

# ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

## *PTH 623 Effective Relationships in Ministry*

Dr. Steve Lim

May 2002

### **COURSE SYLLABUS**

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

A biblical and practical study focusing on the development of positive relationships with staff and board, among members, and with the unchurched. The influence of temperament, self-esteem, assertiveness, and maturity will be considered. Aspects of relational leadership will be explored, including credibility, motivation, empowerment, teams, servant leadership, situational leadership, and mentoring. This course will also examine relational challenges such as difficult people, reaction to change, conflict, cultural-ethnic differences, and sexual temptation.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES**

1. Develop a biblical understanding of relationships, especially as they apply to ministry and leadership.
2. Identify the levels of relationships, the qualities needed for achieving them, and the hindrances to deeper relationships.
3. Appreciate the areas of personal growth needed to form healthy relationships.
4. Understand how temperament theory can enhance relationships.
5. Gain a comprehensive understanding of the ways in which relationships enhance leadership, and of key relationships that determine effectiveness in ministry.
6. Learn how to deal with common but serious relational challenges in ministry.
7. Begin to apply relational principles to present relationships and ministries.

#### **REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS**

Barna George. *Building Effective Lay Leadership Teams*. Ventura, CA: Issachar Resources, 2001.

Kouzes, James M and Barry Z. Posner. *Encouraging the Heart—A Leader's Guide to Rewarding and Recognizing Others*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 1999.

Maxwell, John C. *Developing the Leaders Around You*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1995.

### **RECOMMENDED READING**

Maxwell, John C. *Be a People Person*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books/Scripture Press, 1994.

McGinnis, Alan Loy. *Bringing Out the Best in People*. Minneapolis, MN: Augsburg, 1985.

### **COURSE OUTLINE**

- I. BIBLICAL MODELS OF RELATIONSHIPS
  1. Jesus
  2. Paul and the Early Church
  3. Old Testament
  
- II. UNDERSTANDING RELATIONSHIPS
  1. Levels of relationship and communication
  2. Friendliness and friendship
  3. Caring and commitment
  4. Vulnerability and deeper relationships
  5. Hindrances to relationship
  6. Temperament and relationship
  
- III. RELATIONSHIPS AND THE MINISTER'S PERSONAL GROWTH
  1. Self-esteem
  2. Emotional intelligence
  3. Assertiveness
  4. Boundaries
  5. Maturity
  
- IV. RELATIONSHIPS AND LEADERSHIP
  1. Credibility and influence
  2. Community and body ministry
  3. Small group dynamics
  4. Servant leadership
  5. Motivation and empowerment
  6. Leading volunteers
  7. Building a staff
  8. Teamwork and teams
  9. Situational leadership
  10. Mentoring
  11. Relationships with the unchurched
  12. Support, accountability, and ministry development

## V. RELATIONAL CHALLENGES IN MINISTRY

1. Criticism
2. Difficult people
3. Conflict (Guest lecturer: Dr. Gary Allen)
4. Reactions to change
5. Sexual temptation (Guest lecturer: Cheryl Taylor)
6. Church discipline

## METHODOLOGY

Class and small group discussions, lectures, student presentations, relational exercises, students' sharing of experiences, role-play, and debate will be used to facilitate learning. Students will complete several profiles to evaluate their temperament and conflict styles.

## COURSE REQUIREMENTS

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. Due at the beginning of class on the following dates:

John Maxwell. *Developing the Leaders Around You*. **Thursday, May 9.**

Kouzes & Posner. *Encouraging the Heart*. **Tuesday, May 14.**

Barna. *Building Effective Lay Leadership Teams*. **Friday, May 17.**

1. Attend and participate in all sessions.
2. Choose one of the following class presentations:
  - a. Make a five-minute report on assigned chapters from the textbooks or on selected or assigned theme. Provide a one to two page outline for each student.
  - b. Prepare and engage in a ten-minute debate on one side of a given issue. (2 students)
  - c. Prepare several role-plays about given relational situations. (2 students)
3. Do a weekly relationship assignment as described in class. Submit brief reports (one to two paragraphs) at the beginning of class on the following dates: **Friday, May 10; Friday, May 17; Thursday, May 23; Thursday, May 30.**
4. Write a 7 to 9 page reflection paper on your personal and ministry-related relationships past and present. This project should integrate the insights gained through your reading (textbooks and supplementary readings), insights from class, and evaluation of profiles completed during the course. Due: **Friday, May 24.**
5. Take a final examination on the last day of class.

***Post-session***

Write a 7 to 9 page research paper on your topic of choice from those listed in the course outline. Use five to ten sources. This paper should be submitted to the faculty secretary no later than **Monday, June 10**.

**GRADING PROCEDURE**

Reading analyses	10%
Class participation, including presentation	10%
Relationship assignments	5%
Reflection paper	25%
Final exam	25%
Research paper	25%

**SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY**

This will be distributed in class.

**SPECIFIC DATA**

Syllabus prepared by Steve Lim, April 3, 2002