

**READING:** Become fully familiar with your Syllabus and BIO 2500 [Home Page](#).

**OVERVIEW:** Page 1 of your Syllabus provides a “RATIONALE AND OBJECTIVES” for BIO 2500. Take time to read carefully and try to understand the rationale for how the course is designed both from a Scriptural basis as well as a scientific basis. Then, pages 2 to 6 address the IMPLEMENTATION of the objectives through personal commitment and effort on the part of all of us. Give consideration to the THEMES listed below as you read the Syllabus.

### THEMES OF

**BIO 2500:** **The following “themes” will be highlighted as we discuss the Syllabus:**

1. Creation is explained by a supernatural creation (origin) and revelation.
2. Humankind has responsibility as stewards of the created world.
3. Botany is an essential “channel” of knowledge for stewardship.
4. Plants have a dominant part in the structure and function of creation.
5. BIO 2500 will focus upon achieving eleven (10) major objectives.
6. Learning success in BIO 2500 will depend upon personal commitment to God, to professor, and to the “community of learners” in the class.
7. Four “learning settings” are offered in BIO 2500 as described, pp 2-3.
8. Challenges are stated to help you plan and focus your study efforts for each of the four “learning settings (see 7.)
9. Assessment strategies for determining your level of mastery of concepts and skills are also listed for each “learning setting.” Your success in learning will depend upon the quantity and quality of your responses to the CHALLENGES listed on pp. 2-3.
9. Developing a Study Plan is important and involves discipline in use of time, information resources (text, study guide, etc.), and the four kinds of settings for learning noted above and in Syllabus, pp. 2-3.
10. A “Journal” approach such as described in the “Study Plan” can provide a tangible and organized record of your learning for later study and review.
11. The laboratory experience with its “inquiry approach” to learning about plants and other autotrophs will expand and enhance your learning in other learning settings of the course.
12. Cooperative learning is an important component of BIO 2500 because of its role in enhancing learning and in development of interpersonal skills through class discussion and completion of a laboratory inquiry project (BLIP).

### INTERNET

**RESOURCES:** Your assignment also includes a request for you to take time to become familiar with the BIO 2500 web page and links to various resources including your Study Guide, WebCt, etc. Study Guides are generally available as “pdf” files accessible via links to the “Course Schedule and Study Guides.” See SA #1 and your Syllabus, page 2, for more details on “Getting Started.”