

COURSE: PT/301 3 Credit Hours

TITLE: Practical Theology - Evangelism: Among millennial/postmoderns, modernists, boomers, and cross-culturally, with authenticity and integrity.

COURSE MATERIAL TEXTS:

Notebook for note taking.

A Bible or good Bible App. ESV, NASB, NKJV preferred.

A writing utensil.

Not a paraphrase, NIV allowed.

I am undecided on a required text at this time though you will be exposed to the writings of the apostle John, Paul, and Luke. And practical evangelism authors like Paul Little, Ray Comfort, Becky Pippert, David Platt, Will Metzger as well as the introductory apologetics of Feinberg, McDowell, Sire, and others.

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INSTRUCTOR:

Joe Whitchurch

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COURSE OBJECTIVES:

The objective of this class is to gain a biblical understanding the gospel and how to share it with prayer, authenticity, sensitivity, and confidence in its truth and in the power of the Holy Spirit, the risen Savior, and the authority of God's word. Our goal is that the love of Christ will constrain you, you will be aware of how others are responding and speak to real needs with truth that is understandable to various kinds of people from the post modern millennials, to the scientific modernists, to the 'spiritual' pre-modern mystics.

With this class, as with all future classes, our hope is that when you are finished you will have a greater love for the word of God, the people of God, the gospel of God, and God's sure prerogatives in the world which will ultimately prevail. The goal is a growing love for God and His word and His people that compels us to study, worship, love, and in particular WITNESS, and serve more with greater faith in the One who said "I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it."

It is not our desire to increase your knowledge as an end in itself which puffs up, but to increase your knowledge so that you can see the magnificence of your God and Savior and grow in Him. Colossians 1:28 And that from the overflow of God's Spirit you cannot help but share your faith in every aspect of life.

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## HOW?

We will accomplish these objectives by learning more about the gospel, evangelism, doing the work of an evangelist even if this is not our primary gifting, and doing so with integrity utilizing our own unique personality, interests, passions, and spiritual gifting, as well as doing so in community. You will learn some introductory apologetics (responding to hard questions), and become conversant with several different tools and conversation models with the goal that your own will shine through uniquely to God's glory and under His leading. We will also critique evangelism culturally and the strengths and weaknesses of some approaches and over-reliance on methods.

You will become aware of the value of prayer, the need to respond to questions with questions of your own, and the confidence in God and His word to not be intimidated by such things. We will consider various ways people 'convert', and again assess strengths and weaknesses while not shying away from 'calling the question' or challenge to investigate further with authenticity, vulnerability, and power in weakness. And there will be practical DOING of the work of an evangelist in several different contexts; public, personal, with millennials, with boomers, with modernists, and with pre-modern mystic types.

## COURSE PLAN BY WEEK NUMBER FOR 12 WEEKS:

1. Testimony; Elevator/Cardboard, 1 minute, 3 minute, 10 minute, >10 min forget it, they are humoring you. Two silence barriers...starting, and ending well. 2W2L verses mem.
  2. Apologetics extensive intro only.
    - a. Premodern; dreams, visions, providences, miracles,
    - b. Modern; Deity/Humanity of Jesus, Bodily resurrection, Problem Pain idea, Authority of Bible,
    - c. Postmodern; my problem with personal pain, God hates divorcee(s), gays, becoming a lockstep clone, being ignorant and anti-intellect, same politic bigotry, media caricatures, Jesus Camp.
    - d. Third way Cumulative Case, suffering well, persecuted church, humility, genuine love, non-defensive serve.
  3. Gospel content what it is and what it is NOT. 1Cor 15:1-4, Romans, John's gospel, Luke's gospel, 1 verse diagram bridge teach and video of teaching it, 2W2L Worldview evangelism.
  4. Four Thresholds, Engels Scale, Role Play 2W2L
  5. Two Plus Prayer, Rabbit hole Christians with no reciprocity relationship or trust. MIDTERM EXAM
  6. Third party materials; Music, Film, Use of tracts/literature, Gospels, Read/Carry/Share.org, Grad IVCF Ethos Workplace Ethos Similarities with other fields of Commonality; Health, Family, Work, Time Mgmt, Parenting, Sports, Fitness, Health...
  7. Temperment and Spiritual gift evangelism profile authenticity, hospitality, invitation, prophetic, mercy...
  8. Open Air, Proxe station, Symposium, PRACTICUM ASSESSMENT. Contact evangelism, Friendship evangelism dichotomy.
  9. Our Fear of converts and feigned best-est friends. Networking disciples into the body of Christ. Making disciples while doing the work of an evangelist, Their Fear of change, fear of people, fear of looking stupid, fear of family, persecution. Altar call illustration. Red herring/distraction/masks, moving beyond with two clarifying pastoral questions, question behind question
  10. IBD Investigative Bible Discussions, EBS Evangelistic Bible Studies, GIG Group Investigating God.
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Worksheet from BnL 1, Be a friend, Share your faith. Phillip & Ethiopian Eunuch

11. Asking/and-or calling the question, the point of conversion, backing off but still urging incremental but still

prior investigative integrity decisions, altar calls, hand-raising, public testimony, card signing, contact management for 2+ converts and ongoing prayer disciples, Believers' baptism, crossing the thresholds.

12. Final Project Presentations.

#### COURSE GRADE:

90% TO 100% = A

80% TO 89% = B

70% TO 79% = C

60% TO 69% = D

BELOW 60% = F

#### GRADING:

20% of your grade will be based on attendance and constructive participation.

20% of your grade will be based on homework; including reading and memory work.

20% of your grade will be based on you serving in an evangelistic practicum proxe, contact, ....

20% of your grade will be based on Midterm and any impromptu quizzes.

20% of your grade will be based on your final presentation project.

#### GRADES:

Harvest Bible College will keep records of all of your work and or grades for any future need.

#### HOMEWORK:

Homework will need to be turned in at the next class, unless other plans have been made with the instructor and includes assessment of Scripture memory work.

#### ADDITIONAL INFO:

Please silence cell phones during class.

Open discussion is welcome during class as per guidelines.

Helping each other is okay as it builds relationships. Not during quizzes.

Attend all classes.

Make it easy for the instructor to communicate with you.

Asking questions is an example of being a learner. If instructor considers it off subject, feel free to bring it

up during break or after class, etc. Disciple means learner.

We value disciple-making and questions.

Pray for each other in the class and for the instructor and for fruitfulness to God's glory resulting.

God Bless,  
Joe Whitchurch

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