Course Description: Real church growth must be measured numerically and spiritually. Both metrics rely upon the faithful preaching of God’s word, and faithful preaching of God’s word relies entirely upon the empowerment of the Holy Spirit. Throughout Christian history, the Holy Spirit has often been the forgotten Person of the Trinity. Compounding that tragedy, more confusion and misinformation has been promulgated concerning the Third Person of the Trinity in our generation of preachers and teachers than perhaps in any other century of Christian history. Yet, the reality still is, and ever will be, that without the Holy Spirit our preaching and teaching is dead, deadly, and eternally dangerous. This course is designed with the express purpose of helping pastors, preachers, seminary students, and lay leaders to understand both the work of the Holy Spirit and how to preach about Him and in His power for church growth.

Course Objectives: At the conclusion of this course, students should be able to:
2. Identify and analyze the different ways that we can apply the Spirit’s ministry and role to 21st Century people for church growth.
3. Explain the universal perspective of the Holy Spirit in Scripture as it relates to preaching and teaching the Lord Jesus Christ and the Gospel of grace.

Course Outline:
Important Presuppositions
The Holy Trinity: Eternal Love Triangle
This Spirit is No Spook
The Believer’s Internal Dynamite
The Holy Spirit: His Agency and Operation in Our Preaching and Teaching
The Imperative Nature of the Spirit in Our Preaching and Teaching
Manifestations of the Holy Spirit in Preaching and Teaching
The Spirit Diminished in Preparation and in Delivery

Required Readings:


**Course Assessment:**
1. Consistent and punctual attendance at all class sessions is expected. Unavoidable absences will require makeup work.
2. A book report on any two of the required reading books is required. Each book report will outline the chosen books and state which parts of the book the student found most helpful and why. The paper will consist of 3 pages and will be due by no later than February 15, 2014. This paper will be submitted online to the professor at lholmes@rts.edu by no later than March 31, 2014. The paper will be presented using 1 inch margins on all 4 sides and Times New Roman 12pt font.
3. Students will be required to preach a sermon or present a lesson demonstrating their understanding of the Person and work of the Holy Spirit during the class sessions, providing the professor with a manuscript of the same.
4. Students will be required to present an integrative paper of 20 pages. This paper will demonstrate both the student’s grasp of the Holy Spirit in their teaching or preaching ministry. This paper will be submitted online to the professor at lholmes@rts.edu by no later than March 31, 2014. The paper will be presented using 1 inch margins on all 4 sides and Times New Roman 12pt font.

Grades will be assessed as follows:
10% class participation
20% total book reports
30% Class sermon or lesson presentation
40% Integrative paper
**Course Objectives Related to DMin* Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: 04DM804 Church Growth: Preaching & the Holy Spirit  
Professor: Dr. Robert Leslie Holmes  
Campus: Atlanta  
Date: January 20 – 24, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em><em>DMin</em> Student Learning Outcomes</em>*</th>
<th><strong>Rubric</strong></th>
<th><strong>Mini-Justification</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biblical/ Theological Foundations:</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Students will study the Holy Spirit’s role in Scripture from Creation to Consummation as well as how to communicate the truth about the Spirit’s role that is found fully in the Scriptures of the OT and NT.</td>
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<td>Significant knowledge of biblical and theological foundations for pastoral ministry. (This includes interaction with Biblical texts, as well as awareness of Reformed Theology.)</td>
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<td><strong>Historical/ Contemporary Practices:</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The driving force behind much of the class will be to understand the uniqueness of Reformed theology’s historical understanding of the Person and work of the Holy Spirit for preaching the Gospel and how we can build on those today.</td>
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<td>Significant knowledge of historical and contemporary practices of pastoral ministry.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Integration:</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Focus will be given to learning how to winsomely communicate God’s eternal truth concerning who the Holy Spirit is and how He impacts our work in preaching, pastoral care, and church growth.</td>
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<td>Ability to reflect upon and integrate theology and practice, as well as implementation in a contemporary pastoral setting.</td>
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<td><strong>Sanctification:</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>An initial emphasis on the role of the Holy Spirit not only in our preaching and Church Growth but also in their personal devotional life so that learning how to understand, evaluate, and communicate the Gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit is an important means of the student’s personal sanctification.</td>
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<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids in the student’s sanctification.</td>
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