

# General Information and Overview of the Christian Ministry Program

Welcome to Calvary University and to the Christian Ministry Program. Every degree seeking undergrad student and certain master's degree-seeking students need to fulfill a certain number of Christian Ministry credits in order to graduate from Calvary University. The number of Christian Ministry credits required to graduate depends on the number of credit hours required to complete the student's course of study and the amount of credit hours, if any, that they have transferred in. For details please use the following information link: <https://www.calvary.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/2018-2019-Overview-of-Students-Christian-Ministry-Requirements.pdf>

## I. What is the Christian Ministry Program?

The Christian Ministry Program is a program designed to record and monitor each student's Christian Ministry in a church, Christian organization, or personally developed ministry. Every student is allowed to prayerfully choose their Christian ministries with some limited guidelines.

- A. Each ministry needs to involve a minimum of 24 hours of ministry per semester.
- B. Your ministry should provide ministry experience in either evangelism, local church/ministry organization, or in your academic major. We encourage you to use your Christian Ministries to explore areas that you sense God is leading you.
- C. Summer ministries can be earned and recorded as a 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> ministry in either the Spring or Fall semester.

## II. Why do we have a Christian Ministry program?

- A. **Our Bible Accreditation Association Requires It (ABHE-Association of Biblical Higher Education)**
- B. **We at Calvary believe it is a vital part of your training and maturing process.**
- C. **To Help You in Your Personal Life and To Further God's Kingdom!**
  - i. Our desire is that your Christian Ministries will help prepare you for a life of future service, and also help you build a resume of ministry experiences and help you in confirming and/or deciding you academic major. We pray that your ministries will be used by the LORD to strengthen His kingdom.
- D. **It Is How Jesus Discipled His Disciples**
  - i. Jesus spent time with several of His followers. First He taught them and had them follow him in ministry. Then he called them and empowered them and sent them out to minister. Finally, He questioned them and gently corrected them when needed. Our prayer is that God will use local churches, pastors, lay leaders, ministries, Calvary's faculty, staff, and fellow students to give you the best discipleship training experience possible through the Christian Ministry program. We Pray that it will help prepare you for a lifetime of fruitful service for our LORD.

## III. Who is required to participate in the Christian Ministry Program?

The following Calvary students are required to complete a certain amount of Christian Ministry credits in order to graduate from Calvary University:

- All Undergraduate students
- Early College and Dual Enrolled students enrolled in an associate degree Program or the One Year Certificate Program.
- Graduate students in the following programs:
  - Master of Arts in Bible and Theology
  - Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling
  - Master of Divinity

**A. Christian Ministry Credits and Debriefing Interviews needed for graduation for all Undergrad Students:**

Each undergrad student will need to complete the following CM credits and Debriefing Interviews for graduation.

- 4-year degree – 7 CM credits with 4 Debriefing Interviews
- 2-year degree - 3 CM credits with 2 Debriefing Interviews
- 1-year certificate - 1 CM credit with one Debriefing Interview

**B. Christian Ministry Credits and Debriefing Interviews needed for graduation for the following Graduate Students:**

**Master of Arts in Bible and Theology**

Degree requires 36 class credits and 2 CM credits with 1 Debriefing Interview

**Master of Arts in Biblical Counseling**

Degree requires 51 class credits and 3 CM credits with 2 Debriefing Interviews

**Master of Divinity**

Degree requires 75 class credits and 4 CM credits with 2 Debriefing Interviews

**Master of Divinity 5-year BA and Master of Divinity**

Degree requires 8 CM credits and 4 Debriefing Interviews

For more details consult the following link: 2019-2020 – Overview of Student’s Christian Ministry Requirements <https://www.calvary.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/2018-2019-Overview-of-Students-Christian-Ministry-Requirements.pdf>

**Transfer credits:** For every 15 credits transferred into Calvary the Christian Ministry credits needed to complete a degree and graduate will be reduced by 1. If, while attending Calvary, a student takes classes at another institution and transfer them into Calvary, those credits earned will be treated as transfer credits and this may also reduce their required CM credits for graduation.

## **IV. What are the requirements for completing a Christian Ministry?**

**A. Every Student’s 1<sup>st</sup> semester’s Christian Ministry can be a “Church Search”**

Calvary allows the first semester’s ministry to be finding a local church to regularly attend.

- 1. Register for Christian Ministry:** Undergrad CM-099-O1 or CM-099-O2 Grad - CM-599-G1 or CM-599-G2 (There is no fee or charge for a Christian Ministry Credit.)
- 2. Attend 2 church services per week:** (Haystack can count as one of these services)  
If you have a church home already, just faithfully attend 2 services per week for this semester. If you need to find a church, we encourage you to visit as many churches as you need to find a church home.
- 3. Complete a Christian Ministry “Church Search” Verification Form:** This is to verify that you have been faithfully attended 2 church services per week and will continue to do so throughout the rest of the semester. The form also asks for some general information and it includes a short self-evaluation section. You can turn this form in before or during your Debriefing Interview. The form can be filled out online or in paper form.
- 4. Complete a Debriefing Interview:** Toward the middle of the semester, you will need to meet with the Christian Ministry Director for a Debriefing Interview. At that time you will be given important information on how to fulfill the rest of your Christian Ministry requirements for graduation.  
If on campus, there will be signup sheets outside the director’s office that is located in the East Education building. It is the first office on left (room 112) as you enter the south entrance of the building. If you are an online/off campus student you can meet with the director through online, phone or in person (your choice).

**B. How does one fulfill the rest of their Christian Ministries?**

- 1. Prayerfully seek what the LORD would have you do for your Christian Ministry.**
- 2. Register for Christian Ministry:** Undergrad CM-099-O1 or CM-099-O2 Grad - CM-599-G1 or CM-599-G2 (There is no fee or charge for a Christian Ministry Credit.) Best time to do this is when you register for

your semester classes or you may stop by the Registrar's office and ask them to register you for Christian Ministry.

- 3. Faithfully serve in the ministry that God has led you to do for the semester.** To fulfill your requirements for receiving credit you need to attend 2 churches services per week and have a minimum total of 24 hours in ministry per semester (ideally 2 or more hours per week for at least 12 weeks).

**What can you count as ministry time?** Time spent in prayer and preparation for your ministry as well as time spent with people to whom you are ministering. If you play for a service or sing in a service etc. you count the whole time of that service. If you minister in a church service or teach a Sunday school class that hour counts as a ministry hour and also as a service that you attended. Travel time does not count for ministry time unless you spend that time in prayer or going over your lesson. We believe that prayer and your preparation time are a very important part of your time spent in ministry.

- 4. Fill out a Christian Ministry and Church Attendance Verification form.** Either the paper form or the online form. Here is a link to the online form: <https://calvaryedu.wufoo.com/forms/qu4tdnm1l7tghr/> After you fill out the verification form click on submit and it will come directly to our Christian Ministry offices.
- 5. Christian Ministry Debriefing Interview:** You will need to have a Debriefing Interview for approximately half of your required Christian Ministries. This is when you meet with the Christian Ministry Director for approximately 20 to 30 minutes to go over your ministry. If your requirements for Christian Ministry are for 7 credits you will need to have 4 Debriefing Interviews. For the Christian Ministries that you are not required to do a Debriefing Interview you may still request to meet for one. Just sign up for it or email us and let us know you would like to meet with the director.

## **V. How you can get the most out of your Christian Ministry experience?**

Fulfilling your Christian Ministry responsibilities gives you the opportunity to have a personal, God-directed training program. If you seek the LORD and choose your Christian Ministries wisely and prayerfully, it can give you experiences in fields of ministry that will better prepare you for God's purpose for your life.

We believe that the practical training received through your participation in the Christian Ministry program can be vital to your understanding of God's call upon your life. It can also help you put into practice what you are learning in the classroom.

We pray that the CM program will help you develop a pattern of faithfully seeking the LORD for all that you do. Remember that a good spirit toward your Christian Ministry now can be one of the most helpful things you can do to receive the most from this program. Please look at the requirement of Christian Ministry as an opportunity to serve the LORD and grow in Him rather than just an obligation to fulfill. Our prayer is that you will experience the joy of ministry and the benefits of the Christian Ministry program. May you and those to whom you minister be blessed through this program! Blessings...Numbers 6:24-26.

Christian Ministry forms and information can be accessed online by going to Calvary's web page at [www.calvary@edu](http://www.calvary@edu). On the menu bar hover over 'Student Development' then click on 'Christian Ministries'. There you will find the Christian Ministry's forms and information.

**Please Remember:** Ministry is a privilege, and it is an honor to be called by God and to serve HIM.

Joe Everett

Director of Christian Ministry

[cmin@calvary.edu](mailto:cmin@calvary.edu)

816-425-6182

East Edu. Building Room #112

Office Hours. Tuesday thru Thursday in the 8:00-12:30