



## Cincinnati Hills Christian Academy Armleder School - Christian Studies *Grades K – 6 Scope and Sequence*

**Vision:** At the heart of our Christian faith is the belief that God is a personal God who reveals to humanity His nature, His redemptive purpose in history, and His love for all creation. Also central to our faith is the crucified and risen Jesus Christ and our belief that the “son of God became a man so that humanity could become children of God” (C.S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*). It is our conviction that in understanding the incarnate God we come to understand our own nature and purpose, for we are created in God’s image. Given these core convictions, the purpose of the Christian Studies curriculum is to create an environment in which we listen to God speak to us through the words of Scripture, encourage a love of learning and the exercise of reason, gain wisdom from the historic voices and traditions of the Church, and seek to understand our own human experience within this world. The goals of this curriculum are therefore to (i) develop the student holistically; (ii) allow students to articulate a distinctly Christian world view; and (iii) encourage students to pursue excellence in order to engage God’s world.

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**Standards:** What a CHCA student will know and be able to do in **Christian Studies** ● Explain God’s love for humanity and a desire for a relationship which yields a life lived in imitation and service to Christ. ● Explain God’s purpose in restoring humanity and creation into right relationship and humanity’s participation in building the Kingdom of God. ● Explain the role and value of Scripture, reason, tradition, and experience in theologically forming a Christian world view. ● Explain the nature of the triune God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. ● Explain the unique nature of Christ as fully divine and fully human. ● Explain the tools and steps in the responsible reading and interpretation of Scripture and its application to life. ● Explain the nature of humanity as made in the image of God yet fallen. ● Explain God’s redemptive work through Christ for salvation. ● Explain the importance of spiritual formation through classic spiritual disciplines including prayer, meditation, fasting, study, simplicity, solitude, submission, service, confession, worship, guidance and celebration. ● Explain the relevance of Church history and historical theology in the formation of faith and appreciation for the diversity of God’s Kingdom. ● Explain the importance of applying a theologically formed Christian world view into ethics, service and every aspect of vocation and life.

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**Kindergarten Topics:** Christian Studies at this level focuses on student understanding that God uniquely created all of us, and He loves us. Character development is emphasized as students learn the impact of their daily choices on their relationship with God as well as with one another. Students practice prayer and look for God’s answers. The steps to salvation are explained and Bible stories are taught and discussed, always with the purpose of applying the lessons to their lives. Scripture is also integrated into all subject areas. Students participate in service projects to grow their faith. Students regularly memorize Scripture and attend weekly chapels.

**Grade 1 Topics:** Attributes of God; Scripture memory verses; Prayer: group and individual; Plan of salvation including consequences of sin and need for forgiveness; Bible: Old and New Testament as major divisions; Bible stories focus on God’s gifts to us; Biblical truths integrated into all subject areas; Christian attributes: trust, patience, obedience, honesty, diligence, kindness; service projects; Christian holidays: Christmas and Easter.



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**Grade 2 Topics:** Attributes of God: loving, caring father; Christian attributes: seen in character traits of key biblical figures; Bible: structure of and use of table of contents; sin: concept of and need for forgiveness; prayer and worship: group and individual; life skills: apply biblical knowledge to life problems; Christian holidays: Purpose of Christ's birth, death and resurrection; Scripture memorization; service projects.

**Grade 3 Topics:** Attributes of God: the Trinity; worship and prayer: group and individual; study of the OT books of the Bible; life of Jesus: His message, parables, miracles, and life events; "Portraits of Faith" biographies; Bible: division of and reference skills; biblical truths: sin, forgiveness, plan of salvation; biblical choices: friendships, obedience; Christian holidays: events leading to Christmas and Easter; Scripture memorization; service projects.

**Grade 4 Topics:** Attributes of God: All Knowing; Bible: divisions and structure of, resource and reference tools, timeline of major Bible figures; plan of salvation; biblical principles and personal applications; Prayer: daily opportunity to communicate with God; Christian holidays: essential facts of Christmas and Easter; Scripture memorization; service projects.

**Grade 5 Topics:** Students better understand the trinity by focusing on the life and ministry of Jesus Christ as presented in the gospels. Students also study the four gospel writers, the origins and significance of baptism, and the events leading up to the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Additionally, students engage in the study of the character of Jesus as well as His life, teachings, resurrection, and significance in our lives today.

**Grade 6 Topics:** Students study the birth, establishment, and purpose of the Early Christian Church as chronicled in the book of Acts. In addition, students explore topics such as the religious and cultural effects of cities/regions represented in the Epistles, the inclusion of non-Jews in the Church, geography and background for Paul's missionary journeys, and how the Early Church represented a fulfillment of the Great Commission given by Christ before his ascension. Through this course, students better understand the role of believers in the spread of the Kingdom of God with emphasis on evangelism as a vocation in the kingdom.