

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Continuing Education Course
Springfield, Missouri
July 21-25, 2003

MHTM 529/PTHM 527/THEM 545 THEOLOGY OF MISSION
(3 Credits)

Jim Bennett, D.Miss.

Summer 2003

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

An examination of the mission of the Church and various models of Christian missions from Biblical, theological, and historical perspectives. This interdisciplinary study, integrating theory and praxis, is designed to move the student toward a more responsible understanding, imaging, and proclamation of the Kingdom of God in the diverse cultural milieus of our global village.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to

1. Present the Biblical and theological basis of the mission of the Church in the world.
2. Understand and explain basic paradigms in the theology of mission.
3. Understand and analyze contemporary challenges in the theology of mission.
4. Understand and respond to a personal role in the mission of the Church.
5. Define and articulate clearly the missionary task.
6. Understand and develop biblically sound guidelines for the fulfillment of the mission given to the Church.

TEXTBOOKS

Van Engen, Charles, *Mission on the Way: Issues in Mission Theology*, Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1996.

Winter, Ralph D. and Steven C. Hawthorne, eds. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*, Third edition. Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1999.

York, John V., *Missions in the Age of the Spirit*. Springfield: Logion, 2000.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology will include lectures, guest presenters, class discussions, small group discussions, collateral reading, and applied research.

COURSE CONTENT

SECTION ONE: An Introduction to the Study of Mission

SECTION TWO: The Need for a Theology of the Church and Its Mission

SECTION THREE: Defining Key Issues

SECTION FOUR: Foundations of the Missio Dei

SECTION FIVE: The Old Testament and the Missio Dei

SECTION SIX: The New Testament and the Missio Dei

SECTION SEVEN: Changing Historical Paradigms in Mission

SECTION EIGHT: Contemporary Challenges to Mission

SECTION NINE: The Missionary and the Mission

- The Local Church
- The Sending Agency
- The Missionary

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- A. Attendance, preparation, and consistent participation in class activities.
- B. *Missions in the Age of the Spirit*: Read and write a two-page evaluative interaction of the book. On the cover page of the evaluation, state clearly how thoroughly you read the assigned book. **(Due: July 21, 2003)**
- C. *Mission on the Way: Issues in Mission Theology*: Read and write a two-page evaluative interaction of the book. On the cover page of the evaluation, state clearly how thoroughly you read the book. **(Due: July 21, 2003)**
- D. *Perspectives on the World Christian Movement*: Read the assigned articles in each of the four major divisions of the reader. Write a two to three page evaluative interaction with the articles in each major division. On the cover page of each evaluation, state clearly how thoroughly you read the assigned articles. **(Due: July 21, 2003)**

Selected reading assignments from *Perspectives* text:

- Division One: “The Biblical Perspective”
Assigned Articles: 1,2,4,5,9,13,14,17, 20,21,25,26,27.
- Division Two: “The Historical Perspective”

Assigned Articles: 33, 35, 37, 40, 44, 45, 50.

- Division Three: “The Cultural Perspective”
Assigned Articles: 54, 55, 56, 59, 61, 62, 65, 66, 68, 69.

- Division Four: “The Strategic Perspective”
Assigned Articles: 72, 77, 78, 81, 85, 87, 89, 91, 94, 95, 96, 102, 103, 107, 109, 111, 112, 115, 119, 120, 123.

All of the above evaluations are due at the beginning of the first day of class, July 21, 2003. Each report should be typed and double-spaced.

- E. A 12 - 15 page paper written **exclusively** for this course. Good research, careful documentation, and Turabian format are expected.
(Due: October 25, 2003)

- F. Satisfactorily complete the final examination.

GRADING PROCEDURE

ASSIGNMENT	GRADE VALUE
Class Participation	25%
Textbook Interactions	25%
Final Examination	25%
Post-Session Paper	25%
Total Percentage Possible	100%

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Allen, Roland. *The Ministry of the Spirit*. Grand Rapids, Michigan, Eerdmans, 1960.
- Anderson, Sir Norman. *Christianity and World Religions*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1984.
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- Blauw, Johannes. *The Missionary Nature of the Church*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 1974.
- Bosch, David J. *Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission*: Maryknoll, New York: Orbis Books, 1994.
- Coleman, Robert E. *The Master's Way of Personal Evangelism*. Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway Books, 1997
- Contras, Orlando. *The Church and Its Mission: A Shattering Critique From the Third World*. Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, 1974.
- Culver, Robert Duncan. *A Greater Commission: A Theology for World Missions*. Chicago: Moody, 1984.
- Dempster, Murray A., Klaus, Byron D., and Petersen, Douglas, eds. *Called and Empowered: Global Mission in Pentecostal Perspective*. Peabody, Massachusetts: Hendrickson Publishers, 1991.
- _____. *The Globalization of Pentecostalism: A Religion Made to Travel*. Irvine, CA: Regnum Books International, 1999.
- DeRidder, Richard R. *Discipling the Nations*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1975.
- Gaukroger, Stephen. *Your Mission, Should you Accept it...: An Introduction for World Christians*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 1996
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- Greenway, Roger S., Kayle, John E., and McGavran, Donald A. *Missions Now: This Generation*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1990.
- Guder, Darrell L., ed. *Missional Church: A Vision for the Sending of the Church in North America*. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1998.

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- Hesselgrave, David J. *Today's Choices for Tomorrow's Mission: An Evangelical Perspective on Trends and Issues in Missions*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1988.
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- _____. *Toward Rediscovering the Old Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1978.
- Kane, Herbert. *Christian Missions in Biblical Perspective*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1976.
- _____. *Understanding Christian Missions*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1986.
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- Köstenberger, Andreas J. and O'Brien, Peter T. *Salvation to the Ends of the Earth: A Biblical Theology of Mission*. Downers Grove, Illinois: InterVarsity Press, 2001.
- Ladd, George E. *The Gospel of the Kingdom*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1975.
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- Petersen, Douglas. *Not by Might nor by Power: A Pentecostal Theology of Social Concern in*

- Latin America*. Irvine, CA: Regnum Books International, 1996.
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- _____. *Good News of the Kingdom*. Mary Knoll:Orbis Books, 1993.
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SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by Dr. Jim Bennett, April 29, 2003