

Course: TH111 D(N) Evangelism/Spiritual Life (Blended)
Credit: 3 Semester Hours
Semester: Fall 2021; Cycle 3
Dates: October 25 – December 17
Time: Wednesday 1:00-4:00 p.m. (small groups determined by leader)
Place: CABRE 101; Online Teams/Canvas; (small groups determined by leader)
Professor: Joshua Paxton / Office: CABRE
Phone: Office: (816)322-5152 ext. 1353 / Cell: (816)679-9387
Email: Joshua.paxton@calvary.edu,

DESCRIPTION

An Introduction to the biblical principles of evangelism and spiritual life from a New Testament framework. Emphasis is on the practical methods of witnessing, discipleship, spiritual growth which includes our position in Christ by the Holy Spirit, and grace.

** This is a blended class, meaning that both campus and online students take this class together. Campus students attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. All interaction and assignments for campus and online students are done in the online classroom.*

OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Describe what it means to be a Christian and the nature of the Christian's spiritual life. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
2. Define spiritual maturity, spiritual warfare, and spiritual growth. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
3. Identify the God-ordained relationships for a Christian and how to develop and maintain maturity in all of those relationships. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10)
4. Articulate the Gospel message and confidently share it with others through actions and words. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 3, 4, 5, 9)

B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Articulate a biblical understanding of the Christian spiritual life and how it is developed and maintained. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
2. Define and practice selected spiritual disciplines. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 8, 9, 10)
3. Write a personal testimony and Gospel presentations and share them with others. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4) (A 4, 5, 7, 10)
4. Describe spiritual warfare and God's means for victory in it. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 2, 6, 9)
5. Evaluate one's spiritual life and articulate a personal spiritual growth plan. (PLO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) (A 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)

Our Mission: "...to prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview."

Class Format

This course will follow a unique format of blending both classroom instruction and small group mentoring.

Prior to the first day of class students will be divided into groups of 8-10 (depending on number of students and group leaders). These groups will be assigned in Microsoft Teams for the inclusion of online students. Group leaders will contact their group of students to establish the best meeting time and place for their group. As the course progresses students will attend class and meet in their small groups for discussion of the accompanying discussion questions. Group leaders will also try to arrange a time of evangelistic outreach with their group of students.

Assignments

1. Study Questions (8 sets worth 10 points each) 80 points

In Canvas the student will find eight sets of study questions; questions are to be answered prior to the group meeting to which they are assigned. Late study questions will be docked according to the late assignment policy listed below. Completing the study questions is an important part of participating in group discussion.

2. Discussion Questions (8 x 25 points each) 200 points

As the class is separated into smaller groups, in order to maintain the cohesion of the entire class and involvement of online students, students will respond to a final discussion question from the group time in the appropriate forum in Canvas for those topics. The discussion question is to be answered through the forum in Canvas. You must post your own reply before you can see others and it will be graded. Each response is worth 25 points. Students must also comment on the response of another student in order to receive Full Credit.

3. Testimony (Personal, 40 points); (Evangelistic, 55 points)

The student is to write two versions of their testimony. Instructions will be given in class. The first version is to be between 3-5 pages and is a personal version of their testimony as they might tell a believing friend. The second version is to be less than 2 pages and is to be a version for use in evangelistic situations. Students will share their testimonies in their groups. (Non-research Turabian format)

4. *The 7 Principles of an Evangelistic Life* (75 points)

The student will read the above book. Their reading is to be indicated in a 2 page review of the key themes of the book. This is not a summary of the text but rather a review and discussion of the author's main argument. Note points of agreement or disagreement. (See Canvas for due dates and submission.) (Non-research Turabian format)

5. MIDTERM (100 points)

Students will take a "take-home" Midterm in Canvas covering the first four weeks of the course (Evangelism and Personal Spirituality).

6. *Respectable Sins: Confronting the Sins We Tolerate* (75 points)

The student will read the above book. Their reading is to be indicated in a 2 page review of the key themes of the book. This is not a summary of the text but rather a review and discussion of the author's main argument. Note points of agreement or disagreement. (See Canvas for due dates and submission.) (Non-research Turabian format)

7. *Gifted: Understanding the Holy Spirit and Unwrapping Spiritual Gifts* (75 points)

The student will read the above book. Their reading is to be indicated in a 2 page review of the key themes of the book. This is not a summary of the text but rather a review and discussion of the author's main argument. Note points of agreement or disagreement. (See Canvas for due dates and submission.) (Non-research Turabian format)

8. *Prayer/Devotional Journal* (100 points)

- a. Keep a prayer journal for the 8 weeks of the course, making entries for at least five days of each week for spending 20 minutes of each day in prayer and Bible reading.
- b. During the course of the class students will engage in both individual and group outreach. At least 5 individual encounters of the students sharing the gospel message should be noted in the student's journal. The student should participate in at least 2 group evangelistic efforts (dates and times will be determined by your group leader) / Online students are encouraged to reach out to those local to them and document this in their journal.
- c. A summary of the journal will be turned in at the end of class. See CANVAS for more information.

9. *Final Paper on Spiritual Disciplines* (100 points)

- a. Choose one of the spiritual disciplines covered in class or the topic of evangelism.
- b. Write a 5 page research paper covering that discipline. (Research paper Turabian format)
- c. Explain the discipline from a biblical worldview, its importance to the Christian life and practical steps to implement this discipline in the life of the follower of Christ.

10. *Final* (100 points)

Students will take a "take-home" Final in Canvas covering weeks 5 through 8 of the course (Spiritual Disciplines and Corporate Spirituality).

METHODS

A. In-class methods: listening to lectures, participating in group discussions.

B. Out-of-class methods: reading, writing, research, participating in Canvas, and studying for tests.

1. Grading:

	Points
1. Study Questions(x8).....	80
2. Discussion Questions.....	200
3. Personal Testimony.....	40
4. Evangelistic Testimony.....	55
5. Book/Reading Reviews(75x3).....	225
6. "Midterm" Exam.....	100
7. Prayer/Devotional Journal.....	100
8. Final Research Paper.....	100
9. "Final" Exam.....	100
Total	1000

2. "See Grading Scale in the University Catalog"

- C.** The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (*meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages*), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (*paraphrases, and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV*) may be used as supplemental sources. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.
- D.** All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th edition. Unless otherwise indicated book reports and study questions may be in non-research format, interviews and other research papers should be in research paper format. A copy of the Turabian Style Guide is available on the Clark Academic Center page of Calvary's website.
- E. Late Assignments:** Assignments will be lowered **15%** if not turned on in on the due date. Assignments that are more than one week late will be assigned a zero (0) grade unless prior arrangements have been made with the professor.
- F. Plagiarism:** *Plagiarism is defined as copying any part of a book or paper without identifying the author. This also includes taking another person's ideas and presenting them as your own.* Any assignment that includes plagiarism will receive a zero (0) grade. Students should note that papers will be submitted in Canvas via "Turn-It-In". This program automatically gives the students work a plagiarism score, students should strive for a score less than 20.
- G. Disabilities:** Students with disabilities have the responsibility of informing the Accommodations Support Coordinator (aso@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

**TH-111 D(N) Evangelism/Spiritual Life
Syllabus, Fall 2021, Cycle 3**

- H.** The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu), located in the library building, is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all CU students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.
- I. Attendance Policy** – Calvary has no official attendance policy, the attendance policy of the professor is as follows.
- a. Students have one unexcused absence per cycle.
 - i. For In-class students - attendance is tracked by being in class.
 - ii. For online students - attendance is tracked through involvement in discussions and submitting assignments.
 - b. For each unexcused absence after the first the student’s final grade will be deducted by one letter grade per absence.
 - c. Occasionally situations arise which may result in a student missing class, in this event the student should contact the professor prior to the class period to request an excused absence.

TEXTBOOKS

The Bible (Instructor will use ESV)

Christopher Cone, 2015. *Gifted: Understanding the Holy Spirit and Unwrapping Spiritual Gifts*. Ft. Worth: Exegetica Publishing. ISBN-13: 978-0976593089 (Retail \$13.00; Amazon \$11.00; Kindle \$9.00)

Douglas M. Cecil, 2003. *The 7 Principles of an Evangelistic Life*. Chicago: Moody Publishers. ASIN: B00371V8CS (Retail \$13.99; Amazon \$11.99, Kindle \$8.79)

Jerry Bridges, 2017. *Respectable Sins: Confronting the Sins We Tolerate*. Colorado Springs: NavPress. ISBN-13: 978-1631468339 (Retail \$15.99; Amazon \$13.69, Kindle \$9.07)

CLASS LECTURES

Subject to change, see actual due dates in Canvas

- Week 1** Foundation: A Biblical Worldview
The Importance of Theology to Spirituality
Testimonies
- Week 2** Theology of Evangelism
- Week 3** Evangelism Methods
- Week 4** Personal Spirituality
Discipline of Faith
The Work of the Holy Spirit
- Week 5** Discipline of Righteousness
Discipline of Prayer
Discipline of Growth
- Week 6** Discipline of Bible Study
Discipline of Love
Discipline of Suffering
- Week 7** Discipline of Discipline
Discipline of Worship
- Week 8** Corporate Spirituality / Fellowship
Discipline of Teaching / Being Teachable
Discipline of Ministry

RESOURCES FOR FUTHER READING AND RESEARCH

(These are included for the student who is interested in doing additional reading or research. Though helpful, the professor does not necessarily endorse all the views and positions of these authors. Feel free to consult the professor for other resources related to specific topics.)

Beougher, Timothy and Alvin Reid. eds. *Evangelism for a Changing World*. Wheaton: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1995.

Blackaby, Henry T. *Experiencing God*. Nashville: B&H Publishers, 1994.

Bugbee, Bruce. *What You Do Best in the Body of Christ: Discover Your Spiritual Gifts, Personal Style, and God-Given Passion*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005.

Guinness, OS. *The Call: Finding and Fulfilling the Central Purpose of Your Life*. Nashville: Word Publishing 1998.

Hybells, Bill, Mark Mittelberg, and Lee Strobel. *Becoming a Contagious Christian*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.

Little, Paul E. *How to Give Away Your Faith*. Rev. ed. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 1988.

Packer, J.I. *Knowing God*. 20th Anniversary ed. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 1993.

Piper, John, *Desiring God: Meditations of a Christian Hedonist*. 3rd ed. Sisters, OR: Multnomah, 2003.

Pollard, Nick. *Evangelism Made Slightly Less Difficult: How to Interest People Who Aren't Interested*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 1997.

Richardson, Rick. *Evangelism Outside the Box: New Ways to Help People Experience the Good News*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity, 2000.

Sjogren, Steve. *101 Ways to Reach Your Community*. Colorado Springs: Nav Press, 2001.

Swindoll, Charles R. *The Mystery of God's Will: What Does He Want For Me?* Nashville: W. Publishing Group, 1999.

Tozer, A.W. *The Pursuit of God*. Camp Hill, PN: Christian Publications, 1993.