**Intro to Systematic Theology**

**Pastor David M. Choi, Spring 2019**

Contact: david.choi@aya.yale.edu

Location: Calvary Youth Ministry Center

Hours: 9:45am – 11:00am || Week B

Grades: 9-12

Discussion Section Location: Small Meeting Room

Discussion Facilitator: Kitty Fan

**Description**

This course is an introduction to systematic theology. Here we’ll be examining core doctrines of the Christian faith in relation to the revelation of biblical witness. For instance, we’ll cover topics like epistemology, hamartiology, atonement theories, Christology, Trinitarian theology, etc. Moreover, we’ll tend to the historical contexts in which certain doctrines were formed, as well as the key figures who played seismic roles in (re)shaping them. While most of this class is engaged with modern Protestant theologians, we’ll also be dialoguing with the broader Christian tradition; thus, you’ll find Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox voices entering into our discussions as well. *We approach theology not merely as an intellectual discipline (1 Cor. 8:1), but as divine gift given for the edification of the church and life of discipleship.*

**Objectives**

1. To become acquainted with the theological task

2. To start thinking about God, self, and world in and through a theological framework

3. To critically engage theologians and philosophers through close reading of primary texts

4. To develop an appreciation for Christian tradition

5. To be transformed by the renewing of mind (Rom. 12:2)

**Discussion Group**

Sunday school classes meet bi-weekly (or every other week). Systematic Theology class meets on B weeks, which means there are no classes on A weeks. Instead, on (A week) Sunday, you will have a discussion section, housed in the small meeting room right next to the library. There students will take turns in leading discussion. The discussion leader will come up with five reflection questions from the reading. Questions should be emailed to Pastor David for review by (A week) Friday evening. Note: a youth group leader (i.e. “discussion facilitator”) will be present at every meeting to oversee discussion time. Please make sure to show up on time, to have thoughtful reflections ready to share, and to be engaged. (Remember you’ll only get out what you’re willing to put in!)

**Apostles’ Creed**

I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth: and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Texts**

Barth, Karl. *Dogmatics in Outline*. New York: Harper & Row Publishers, 1959.

Johnson, Keith. *Theology as Discipleship*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2015.

**Schedule**

1/6 – Discussion | Leader: Kitty Fan

1/13 – Trinity Pt. 1

 Barth, pp.35-41

1/20 – Discussion | Leader: Daniel Xiao

 Johnson, pp.109-132

1/27 – Trinity Pt. 2

 Barth, pp.42-45

2/3 – Discussion | Leader: Gabby Wincherhern

2/10 – Creation

 Barth, pp.50-64

2/17 – Discussion | Leader: Niki Zheng

 Johnson, pp.133-154

2/24 – Free-Will or Providence?

 Barth, pp.46-49

3/3 – Discussion | Leader: Kelvin Lin

3/10 – The Problem of Evil

3/17 – Discussion | Leader: Wendy Zhang

3/24 – The Image of God

3/31 – Discussion | Leader: Vivian Wincherhern

4/7 – Christology Pt. 1

 Barth, pp.65-100

4/14 – Discussion | Leader: Ben Zheng

4/21 – NO SUNDAY SCHOOL (Joint Service)

4/28 – Christology Pt. 2

 Barth, pp.101-136

5/5 – Discussion | Leader: Daniel Xiao

 Johnson, pp.155-187

5/12 – Holy Spirit

 Barth, pp.137-140

5/19 – Discussion | Leader: Wendy Zhang

5/26 - Church + Sacraments

 Barth, pp.141-155