. Join us to dive deeper into the Kingdom of God and the way of Jesus' life!