

**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

**BNT 641 Special Exegetical Studies in the New Testament:  
Spiritual Leadership and Paul**

James D. Hernando

Summer, 2002

**COURSE SYLLABUS**

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

A doctrinal and expositional study of key passages that relate to spiritual leadership from the letters of Paul. Special emphasis will be given to the Corinthian correspondence. This investigation will explore how Paul would define spiritual leadership as to its origin, nature and role in the church. Additional attention will be given to Paul own model and example of leadership as it relates to the training of disciples, treatment of subordinates and dealing with conflict and opposition in the church.

**COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

At the successful completion of this course the student should be able to:

*Cognitive:*

1. Identify and list key passages from the pauline writings that deal with the topic of spiritual leadership.
2. Define key terms and concepts that relate the above topic from a pauline perspective.
3. Explain how Paul's view of spiritual leadership dovetails with the teachings of Jesus and compares or contrasts with a secular view of leadership.
4. Identify the chief components of "true spiritual leadership" and support your position from the writings of Paul.
5. Identify and list problems and situations in the church that could be helped by a clearer understanding and implementation of Paul's teachings on spiritual leadership

*Skills:*

1. Think critically about spiritual leadership as it is practiced in the church, providing biblical assessment from the pauline writings.
2. Provide a contemporized and contextualized interpretation of the New Testament writings of Paul.
3. Construct an exegetical outline (in English) of a New Testament passage and summarize its teachings.
4. Extract timeless transcultural principles from the exegetically derived teachings of the New Testament.

*Attitudes:*

1. Appreciate more deeply the complexity of the social dynamics of spiritual leadership.
2. Articulate the importance of understanding the concrete historical and social setting (*Sitz im Leben*) of Paul's letters for their interpretation and relevant exposition.
3. Explain the importance of the church to continually evaluate its practices in light of biblical exegesis and theology.

**TEXTBOOKS:**

*Required:*

The Holy Bible - (NASB or NIB preferred)

Hawthorne, G. F. and Ralph Martin, ed.s. Dictionary of Paul and His Letters. Downer's Grove, IL.: InterVarsity Press, 1993.

Hernando, James D. 2 Corinthians. In the Full Life Bible Commentary to the New Testament. Edited by F. L. Arrington and Roger Stronstad. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing Co., 1999.

**COURSE OUTLINE**

- I. Introduction
  - A. The Nature of Leadership - Foundational Perspectives
  - B. Leadership in the Kingdom of God - Jesus
  - C. Leadership and the Body of Christ - Paul
- II. Paul, and His Apostleship
  - A. A Stewardship of the Grace of God
  - B. Apostolic Calling and Authority
- III. The Challenge of Paul's Apostleship
  - A. Dealing with Problem Churches
  - B. Treatment of Subordinates
  - C. Pauline Discipleship
- IV. The Challenge to Paul's Apostleship
  - A. Interpersonal Conflicts
  - B. Dealing With Fronts of Opposition
  - C. Keeping Kingdom Goals in Conflict
- V. The Example of Pauline Apostleship

- A. Enduring Principles
- B. Enduring Priorities

## METHODOLOGY

This course will seek to meet its objectives through class lectures and discussion, independent research and writing.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. Daily attendance - Due to the compressed nature of the summer sessions one class is equivalent to a week of classes in the regular semester. More than two absences will adversely effect your grade. *(Note: Students are expected whenever possible to notify the instructor of a planned absence. When absent the student is responsible for finding out the assignment for the next class and to come prepared for the next class.)*
2. Required Reading:
  - a. The student is expected to read all sections on passages covered in the course schedule in the Full-life Commentary to the New Testament.
  - b. In addition, the student is to read the assigned articles in the IVP *Dictionary of Paul and His Letters* (See )
  - c. All supplemental articles and sections as assigned in the Course Readings Handout
3. Each student will chose five passages from the Pauline Letters and write out the following:
  - a. An exegetical outline (in English) on the assigned passage.
  - b. A descriptive summary of what the passage teaches.
  - c. A list of principles, priorities or perspectives gleaned from your passage that instructs us in the area of spiritual leadership.
- 4.. Each student will open and lead discussion on a passage to be discussed on an assigned date. The student will:
  - a. Provide copies for the class of an exegetical outline (in English) on the assigned passage.
  - b. A descriptive summary of what the passage teaches.
  - c. A list of principles, priorities or perspectives gleaned from your passage that instructs us in the area of spiritual leadership.
5. Each student will prepare an 8-12 page essay entitled, "What the Apostle Paul Wish the Church Knew About \_\_\_\_\_ ?"
  - a. The blank is to be filled in by you. It must articulate an area of concern related to the topic of spiritual leadership. E.g., "What the Apostle Paul Wish the Church Knew About *Conflict Resolution*."
  - b. The topic should be one that is sufficiently focused so as to be adequately covered in 8-

12 pages.

c. The paper should reflect the content of class lectures, but can certainly go beyond them.

6. Final Exam - (essay)

## GRADING PROCEDURE

1. Grade Weights:

Class Participation/Attendance	5%
Required Reading	15%
Lead Class Discussion	15%
Exegetical Outlines/Summary	25%
Application Essay	20%
Final Exam	<u>20%</u>
	100%

2. The total number of possible points to be earned for the course is 1000. Point totals at the end of the course are tabulated and a grading curve plotted relative to the collective grade profile of the class.

**NOTE:** *Written projects and papers that are turned in late will be penalized one grade movement (e.g., A to an A-) for each day late.*

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Barnett, Paul. *The Message of 2 Corinthians: Power in Weakness*. Leicester, England; Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1988.

Barrett, C. K. *The Second Epistle to the Corinthians*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1993.

Best, Ernest. *Second Corinthians*. Atlanta: J. Knox Press, 1987.

Bruce, F. F. *Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Pub. Co., 1977.

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Danker, Frederick W. *II Corinthians*. Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg Pub. House, 1989.

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Ellis, E. Earle. *Pauline Theology: Ministry and Society*. New York: University Press of America, 1997

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Green, Michael. *To Corinth With Love : Paul's Message to the Troubled Church at Corinth and Its Relevance to Christians Today*. Waco, TX: Word Books, 1988.

Longenecker, Richard N. *Paul, Apostle of Liberty*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1964.

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Renwick, David Alistair. *Paul, the Temple, and the Presence of God*. 1988.

Ridderbos, Hermann. *Paul: An Outline of His Theology*. Translated by John Richard DeWitt. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1966. 1997 rep. ed.

Robinson, J. A. T. *The Body: A Study in Pauline Theology*. London: SCM Press LTD., 1952

Shoemaker, H. Stephen. *Strength in Weakness*. Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1989.

Schatzmann, Siegfried. *A Pauline Theology of Charismata*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1993.

Thrall, Margaret E. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Second Epistle to the Corinthians*. Edinburgh : T. & T. Clark, 1994.

Witherington, Ben. *Conflict and Community in Corinth: A Socio-Rhetorical commentary on 1 and 2 Corinthians*. Grand Rapids, MI: W. B. Eerdmans, 1994.

## **SPECIFIC DATA**

Syllabus prepared by James D. Hernando, Ph. D. April, 2002.