

Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
Doctor of Ministry Core Course 2
PTH 902 *Biblical Theology of Ministry*
Cohorts 10 & 11
February 9-13, 2004
Core 2 Faculty Team

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The study of selected biblical texts and themes to locate the theological foundations of ministry. Investigation will be conducted from multiple perspectives, including exegesis and biblical theology, for the purpose of developing a personal and contextualized biblical theology of ministry.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The following outcomes will be realized in the context of a vigorous, team-taught evaluation of scripture from a Pentecostal/charismatic perspective:

The participant will understand:

1. The key theological issues facing Christian leaders today
2. The process of formulating meaningful theological responses to scripture and mature theological reflection on ministry practice

The participant will be more responsive to:

1. The biblical and theological guidance needed for ministry practice
2. The reciprocal relationship between theology and practical ministry

The participant will be better able to:

1. Engage of both the biblical text and the practice of ministry theologically and simultaneously
2. Articulate a personal and contextualized biblical theology of ministry
3. Manifest a life and ministry that incarnates biblical principles

COURSE OUTLINE

During the week-long class session a team of AGTS faculty will contribute to an “anthology” of theological dialogue. The purpose of this experience is to enable the participants to construct a personal, contextualized, and meaningful biblical theology of ministry. Such a theology would define past ministry in theological terms, provide important tools for reflection on current ministry, and empower future ministry by grounding it in the person of God and His Word. Team assignments for the course will be as follows:

Monday, February 9, 2004 – 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

[Earl Creps] “False Dichotomy: Pulling Down the Theory/Practice Wall”

Tuesday, February 10, 2004 – 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

[Roger Cotton] “Old Testament Theology, Leadership, and the Book of Numbers”

Wednesday, February 11, 2004 – 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

[Edgar Lee] “Ministry as Charismatic Vocation”

Thursday, February 12, 2004 – 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

[Benny Aker] “Theology of Church and Ministry”

Friday, February 13, 2004 –

8:00 am – 10:00 am – [Joe Castleberry] “An Introduction to Encounter Theology”

10:00 am – 12:00 pm - Faculty Team Panel Discussion:

1. Developing a Biblical Theology of Ministry
2. The Post-Session Project

COURSE REQUIREMENTS & PROCEDURES

A. Pre-Session [Raising the issues]

1. Complete assigned reading

Prior to coming to the course participants must read each book from the textbook list (approximately 1500 pages). The purpose of the pre-session reading is to heighten the participant’s awareness of the ways theology and ministry practice can inform each other. These books are meant to serve both as course “content,” as models of interpretation, and as sources for reflection.

[Participants must complete the attached reading report and submit it on the first day of the course. Completion of the reading is required to receive a passing grade.]

Note: It is a violation of academic policy to include in the required reading any books previously read for credit. If you have read any of the required texts for credit, please substitute another book from the course bibliography.

2. Write a 5-6 page critical reflection paper on the readings. Read each of the pre-session books with the reflective questions for each in mind. They write a reflective paper

describing how various aspects of the readings can help you to define what it means to have a fully Pentecostal, New Testament ministry.

B. Session [Wrestling with the issues]

1. Submit the *Reading Report*.
2. Attend all class sessions, and take an active role in classroom interaction.
3. Turn in your Critical Reflection Paper. Be prepared to provide a brief (3-5 minute) oral summary of this paper in class.

C. Post-Session [Articulating a response to the issues]

Write a 20-25 page paper describing, defending, and applying your personal biblical theology of ministry. This paper will draw on the readings, class sessions, and faculty panel discussion, but is not limited to these areas. Participants may elect to include other resources and concepts as deemed appropriate. Conclusions must be derived from Scripture, and should demonstrate sound biblical exegesis and biblical theology.

All written work is to be formatted according to the *Turabian* style manual 6th edition, http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/0226816273/qid=1025032200/sr=1-/ref=sr_1_1/103-8003118-1534215. Writing from previous academic work may not be recycled. The D.Min. Office can recommend a *Turabian* editor, as well as a Writing Coach.

Post-session project due date: May 13, 2004. A **hardcopy** of the post-session paper must be delivered to the D.Min. Office postmarked not later than May 13, 2004. Please do not use email. All papers should include a cover sheet with title, course information, name, address, and email.

LATE WORK

Any participant may have a two-week extension simply by requesting it. After that, the maximum paper grade will decline by one letter grade for each week beyond the extended due date.

POST-SESSION PROJECT GRADING

1. *Cogency*: are the major assertions clear, specific, adequately supported, and well-organized? (20 points)
2. *Creativity*: do the major ideas represent original and insightful thinking? (20 points)
3. *Depth*: are the ideas in the paper important and substantial, being the product of high-quality reflective thinking with clear ministry application? (20 points)
4. *Quality*: is the writing clear, compelling, professional, and consistent with the *Turabian* standard? (10 points)

TOTAL: 70 POINTS

COURSE GRADING

Expectations are high. An “A” is awarded for excellent work, a “B” for a good effort; a “C” is marginal, etc. Grading is a composite of points earned in each phase of the course:

Pre-Session Reading: 20 points*	92 + points = A
Session Involvement: 10 points	82 + points = B
Post-Session Project: 70 points	72 + points = C, etc.
TOTAL: <u>100 points</u>	

*(Completion of the reading is required to receive a passing grade.)

REQUIRED TEXTBOOK LIST & REFLECTION QUESTIONS

(Note: you can save on shipping costs by ordering all the texts from the AGTS bookstore. Call Arlene Dilley at 1-800-467-AGTS x1055, or email her at adilley@agseminary.edu)

Benny Aker:

Dunn, James, *The Theology of Paul the Apostle*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998. (165 pages):

- Chapter 5: “The Beginning of Salvation”
 - Par. 13 – “The Crucial Transition”
 - Par. 15 – “Participation in Christ”
 - Par. 16 – “The Gift of the Spirit”
- Chapter 6: “The Process of Salvation”
 - Par. 18 – “The Eschatological Tension”
 - Par. 19 – “Israel”
- Chapter 7: “The Church”
 - Par. 20 – “The Body of Christ”
 - Par. 21 – “Ministry and Office”
- Chapter 9: “Epilogue”
 - Par. 25 – “Prolegomena to a Theology of Paul”

Grudem, Wayne. *Systematic Theology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995. (181 pages):
(Pages 853-949, 1003-1088.)

Benny’s Reflection questions:

1. What does Dunn’s emphasis on the closeness of the Spirit, Jesus, and the believer have to say about a Pentecostal theology of ministry and spirituality?
2. What is the relationship between God’s people as his temple and his people as the body of Christ?
3. What does the presence of the Spirit, as indicated in the Bible, have to say about human models of leadership or church models?

Roger Cotton:

Cotton, Roger. “Numbers 11 and Doing a Pentecostal Biblical Theology of Church Leadership.”
[available online]

http://www.agts.edu/faculty/faculty_publications/articles/cotton_numbers_11.html

For Cotton's Numbers 11 essay :

What did you learn about doing Old Testament Theology from this essay? Has it helped you read the OT in a way that sees more truths from God for us? Would you have seen the truths Cotton brings out of Numbers 11 before reading the essay? What is the most helpful thing you got out of reading this essay?

Fee, Gordon, *Paul, the Spirit, and the People of God*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 1996. (208 pages)

Fee's Paul, the Spirit, and the People of God:

According to Fee, what are the key themes/elements of the early church's understanding of the Spirit of God as expressed by Paul? Do you see how Fee came to most of these and do you believe he has a good exegetical basis for what he is saying Paul was teaching?

Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000. (287 pages)

For Goldsworthy's Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture:

Summarize in a page or so what you understand to be Goldsworthy's way of doing what his title says. According to this book, how should a person properly relate the Old Testament to the message of the gospel in the New Testament? Give your response pro and con (if any) to the major points he makes. Will your ministry of the Word change at all after reading this book?

Edgar Lee:

Chan, Simon. *Pentecostal Theology and the Christian Spiritual Tradition*. Sheffield, UK: Sheffield Academic Press, 2000. [esp. 40-96]

Stronstad, Roger. *The Prophethood of all Believers: A Study in Luke's Charismatic Theology*. Sheffield, UK: Sheffield Academic Press, 1999. [esp. 54-70]

Earl Creps:

Mead, Loren. *Five Challenges for the Once and Future Church*. Bethesda, MD: The Alban Institute, 1996. (100 pages)

White, James Emery. *Rethinking the Church: A Challenge to Creative Redesign in an Age of Transition*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1997.

Substitute Readings

Anderson, Ray. *The Shape of Practical Theology: Empowering Ministry with Theological Praxis*.

Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 2001. (342 pages)

Ellis, E. Earle. *Pauline Theology: Ministry and Society*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989. [esp. 1-52]

Grudem, Wayne A., ed. *Are Miraculous Gifts for Today?: Four Views*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996. [esp. Douglas A. Oss, "A Pentecostal/Charismatic View," 239-283]

Keener, Craig S. *Gift & Giver: The Holy Spirit for Today* [expands on 3 Crucial Questions]. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2001. [exp. 51-136]

Schatzmann, Siegfried. *A Pauline Theology of Charismata*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, Inc., 1987. [esp. 66-93]

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Reading Report

Name _____

Please verify the books from the assigned "Required Textbook List" which you have read in preparation for this course. (Where substitutions have been made, note accordingly. Total pages read should be approximately 1500.) *This form is to be turned in on the first day of the course.*

<i>Author</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Pages Read</i>
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Substitute: _____

Substitute: _____

Total number of pages read: _____

Signature

