

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
Doctor of Ministry Program

PTH 954 LEADING THE MISSIONAL CHURCH

February 3-7, 2003

Dr. Steve Lim

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines how the Church can more successfully fulfill its great mission of evangelism and disciple-making. Identifying the hindrances to these vital goals, it comprehensively evaluates principles, strategies, means, and models for achieving greater effectiveness. It proposes witness and preaching which recognizes the relevance of the gospel for individual and societal needs. Also it explores values and practices of a disciple in spiritual life, daily living, relationships, and servanthood, as well as the connection between personal growth and discipleship.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

1. Understand how Jesus and the early church evangelized and discipled.
2. Identify the hindrances to contemporary evangelism and discipleship.
3. Comprehend the cultural and generational contexts in which the Church proclaims the gospel.
4. Recognize the relevance of the gospel for individual and societal needs.
5. Enhance the effectiveness of personal witness, preaching and corporate evangelism.
6. Design an outreach strategy for a specific ministry context.
7. Discover the motivation, means, and models of discipleship.
8. Accept the challenge of developing holistic disciples.
9. Appreciate the relationship between personal growth and discipleship.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Discipleship

Barna, George. *Growing True Disciples*. Colorado Springs, CO: WaterBrook Press, 2001. (168 pp.)

Cloud, Henry and John Townsend. *How People Grow*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing Company, 2001. (355 pp.)

Coleman, Robert E. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Grand Rapids, MI: Fleming H. Revell—Spire (Baker Book House), 2001. (102 pp.)

Willard, Dallas. *The Divine Conspiracy*. San Francisco: Harper San Francisco, 1998. **Read chapters 1-3, 8, 9.** (200 pp.)

Evangelism

Hunter, George G. *The Celtic Way of Evangelism: How Christianity Can Reach the West...Again*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press, 2000. (112 pp.)

Mittleberg, Mark. *Building a Contagious Congregation: Revolutionizing the Way We View and Do Evangelism*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 2000 (378pp)

Sider, Ronald J, Philip N. Olsen, and Heidi Rolland Unruh. *Churches that Make a Difference: Reaching Your Community with Good News and Good Works*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 2002 (303 pp.)

Alternative Reading: If you have read any of the required textbooks, substitute the equivalent number of pages from the recommended readings below.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

Barnett, Matthew. *The Church that Never Sleeps*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2000.

Richardson, Rick. *Evangelism Outside of the Box*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2000.

COURSE OUTLINE

- I. BIBLICAL EVANGELISM AND DISCIPLESHIP
- II. HINDRANCES TO EVANGELISM
- III. MEANS OF EVANGELISM

- IV. KEYS TO EFFECTIVE EVANGELISM
- V. HINDRANCES TO DISCIPLESHIP
- VII. THE PROCESS AND MEANS OF DISCIPLESHIP
- VIII. CONTEMPORARY MODELS OF DISCIPLESHIP
- VIII. WHOLISTIC DISCIPLESHIP
 - A. SPIRITUAL LIFE
 - B. DAILY LIVING
 - C. RELATIONSHIPS
 - D. SERVANTHOOD
- IX. DISCIPLESHIP AND PERSONAL GROWTH

METHODOLOGY

Class and small group discussions, student presentations, supplementary readings, surveys, video, and lectures will be used to facilitate learning. Projects will be assigned which encourage students to integrate the concepts that they have learned.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Pre-session

Read the required textbooks and submit a two-page typewritten “Reading Analysis” for each. Briefly summarize the insights that were most valuable to you. Assess the strengths and limitations of the book, and its overall value to you. These are **due at the beginning of the first class session**. The value of a one-week intensive module is multiplied when you have had prior opportunity to interact with the material and reflect on it.

Session

Share your experiences in becoming a Christian and developing as a disciple. Share your experiences—successes and struggles—in evangelism and disciple-making. Engage other participants in meaningful discussion on readings and course topics. Make one or two short presentations from selected materials in the supplementary readings which will be provided in class.

Post-session

1. Design an **outreach strategy** for a **specific ministry context** (10 to 12 pages typewritten, double-spaced, 1” margins, 12 font). This may be a church or ministry in which you had past or have present involvement, or it may be an anticipated ministry in your future. This project should integrate the insights gained from your reading, class participation, and experiences in outreach.
 - a. Briefly describe the ministry context in terms of generations, worldviews, and the cultural mosaic.
 - b. Describe the evangelistic strategies you would employ, and explain why you are choosing them and excluding others.
 - c. Design a plan (and approximate time frame) for acquiring and developing the knowledge, skills, personnel, programs, and other resources necessary to accomplish your goal.

2. Choose a **discipleship** topic from the detailed Course Outline (to be provided in class), and prepare a **research paper** (10 to 12 pages typewritten, double-spaced, 1” margins, 12 font). The bibliography should contain a minimum of 8 sources and be reflected in the endnotes.

Good writing is expected in all doctoral courses. Be sure to thoroughly edit and revise your work. You will also find it helpful to ask several individuals knowledgeable in English to edit your writing as well.

GRADING PROCEDURE

Reading analyses	10%
Class participation	10%
Outreach strategy	40%
Discipleship research paper	40%

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

This will be distributed on the first day of the course.

SPECIFIC DATA

Prepared by Dr. Steve Lim, October 7, 2002