



DEVELOPMENT OUTLOOK

by Paul F. Martinez

Shouldn't all ministers be spiritually mature?

Help AGTS students develop spiritual maturity and growth for effective ministry in the 21st Century.




A district superintendent recently mentioned, "We need to have more opportunities for students not just to obtain ministry skills, but to address formational issues." Personal spiritual maturity is a vital element for effectiveness in ministry. Without leaders committed to their own spiritual formation, leadership and ministry become hollow and anemic. The spiritual formation program at AGTS gives students an opportunity to mature spiritually.

The Seminary is deeply committed to providing resources and funding for students in the area of spiritual formation. Over the next two years, AGTS has budgeted nearly \$180,000 for implementation of its spiritual formation program. Included in this program is a battery of assessment tools for every resident student enrolled at the Seminary.

While AGTS has committed resources and personnel to the spiritual formation program, we need your assistance. The series of assessment tools alone costs \$75 per student per year. Would you consider making a donation to provide these tools to AGTS students?

- A monthly gift of \$100 will serve 16 students.
- A monthly gift of \$50 will serve 8 students.
- A monthly gift of \$25 will serve 4 students.

AGTS has over 310 resident students enrolled this semester. With partners like you, AGTS can meet this pressing need. 

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE
IN A MANNER MOST
CONVENIENT FOR YOU:

MAIL:

Send to AGTS, 1435 N. Glenstone Ave.,
Springfield, MO 65802

TELEPHONE (CREDIT CARD):

Call 800-467-AGTS or 417-268-1000
and ask for the Business Office

ONLINE DONATION (CREDIT CARD):

www.agts.edu/partners/donate_online.html

Facilitating Intentional Spiritual Growth



- Prayerfully and honestly reflect on your present spiritual formation.
- Reflect on the highlights of your spiritual journey through some appreciative questions. Recognize what helped you grow in the past and what you might need to do to recreate a climate of growth for the future.
- At what point in your life did you feel closest to God? Why? (What was going on, or what were you doing, to be where you were spiritually?)
- Give one example of -when something you did most exemplified your faith.
- Without being humble, describe what you value most about your spiritual life.
- Describe your three concrete wishes/future goals for your spiritual life.
- Select some specific goals for growth and determine practical and realistic steps to accomplish the goals.
- Select one new discipline to begin practicing.
- Find a spiritual mentor or accountability partner.

Recommended reading on Spiritual Formation

- *The Life You've Always Wanted: Spiritual Disciplines for Ordinary People* by John Ortberg.
- *A Work of Heart: Understanding How God Shapes Spiritual Leaders* by Reggie McNeal.
- *Disciplines of the Holy Spirit: How to Connect to the Spirit's Power and Presence* by Siang-Yang Tan and Douglas Gregg.
- *Conformed to His Image: Biblical and Practical Approaches to Spiritual Formation* by Kenneth Boa.
- *In the Name of Jesus* by Henri Nouwen. 