ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

PT 554: Relational Dynamics of Leadership

COURSE SYLLABUS
May 13-17, 2013

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines and evaluates the dynamics of significant relationships in the life of a leader. A biblical-developmental examination of marriage and family, friendships, collegial and mentoring relationships, staff dynamics, community connections, participation in the local and global economy and other significant interpersonal and social connections will be undertaken. This course will look at the character and competencies needed for healthy relationships and also provide an introduction to problem solving for some of the common behavior problems leaders confront in the communities and organizations they lead.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

With diligent study, students will demonstrate ability to

1. Identify areas in their lives that need to be developed in order to become better listeners and enjoy healthier relationships.
2. Evaluate personal vulnerabilities in the relational arenas.
3. Demonstrate the connectedness of spiritual formation, personal wholeness, relational integrity, vocational clarity and economic flourishing.
4. Design an intentional growth program for themselves and fellow-leaders to strengthen core relationships.
5. Understand between personal encouragement and advice, spiritual direction, coaching, lay counseling, pastoral counseling and professional counseling
6. Develop healthy intentional relationships within and without her/his community, including friendships, colleagues, mentoring and professional relationships.
7. Understand the value of lay, pastoral and professional counseling and the parameters of each discipline.
8. Communicate principles that confront and ameliorate some of the more common problems faced by spiritual leaders.
9. Communicate and foster friendship with people outside the church/ministry community.

TEXTBOOKS: These are required

Jack O. Balswick and Judith K. Balswick, *A Model for Marriage: Covenant, Grace, Empowerment and Intimacy*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic 2006. ISBN 9780830827602

Chuck Miller, *The Spiritual Formation of Leaders: Integrating Spiritual Formation and Leadership Development*. Xulon Press 2007 ISBN978-1-60477-313-2

R. Scott Rodin, *The Steward Leader: Transforming People, Organizations and Communities*. Downers Grove: IVP 2010 ISBN 9780830838783

Charlie Self, *Flourishing Communities and Churches: A Pentecostal Primer of Faith, Work, and Economics for Spirit-Empowered Discipleship*. Grand Rapids: Christian's Library Press 2013 ISBN 978-1-938948-16-9

Jeff Wickwire, *Friendships: Avoiding the Ones That Hurt, Finding the Ones that Heal*. Chosen 2007 ISBN: 9780800794279

METHODOLOGY

This class will employ lecture, select video presentations, and group discussion and guest presenters. Students should come ready for open and honest exchange in a safe environment. This is NOT a therapy class, but it does examine important intrapersonal and interpersonal issues.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Pre-Session (the following must be done prior to the intensive classroom week)

1. Read the books by Miller, Rodin, and Self
2. Prepare a 3-4 page review of each work that includes 1) complete bibliographical information; 2) a concise summary of the major themes of the author; and 3) critical analysis of at least two strengths and two weaknesses of the work.
3. Write a 5-7 page reflective essay on the topic, "The Connection between Theology, Healthy Relationships and Gospel Influence in Culture." These are the student's reflections from Scripture, the assigned reading and life experience. The book reviews and essays are **due electronically or in hard copy on May 24**.

In-Session (May 13-17, 2013)

1. On time arrival, consistent attendance and full participation is a vital part of this learning experience. We will use a variety of learning modalities, including lecture, discussion, guest presented and multimedia.
2. Daily Journal: **On Friday, May 17**, the student will submit a journal on the classroom experience. The total output should be 5-7 pages. These need to be thoughtful reflections on the lectures and discussions.

Post-Session

1. Read Balswick & Balswick and Wickwire's works.
2. Submit book s of 3-4 pages on these works on friendship, using the criteria above. **These are due is due June 7**.
3. **A Final Paper of 10-12 pages is due July 19**. The title is, "My Personal Plan for Growing Healthy Relationships." This should include 1) Biblical –theological foundations for healthy relationships (revising your earlier thoughts; 2) three specific relationships that you want to improve (one familial, one professional and one personal); and 3) areas of personal growth that you are enhancing in order to have improved relationships. Your work should reflect interaction with classroom materials, textbooks and at least five (5) outside sources.

GRADING

The following values will be assigned:

- Book Reviews: 5 @ 20 points each = 100 points
- Pre-Session Essay on Theology and Relationships: 50 Points
- In-Session Journal: 75 points
- Final Paper: 100 points
- Participation: 75 points
- Total: 400 points

Grading is done on a percentage scale according to Seminary guidelines, with "+" or "-"attachments indicating quality within the scope of a letter grade:

- 94-100% = A; 90-93% - A-; 87-89% = B+; 84-86% = B, and so on through the grades. Any work below 60% will be failing.
- It is expected that student work is graduate level and free from major mistakes. If it has been awhile since you have done academic work, take a little extra time to proofread and even have a friend read the work before submission – it is amazing what another set of eyes can do!
- Students need to use the online assistant Grammerly to edit and refine their papers before submitting them to the professor.

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IN SESSION SCHEDULE

May 14: Biblical-theological foundations for healthy relationships

May 15: The healthy leader: An integrated life

May 16: Building healthy relationships

May 17: Overcoming barriers to health

May 18: Connecting our calling and our relationships

FINAL DETAILS

1. Please turn off cell phones in class.
2. It is a real challenge to juggle family, ministry, work and school! Do your best to focus and do as well as you can in the time available. It is better to learn and finish the course on time with a B+ than procrastinate or be a perfectionist and add even more stress!
3. DO call, drop by or email the instructor for help or prayer
4. If you need special learning accommodation, please notify AGTS and the appropriate adjustments will be made!

Some tips for writing good papers:

1. Excellent grammar, spelling and syntax are assumed at the graduate level. Proofread, read aloud and/or have a friend or colleague look at it if you are in doubt.
2. Gender-inclusive language (except for references to the Holy Trinity) is a must.
3. Shorter, active-voice sentences are better than long, passive-voice expressions.
4. Avoid the use of first-person language unless the context warrants a word of personal reflection. Also, do not use the pretentious “we” unless it refers to a community.
5. A “C’ paper reflects rather rote retelling of material. A “B” paper is a very good work, with solid personal engagement and reflection. An “A” paper is above the norm, with clear evidence of excellent analysis.

Syllabus prepared January 30, 2013 by Dr. Charlie Self