READING SCHEDULE – MODULE 1/PART2

Textbook Reading
☐ Kapic, ch. 2 (pp. 21-29) ☐ Grudem, ch. 1 (pp. 1-17)
Supplemental Reading (After Lecture Material)
☐ "Why Doctrine Matters" - https://www.crosswalk.com/church/pastors-or-leadership/why-doctrine-matters-1233758.html

Study Guide

For Kapic pp. 21-29

Chapter 2 – *To Know and Enjoy God*

- What determines the degree to which we enjoy God, according to Kapic? Do you agree?
- What point does Kapic make from the Augustine quote? How does this quote apply in your own life?
- How does theology contribute to worship?
- How does Kapic define "knowledge" in theology? What difference does this make for the way we should do theology?
- How does Calvin connect knowledge of God and knowledge of ourselves? How does Kapic apply this insight to worship?
- How does Kapic connect knowledge of God and knowledge of everything else? How does this influence our worship and our lifestyle?
- What is the "Fear of the Lord", and how does it contribute to our theological task? What distinguishes the wise from the foolish, according to Kapic? And how does this relate to the idea of "thinking God's thoughts after Him"?
- How does each quote in a blurb box summarize or contribute to the teaching of this chapter? Which stood out to you most? Why? What difference does it make for

For Grudem pp. 1-17

Chapter 1 – *Introduction to Systematic Theology*

- What are the three questions which this chapter addresses?
- According to Grudem, what is systematic theology? By this definition, what application does systematic theology have for everyday life?
- Why does Grudem not make historical theology, philosophical theology or apologetics the focus of his study? Do you agree? Why or why not?
- What is the relationship of systematic theology to Christian ethics? What difference does this make?
- What is the relationship of systematic theology to Biblical theology? How do they reinforce each other?

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- What point does Grudem make about connecting systematic theology to application? How does should this insight impact the way you study systematic theology?
- Summarize in your own words the four ways that Grudem claims his work differs from the "disorganized" theology that most Christians do on a regular basis.
- How does Grudem define "doctrine"? What is the relationship of "doctrine" to "systematic theology"? What are the three criteria Grudem uses for including particular doctrines in his work?
- How does Grudem distinguish "Major and minor doctrines"? Do you think this distinction is helpful? What ideas would you put in either category?
- Summarize Grudem's two initial assumptions in your own words. Do you agree? How would the task of theology be different if someone rejected these assumptions?
- What is the basic reason why Christians should study theology? How does this apply to your own life and ministry? In what ways should you improve in this area?
- Summarize in your own words the three benefits of studying theology which Grudem describes. In what ways would you desire to see this work out in your own life?
- What is the objection that some have made to Grudem's approach to systematic theology? Why did they make it? How does Grudem respond? Do you agree with his conviction? Why or why not?
- Why is prayer important to the study of theology, according to Grudem? Do you agree? How should this contribute to the way you approach and do theology?
- What danger inherent in studying theology does humility protect us from? Have you observed (or been) someone who fell to this danger? How does humility protect from this? How should you apply this insight to your own life?
- How does Grudem define "reason" in terms of doing theology? What are the good uses and the dangerous uses of reason in theology, according to Grudem? What difference should this make in your own theological study and teaching?
- What are the two main ways that Grudem highlights by which we may find help from others in our theological study? To what extent do you make use of each of these? How can you improve in each area?
- Summarize in your own words each of the steps Grudem gives for collecting and understanding all the relevant Bible passages on a topic. Is there anything that would limit your ability to do these? If so, how can you overcome the limitation?
- What is the final way Grudem mentions that we should study theology? Why do you think that this is important? How can you apply this insight in your own theological study?
- Review and reflect on the "Review Questions" and "Questions for Personal Application."