MS508 EVANGELISM: THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE

by

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COURSE DESIGN

Reformed Theological Seminary

Jackson, Mississippi
Spring 2016 A.D.
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE--SPRING 2016

TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED

Introduction to the Course

What is this course all about?
   It is about the greatest joy ever
      The joy of salvation
   It is about what the Bible is All About
      The Lord Jesus Christ
   It is about what Ministry is All About
      God’s glory, the Church, and the Unconverted
   It is about the Problem of Every Human Being
   It is about what Jesus did and sent us to be and to do as His people

The Chief End of Ministry and “Evangelism”

Definitions of Terms:
   Evangelism,
   Evangelist,
   Evangelize,
   Intercultural Evangelism
   Gospel,
The Teachings and Ministry of Jesus
   What Jesus did and sent us to be and to do
The Teachings and Ministry of Peter
The Teachings and Ministry of Paul

The Practice of Evangelism

Prison Evangelism and Discipleship Ministry
Evangelizing Muslims in USA
Evangelizing College Students
Evangelistic “methods”—Small Groups Discussion

Reformed and Puritan Evangelism
The Sovereignty of God and Evangelism
Calvin and the TULIP
Discussion on Baxter and Beeke

Outreach Project and Reports
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Course Description

“Evangelism” and its practice within the context of the pastoral ministry and the work of every member of the body of Christ are reviewed in light of the teaching and the practical work of Jesus, the apostles, and the early church and applied to the context of our local churches. The dynamics of the preaching of the gospel as the motivational means of making Christ known across the street and around the world as portrayed in the Scriptures are also considered. During the class, “Evangelism” is taught in such a way that the lectures, small group discussions, and the exercises done in class and outside the classroom may be duplicated in the context of the local churches.

The Lord willing we will have the participation of some experts on the topics of Evangelizing Muslims, Evangelizing Roman Catholics, and so forth. Please pray for our class and all the participants. You will be engaging in a tremendous and unbelievable spiritual warfare zone.

Course Requirements

1. Classroom attendance and active participation in the small group discussions. “Classroom attendance [and active participation in the small group discussions] [are] for the glory of God and preparation for the gospel ministry.”
   - SIX (6) ABSENCES: GRADE F
   - FOUR (4) ABSENCES: GRADE C+
   - THREE (3) ABSENCES: GRADE B-

2. The careful reading of the assigned materials and four reading reports (two pages each per book, except the Book of Acts), single space, highlighting the main propositions, statements, theses, principles, etc, gathered from the reading. Check the due dates of the readings and of the written reading reports. IT IS THE STUDENT RESPONSIBILITY TO SUBMIT THESE INFORMATIONS VIA E-MAIL. DON’T WAIT FOR A REMINDER.

3. Serious involvement in and commitment to an outreach project (RTS Great Commission Society, Child Evangelism, Evangelism Explosion, Gateway Homeless Ministry, Hospital Visits, Prison Ministry, etc.) during this semester. 50 % of your grade. You can also create your own outreach project or share your faith with, at least, 10 different unconverted, unchurched people during the semester.

4. A journal of your outreach project with the dates and main experiences, lessons, and/or impressions that you have each time you went out to speak to someone.

5. Written Personal “testimonies.” Each student will have an opportunity to share his/her written personal testimony in the context of a small group. For a format of how to prepare your personal “testimony,” see Metzger 2002, 209-210.
Required Readings

Books


At least 250 pages of an “evangelist” biography/biographies. **Reading and written reading report due on April 25.** Some suggestions:


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1 Please, **take the initiative** to select the evangelist biography/biographies you would like to read during this semester. Check the internet, RTS Library, etc. Take a look at [http://www.desiringgod.org/ResourceLibrary/Biographies/](http://www.desiringgod.org/ResourceLibrary/Biographies/).
Chapman, J. Wilbur. [1900]. *The life and work of Dwight Lyman Moody (1837-1899).* Wilbus Chapman was a close friend of Moody. This biography is available online: [http://www.biblebelievers.com/moody/index.html](http://www.biblebelievers.com/moody/index.html)

Fullerton, W.Y. *Charles Haddon Spurgeon: A biography.* This biography is available online: [http://www.spurgeon.org/misc/biopref.htm](http://www.spurgeon.org/misc/biopref.htm)

DISCIPLINE YOURSELF TO READ 10 PAGES PER DAY. YOU WILL FINISH THESE READINGS BEFORE MAY 1.

Other Sources


**John Piper resources**—[http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library](http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library)


**Bakerpublishinggroup.com** 3


**InterVarsity Press**—[http://www.ivpress.com/](http://www.ivpress.com/)

**Crossway Press**—[http://www.crossway.org/search?q=evangelism](http://www.crossway.org/search?q=evangelism)


3 Includes the following publishing companies: BakerAcademic, BakerBooks, BethanyHouse, Revell, Chosen, BrazosPress, and Cambridge University Press.
Reformed Evangelism--http://www.the-highway.com/c_evangelism.html


Preliminary Bibliography

Books


4 Update this preliminary bibliography by accessing the recommended websites above.


Edwards, Jonathan. 2002. *The salvation of souls: Nine previously unpublished sermons on the call of ministry and the gospel*. Wheaton: Crossway Books. These sermons were edited by Richard A. Bailey and Gregory A. Wills. Book well recommended by John Piper (Senior Pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church), Douglas A. Sweeney (Chair, Department of Church History and the History of
Christian Thought, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School), Harry S. Stout (Jonathan Edwards Professor of American Christianity, Yale University) and others. 179 pages


