

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

PTH 640 Building the Disciple-Making Ministry

Dr. Steve Lim.

Spring 2002

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

A thorough study of the process and means involved in developing disciples, based on the model of Jesus and the early Church. This course also provides a wholistic examination of the attitudes and actions of a disciple in the areas of spiritual life and service, daily living, relationships, and personal growth.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

To satisfactorily complete this course, the student will achieve these objectives:

1. Develop an understanding of how Jesus and the early Church made disciples.
2. Identify the personal, organizational, and cultural hindrances to discipleship.
3. Discover and apply the means of discipleship to achieve growth in specific areas.
4. Identify the qualities needed by disciplers and potential disciples.
5. Be aware of various contemporary models of discipleship in churches and parachurch organizations.
6. Learn the actions and attitudes of a disciple in the major areas of life
7. Appreciate the relationship between personal growth and discipleship.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS

Cloud, Henry and John Townsend. *How People Grow—What the Bible Reveals about Personal Growth*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001.

Barna, George. *Growing True Disciples—New Strategies for Producing Genuine Followers of Christ*. Colorado Springs, CO: Waterbrook Press, 2001

Willard, Dallas. *The Divine Conspiracy*. San Francisco: Harper, 1998. **Read Chapters 1-3, 8, 9.**

RECOMMENDED READING

Coleman, Robert E. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Old Tappan, N.J.: Fleming H. Revell.

Boa, Kenneth. *Conformed to His Image—Biblical and Practical Approaches to Spiritual Formation*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001

COURSE OUTLINE

I. BIBLICAL MODEL OF DISCIPLESHIP

1. Jesus
2. Early Church

II. HINDRANCES TO DISCIPLESHIP

1. Individual
2. Organizational
3. Cultural

III. THE PROCESS AND MEANS OF DISCIPLESHIP

1. Activity and enabling of God's Spirit
2. Understanding and applying of God's Word
3. Spiritual disciplines
4. Community—modeling, support, vulnerability, accountability, shared experiences
5. Life circumstances
6. Disciplers and potential disciples

IV. CONTEMPORARY MODELS OF DISCIPLESHIP

1. Church models
2. Para-church models

V. DISCIPLESHIP IN SPIRITUAL LIFE

1. Passion for God
2. Prayer life
3. Knowledge of and obedience to God's Word
4. Trust in God's provision
5. Minimizing the old nature, dealing with temptation and sin
6. Character of Jesus
7. Sensitivity and obedience to God's Spirit

8. Fullness of God's Spirit
9. Development of spiritual gifts for service
10. Commitment to life stewardship and mission
11. Discovering God's will
12. Spiritual warfare
13. Ongoing renewal and growth

VI. DISCIPLESHIP IN DAILY LIVING

1. Work and success
2. Work and success
3. Time issues—busyness, stress, priorities
4. Values and integrity
5. Personal improvement
6. Recreation and entertainment

VII. DISCIPLESHIP IN RELATIONSHIPS

1. Family
2. Church
3. Opposite sex
4. Authority and government
5. Spiritually lost
6. Needy and oppressed
7. Assertiveness and boundaries

VIII. DISCIPLESHIP IN SERVANTHOOD

1. Concern for a lost world
2. Compassion for the needy
3. Concern for social and economic justice
4. Care for the environment

IX. DISCIPLESHIP AND PERSONAL GROWTH

1. Overcoming personal weaknesses
2. Developmental issues
3. Emotional healing
4. Emotional maturity

METHODOLOGY

Class and small group discussions, student presentations, supplementary readings, lectures, and guest speakers will be used to facilitate learning. Several short papers will be assigned to enhance knowledge in specific areas of discipleship.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Attend and participate in all class sessions.
2. Read and prepare a two page “Reading Analysis” for each required textbook. Evaluate its overall value to you, citing benefits and limitations. State the concepts that were helpful to you.
3. Take a midterm examination.
4. Write four research papers on assigned or selected topics.
 - a. Each paper should be 6 to 8 pages in length (typed double-space).
 - b. Each paper should use a minimum of 5 relevant sources.
 - c. Papers should be appropriately footnoted (or endnoted).
 - d. Papers should reflect the use of good English.

GRADING PROCEDURE

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|---------------------------|-----|
| Reading analyses | 9% |
| Class participation | 8% |
| Class presentations | 8% |
| Midterm examination | 15% |
| Research papers (4 @ 15%) | 60% |

SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY

This will be distributed in class.

SPECIFIC DATA

Syllabus prepared by Steve Lim, December 5, 2001