

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**  
**PCP 532 CONTEMPORARY FAMILY ISSUES**

Berl H. Best, ED.D., LPC  
Home: 417-833-4155  
1173

Fall 2004  
Office: 833-2551 ext.

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This class is a focus on issues impacting today's family. It will aid in helping professionals to better understand and work with individuals and families experiencing addictions, substance abuse, and/or sexual abuse within their immediate or extended family.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES**

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

1. Compare and contrast secular and Biblical views of marriage and family issues.
2. Articulate a theology of courtship, marriage, sexuality, family relations, appropriate roles in marriage and parenting strategies.
3. Identify the traits that make a Christian family different from families of other religions.
4. Utilize systems and family life cycle theory in understanding marriage and family issues in context.
5. Explain the types and the importance of communication in the home.
6. Have a Biblical understanding of self-esteem and its importance in marriage, family and parenting.
7. Initiate positive change in troublesome marital and family relationships.
8. Dialogue on how to stimulate ministry to families and their involvement in the local church.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

Balswick, J. O. & Balswick J. K. (1991). The Family: A Christian Perspective on the Contemporary Home. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House.

Crabb, L. (1992). The Marriage Builder. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan.

**RECOMMENDED**

Carter, B. & McGoldrick, M. (1989). The Expanded Family Life Cycle. (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Boston: Allyn and Bacon.

Chapman, G. (1995). The Five Love Languages. Chicago: Northfield Publishing.

## COURSE OUTLINE

1. Introduction to family science
2. Balswick and Balswick seminar.
3. Crabb seminar

## METHODOLOGY

Multiple methods will be employed to conduct the class. These methods are designed to enhance and facilitate the learning process. They include but are not limited to: lecture, group activities, video presentations, research and class discussions.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Read both textbooks and prepare a 4-page REACTION (not a summary) paper on each to be turned in on the first day of class in October for Balswick and the first day of November for Crabb.
2. Attend each class meeting and participate in class discussions. This is a vital part of adult learning. Your involvement is vital to your success in the class.
3. A mid-term examination will be given over assigned topics from Balswick /Balswick and Crabb.
4. An oral oral report from each student will be required on a subject assigned by the professor.
5. A research paper on your assigned topic will be required. The oral report will focus on topics that reflect current issues in contemporary families such as, but not limited to, addictive behaviors, human sexuality, marriage and family counseling issues, and substance abuse. The paper should include a focus on the number of individuals that are affected by the problem, possible causes of the problem, and treatment programs. Also, how the issue impacts the local church and how the church should respond to the issue. **This assignment is due on November 18, 2004.**
6. The final examination will consist of a project. Each student must design a thirteen week teaching program for a local community education program or local church. **This assignment is due on the date of the final examination.** Topics selected for the curriculum must come from the topics presented in class. Samples of the desired curriculum are on reserve in the library.
7. The subjective opinion of the instructor regarding general attitude as reflected by timely attendance and active class participation.

### **GRADING PROCEDURES**

Reaction papers	10% of grade
Oral report	15% of grade
Research paper	25% of grade
Mid-term examination	20% of grade
Final examination	30% of grade

Papers are due DURING THE NORMAL CLASS MEETING TIME. Late papers will be deducted one letter grade per day.

### **SPECIFIC DATA**

Prepared by Berl H. Best, ED. D., LPC.

### **ELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY PCP 532 CONTEMPORARY FAMILY ISSUES**

- Adams, Jay E. Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage in the Bible. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1980.
- Alcorn, Randy C. Christians in the Wake of the Sexual Revolution. Portland, OR: Multnomal Press, 1985.
- Anderson, Ed. The Marriage You Always Wanted but Never Thought You Could Have. Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 1988.
- Arnold, Virginia L. The Threefold Cord: God, Your Spouse, and You. Springfield, MO: Lloyd-Lee Publishers, 1985.
- Arp, Dave. The Second Half of Marriage: Facing the Eight Challenges of Every Long-Term Marriage. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishers, 1996.
- Axtell, Kent. To Boredom and Back. Council Bluffs, IA: Family Heritage Publishing House, 1984.
- Balswick, Jack O. and Judith. The Family: A Christian Perspective on the Contemporary Home. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1991.
- Barshinger, Clark E. Haunted Marriage: Overcoming the Ghosts of Your Spouse's Childhood Abuse. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1995.
- Berman, William B. Doty, Dale R., and Graham, Jean, H., Shaking the Family Tree Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1991.

- Bianchi, Eugene C. On Growing Older: A Personal Guide to Life after Thirty-five. New York, NY: Crossroads, 1985.
- Birkey, Verna. You are Very Special. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1977.
- Blue, Ron and Judy. Money Matters for Parents and Their Kids. Nashville, TN: Oliver-Nelson Books, 1988.
- Bly, Stephen. Be Your Mate's Best Friend. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1989.
- Brandt, Patricia, and Jackson, Dave. Just Me and the Kids: A Course for Single Parents. Elgin, IL: David Cook, 1985.
- Briggs, Dorothy. Your Child's Self-Esteem. New York, NY: Doubleday, 1971.
- Bromiley, Geoffery W. God and Marriage. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1980.
- Burkett, Larry. Debt-Free Living. Chicago, IL: Moody Press
- Bustanoby, Andre. Being a Single Parent. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1985.
- Campbell, Susan M. The Couple's Journey: Intimacy as a Path to Wholeness. San Luis Obispo, CA: Impact Press, 1980.
- Carder, Dave. Torn Asunder: Recovering from and Extramarital Affair. Chicago, IL: Moody Press, 1992.
- Carlson, David E. Counseling and Self Esteem. Waco, TX: Word Books, 1988.
- Cavanagh, Michael E. Before the Wedding: Look Before you Leap. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1994.
- Chapman, Elwood. The Unfinished Business of Living: Helping Aging Parents Help Themselves. Los Altos, CA: Crisp Publishing, 1987.
- Chapman, Gary D. The Five Languages: How to Express Heartfelt Commitment to Your Spouse. Chicago, IL: Northfield Publishing, 1995.
- Chase, Betty N. Discipline Them, Love Them, Practical Projects for Parents. Elgin, IL: David C Cook, 1988.
- Chase, Betty N. How to Discipline and Build Self-Esteem in Your Child. Elgin, IL: David C. Cook, 1982.
- Christensen, James L. Before Saying "I Do". Old Tappan, NJ: F. H. Revell, 1983.
- Clinebell, Charlotte and Howard. The Intimate Marriage. New York, NY: Harper & Row, 1970.

- Cole, Harry A. Helpmates: Support in Times of Critical Illness. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox, 1981.
- Collins, Gary. Make More of Your Marriage. Waco, TX: Word Books, 1976. \_ \_
- Conway, Jim. Men in Mid-Life Crisis. Elgin, IL: David C. Cook, 1978.
- Cook, Kaye and Lance L. Men and Women, Alone and Together. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1992.
- Crabb, Larry. Men and Women: Enjoying the Difference. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1991.
- Curran, Delores. Stress and the Healthy Family. San Francisco, CA: Harper & Row, 1985.
- Dobson, James. Dare to Discipline. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 1970.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Straight Talk to Men and Their Wives. Waco, TX: Word, 1980.
- \_\_\_\_\_. The Strong Willed Child. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale, 1978.
- \_\_\_\_\_. What Wives Wish Their Husbands Knew about Women. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale, 1975.
- Drakeford, John. Do You Hear Me Honey? The Distortions of Family Communication. New York, NY: Harper Row, 1976.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Wisdom for Today's Family. Nashville, TN: Broadman, 1978.
- Duvall, Evelyn H. Evelyn Duvall's Handbook for Parents. Nashville, TN: Broadman, 1974.
- Duvall, Evelyn and Hill, Ruben. Being Married. Boston, MA: D. C. Heath and Company, 1960.
- Dycus, J. and B. Children of Divorce. (Helping Others in Crisis Series). Elgin IL: David C. Cook, 1987.
- Dyer, William. Creating Closer Families: Principals of Positive Family Interaction. Provo, UT: Brigham Young University, 1975.
- Edens, David. Making the Most of Family Worship. Nashville, TN: Boardman, 1968.
- Erikson, Erik, et al. Vital Involvement in Old Age. New York, NY: Norton, 1986.

- Eppinger, Paul. Every Minister Needs a Lover. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1990.
- Figley, Charles and McCubbin, Hamilton. Stress and the Family, Vol. I: Coping with Normative Transactions. New York, NY: Brunner/Mazel, 1883.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Stress and the Family, Vol II Coping with Catastrophe. New York, NY: Brunner/Mazel, 1983.
- Finley, Mitch and Kathy. Christian Families in the Real World. Chicago, IL: Thomas Moore Association, 1984.
- Ford, Edward E. Choosing to Love: A New Way to Respond. Minneapolis, MN: Winston Press, 1983.
- Foster, Timothy. Dare to Lead. Glendale, CA: Regal Press, 1977.
- Furman, Richard. The Intimate Husband. Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 1986.
- Gangel, Kenneth. The Family First. Minneapolis, MN: International Service, 1972.
- Gangel, Kenneth and Elizabeth. Between Christian Parent and Child. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1974.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Building a Christian Family. Chicago, IL: Moody, 1987.
- Garland, Dianna and Richard. Working with Couples for Marriage Enrichment. San Francisco, CA: 1983.
- Galuke, Earl. You Can Have a Family Where Everyone Wins. St. Louis, MO: Concordia, 1975.
- Glenn, Stephen H. and Nelson, Lane. Raising Self-Reliant Children in a Self-Indulgent World: Seven Building Blocks for Developing Young People. Rocklin, CA: Prima Publishing and Communications, 1988.
- Gray, John. Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus. New York, NY: Harper Collins, 1992.
- Greenfield, Guy. Re-igniting Love and Passion: 24 Marital Checkpoints. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1995.
- Hardin, Jerry D. Getting Ready for Marriage: Workbook. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1992.
- Harley, Willard. His Needs, Her Needs. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1986.

- \_\_\_\_\_. Marriage Insurance: Building a Divorce-Proof Marriage. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1988.
- Hart, Thomas N. The First Two Years of Marriage: Foundations for a Life Together. New York, NY: Paulist Press, 1983.
- Haulk, Paul. Three Faces of Love. Philadelphia, PA: Westminster, 1984.
- Hearn, Virginia, ed. What They Did Right: Reflections on Parents by their Children. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale, 1974.
- Heatherly, Joyce Landorf. Tough and Tender: What Every Woman Wants in a Man. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1981.
- Hinkle, Joseph and Cook, Melva J. How to Minister to Families in your Church. Nashville, TN: Broadman, 1978.
- Hopkins, Paul E. A Different Kind of Husband. St. Louis, MO: Chalice Press, 1992.
- Howell, John C. Church and Family: Growing Together. Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1984.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Equality and Submission in Marriage. Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1979.
- Huggart, Joyce. Growing into Marriage: Before you Marry. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1982.
- Hulme, William E. Mind your Tongue: Communication in Marriage. Philadelphia, PA: Westminster, 1988.
- Hutchinson, Frank. Aging Comes of Age: Older People Finding Themselves. Louisville, KY: Westminster John Knox Press, 1991.
- Jones, G. B. and Phillips-Jones, L. Men Have Feelings Too. Wheaton, IL: Scripture Press, 1988.
- Kerley, Joy. Spouse Spats. Duncan, OK: Teen Round-up, 1984.
- Kesler, Jay. Ten Mistakes Parents Make with Teenagers (and How to Avoid Them). Brentwood, TN: Wolgemuth & Hyatt, 1988.
- Ketterman, Grace, M. D. The Complete Book of Baby and Child Care for Christian Parents. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1985.
- Lehay, Tim. Understanding the Male Temperament. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1977.

- Lamanna, Mary Ann, Marriage and Families: Making Choices Throughout the Life Cycle. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth, 1981.
- Larson, Jeffery H., et al. Effective Step-parenting. New York, NY: Family Service America, 1984.
- Lazarus, Arnold A. Marital Myths. San Luis Obispo, CA: Impact Publishers, 1988.
- Lee, Peter. Straight Talk about Sex: A Doctor's Guide for the Christian Family. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1989.
- Levinson, Daniel J. et al. The Seasons of a Man's Life. New York, NY: Knopf, 1978.
- Lewis, Deborah. Motherhood Stress: Finding Encouragement in the Ultimate Helping Profession. Dallas, TX: Word, 1989.
- Littauer, Fred. Wake up Men: Headship does not Mean Lordship. Dallas, TX: Word, 1994.
- MacDonald, Gordon. The Effective Father. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale, 1977.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Living at High Noon: Reflections on the Drama of Mid-Life. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1985.
- Mace, David. Love and Anger in Marriage. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1982.
- Mace, David and Vera. How to Have a Happy Marriage. Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 1977.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Marriage Enrichment in the Church. Nashville, TN: Boardman, 1976.
- \_\_\_\_\_. We Can Have a Better Marriage if We Really Want One. Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 1974.
- \_\_\_\_\_. What is Happening to Clergy Marriages? Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 1976.
- Mack, Wayne A. Preparing for Marriage God's Way. Tulsa, OK: Hensley, 1986.
- MacGregor, Malcolm and Baldwin, Stanley G. Your Money Matters. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany, 1988.
- Marks, Stephen R. Three Corners: Exploring Marriage and the Self. Lexington, MA: Lexington Books, 1986.
- Martain, Thomas N. The Challenge of Christian Marriage: Marriage in Scripture, History, and Contemporary Life. New York, NY: Paulist Press, 1990.

- Mason, Mike. The Mystery of Marriage: As Iron Sharpens Iron. Portland, OR: Multnomah, 1985.
- McEwan, Elaine K. Super Kid? Raising Balanced Kids in a Super Kid World. Elgin, IL: David C. Cook, 1988.
- McKean P. and J. Leading a Child to Independence: A Positive Approach to Raising Children Through Their Teens. San Bernardino, CA: Here's Life Publishers, 1986.
- Meir, Paul D., M. D. Christian Child-Rearing and Personality Development. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1977.
- Meir, Paul and Richard. Family Foundations: How to Have a Happy Home. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 1981.
- Mickey, Paul A. Clergy Families: Is a Normal Life Possible? Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1991.
- Miles, Herbert J. Sexual Happiness in Marriage. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1967.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Sexual Understanding Before Marriage. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1971.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Singles, Sex and Marriage. Waco, TX: Word Books, 1983.
- Narramore, Bruce. Meeting Your Child's Hidden Needs. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1990.
- Nelson, James B. The Intimate Connection: Male Sexuality, Masculine Spirituality. Philadelphia, PA: Westminster, 1988.
- Oliver, Gary Jackson and Wright, Norm. When Anger Hits Home: Taking Care of Your Anger without Taking it out on Your Family. Chicago, IL: Moody, 1998.
- Olson, G. K. Why Teenagers Act the Way They Do. Loveland, CO: Group Books, 1987.
- Orthner, Dennis K. Intimate Relationships: An Introduction to Marriage and the Family. New York, NY: Random House, 1981.
- Parrot, Les. Saving Your Marriage Before it Starts: Seven Questions to Ask Before (and after) You Marry. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1995.
- Patton, John and Childs, Brian. Christian Marriage & Family: Caring for Our Generation. Nashville, TN: Abingdon, 1988.

Penner, Clifford and Joyce. The Gift of Sex: A Christian's Guide to Sexual Fulfillment. Waco, TX: Word, 1981.

Pope, Alice and McHale, Susan M. Self-Esteem Enhancement with Children and Adolescents. Elmsford, NY: Pergamon, 1988.

Price, Nelson L. Tenderness and Twenty-four Other Ways to Make a Marriage Work. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1986.

Richardson, Willie. Reclaiming the Urban Family: How to Mobilize the Church as a Family Training Center. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1996.

Rinehart, Stacy and Paula. Choices: Finding God's Way in Dating, Sex, Singleness and Marriage. Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1982.

Sadiku, Mathew N. O. Secrets of a Successful Marriage. Philadelphia, PA: Covenant Publishers, 1991.

Salazer, Linda. Surviving Infertility: A Compassionate Guide Through the Emotional Crisis of Infertility. New York, NY: Harper Perennial, 1991.

Schmidt, Jerry and Brock, Raymond. The Emotions of a Man. Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 1983.

Schwartz, Roslyn. Becoming a Couple. Lanham: University Press, 1986.

Selig, George and Arroyo, Alan. Loving our Differences: Building Successful Family Relationships. Virginia Beach, VA: CBN Publishing, 1989.

Sell, Charles M. Family Ministry. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1995.

\_\_\_\_\_. Transitions Through Adult Life. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1991.

Sheehy, Gail. Pathfinders. New York, NY: Morrow, 1981.

Small, Dwight H. Christian: Celebrate Your Sexuality. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1974.

Smally, Gary. How to Become Your Husband's Best Friend. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1985.

\_\_\_\_\_. If He Only Knew. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1982.

\_\_\_\_\_. Making Love Last Forever. Dallas, TX: Word, 1996.

Smedes, Lewis B. Shame and Grace: Healing the Shame you Don't Deserve. New York, NY: Harper Collins, 1993.

- Smith, Howard I. Positively Single: Coming to Terms with the Single Life. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1986.
- \_\_\_\_\_. More Than "I Do": An Engaged Couple's Premarital Handbook. Kansas City, MO: Beacon Hill Press, 1983.
- Somers, Barbara and Leon. Talking to Your Children about Love and Sex. New York, NY: New American Library, 1989.
- Speas, Ralph. How to Deal with How You Feel. Nashville, TN: Broadman, 1980.
- \_\_\_\_\_. As our Years Increase. Grand Rapids, MI: Provan Books, 1989.
- Stellay, Richard J. Christiantown USA. New York, NY: Harworth Press, 1990.
- Stoop, David and Jan. Refresh Your Marriage with Self Talk. Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1984.
- Strommen, Merton P. Five Crisis of Parents. New York, NY: Harper & Row, 1974.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Five Crisis of Parents. San Francisco, CA: Harper & Row, 1985.
- Straughn, Harold. Five "Divorces" of a Healthy Family: Experiencing the States of Love. St. Louis, MO: CPB Press, 1986.
- Stott, John R. W. Marriage and Divorce: When is Divorce Permitted? What About Remarriage? What is God's Idea? Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press, 1987.
- Swets, P. W. How to Talk So Your Teenager Will Listen. Waco, TX: Word, 1988.
- Swindoll, Charles R. Strike the Original Match. Portland, OR: Multnomah Press, 1980.
- Trobisch, Ingrid. The Joy of Being a Woman. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany House, 1997.
- Trobish, Walter. I Loved a Girl. San Francisco, CA: Harper & Row, 1963.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Living With Unfilled Desires. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1979.
- Trobish, Walter and Ingrid. My Beautiful Feeling. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1976.
- Turnbull, Ann P. and H. Rutherford. Family Professionals and Exceptionality: A Special Partnership. Columbus, OH: Merrill Publishing, 1986.
- Wald, Esther. The Remarried Family: Challenge and Promise. New York, NY: Family Service Association of America, 1981.

- Walker, Laura J. Dated Jekyll, Married Hyde. Minneapolis, MN: Bethany, 1997.
- Wheat, Ed, M.D. How to Save Your Marriage Alone. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1983.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Love Life for Every Married Couple: How to Fall in Love, Stay in Love, Rekindle Your Love. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1980.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Intended for Pleasure. rev. ed. Old Tappan NJ: Revell, 1981.
- Wilson, Earl D. A Silence to Be Broken: Hope for Those Caught in the Webb of Incest. Portland, OR: Multnomah, 1986.
- Worthington, Everett. ed. Christian Marital Counseling: Eight Approaches to Helping Couples. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1996.
- Wright, H. Norman. Before you Remarry. Eugene, OR: Harvest House, 1988.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Family is Still a Good Idea. Ann Harbor, MI: Servant, 1992.
- \_\_\_\_\_. How to Change Your Spouse without Ruining Your Marriage. Ann Harbor MI: Servant, 1994.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Making Peace with your Partner: Healing Conflicts in Marriage. Dallas, TX: Word, 1988.
- \_\_\_\_\_. The Pillars of Marriage. Glendale, CA: Regal Books, 1979.
- \_\_\_\_\_. The Secrets of a Lasting Marriage. Glendale, CA: Regal Books, 1995.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Romancing Your Marriage. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1987.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Seasons of Marriage. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1982.
- \_\_\_\_\_. So You're Getting Married. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1985.