Course Description

The vision of this course is to equip participants to biblically grasp and implement the life of Jesus and His ministry of discipleship that would impact them personally, their families, and the church worldwide.

This course will begin by looking at the meaning of a disciple in the Old and New Testaments, along with how the word has been used historically. The life of Jesus and the principles he used for transformation will be specifically examined, with an additional look at Paul’s life of discipleship. The course will lead participants to detailed steps to apply life-on-life missional discipleship to their personal lives and church ministry. In addition, we will look at Biblical principles and practical applications on how fathers are called to disciple their children.

Course Objectives

At the completion of the course, the participant will be equipped to:

- More effectively comprehend the theological and historical meaning of a disciple
- Understand and practically apply the Biblical foundation of life-on-life missional discipleship
- Grasp and implement transformational principles that Jesus used with his disciples
- Pursue the hearts of others to hit the target of lasting transformation, while discovering how to live out of the deep waters of their own hearts
- Design personalized training to practically think and have a specific plan for those they are leading
- More effectively train and equip discipleship leaders to love and lead others with grace
- More deeply appreciate the Biblical role of a pastor and to assess their personal life and ministry, along with their church’s ministries, in light of life-on-life missional discipleship
- Clearly comprehend and communicate the difference between traditional small and cell groups with a life-on-life missional discipleship group
- Specifically know how to begin a life-on-life missional discipleship ministry personally and in their church
- Comprehend and apply the command and call of God to fathers to disciple their children
Course Outline

Topics to be covered will include:
- Discipleship in the Old and New Testaments
- Biblical, Theological, and Historical study of “disciple”
- Jesus’ Strategy and Method of Discipleship
- Biblical Principles for Discipling Others
- Biblical Attitude of Discipleship Leaders
- Spiritual Formation Pathway and Process
- Biblical Role of a Pastor
- The Biblical Heart and the Skill to Pursue Others
- The Power of Association
- Designing Personalized Training for Discipling Others
- Foundational Biblical Principles for Fathers to Disciple their Children

Required Readings


Pope, Randy. *Insourcing: Bringing Discipleship Back to the Local Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2013. (224 pages)


Recommended Readings


Course Assessment

A dossier of 6 discipleship material lessons will be due by June 30, 2015 to the RTS-Atlanta D.Min. registrar. The lessons will be written using the five transformational principles used by Jesus, with any topics the participant desires to use. The topics should be cleared with the professor in advance (a simple email communication will suffice). This dossier will be submitted as 6 documents. Lessons will be evaluated primarily regarding how they effectively use Scripture along with Jesus’ transformational principles. (This dossier is considered the equivalent of a 30-40 page paper.)

Contact Information

Dr. Monte Starkes
Visiting Professor
Reformed Theological Seminary Atlanta
(678) 405-2267
montes@perimeter.org

Office Hours: Always available by appointment, including phone and Skype
### DMin* Student Learning Outcomes

*In order to measure the success of the DMin curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the DMin outcomes.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rubric</th>
<th>Mini-Justification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Interaction with the Scriptures, Old and New Testament texts, with a focus on Jesus in the Gospels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Significant readings relating to past and current experts in historical and modern practical discipleship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimal</td>
<td>Course integrates theology, bible, and discipleship in relevant application of personal and church ministry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>Study of the Trinity’s “with-ness” and how their grace is used to make disciples and bring them to maturity in Christ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Biblical/Theological Foundations:

Significant knowledge of biblical and theological foundations for pastoral ministry. (This includes interaction with Biblical texts, as well as awareness of Reformed Theology.)

**Rubric:** Strong

**Mini-Justification:** Interaction with the Scriptures, Old and New Testament texts, with a focus on Jesus in the Gospels

#### Historical/Contemporary Practices:

Significant knowledge of historical and contemporary practices of pastoral ministry.

**Rubric:** Moderate/Strong

**Mini-Justification:** Significant readings relating to past and current experts in historical and modern practical discipleship

#### Integration:

Ability to reflect upon and integrate theology and practice, as well as implementation in a contemporary pastoral setting.

**Rubric:** Strong

**Mini-Justification:** Course integrates theology, bible, and discipleship in relevant application of personal and church ministry

#### Sanctification:

Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids in the student’s sanctification.

**Rubric:** Strong

**Mini-Justification:** Study of the Trinity’s “with-ness” and how their grace is used to make disciples and bring them to maturity in Christ