

OVERVIEW OF THE *Practical Christian Ministries Program*

Welcome to Calvary University's Practical Christian Ministries Program. Every degree-seeking undergrad student and most master's degree-seeking students need to fulfill Practical Christian Ministries credits to graduate.

WHAT IS THE PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES PROGRAM?

The Practical Christian Ministries Program is a program designed to record and monitor each student's ministry in a church, Christian organization, or personally developed ministry. Every student is encouraged to prayerfully choose their Practical Christian Ministries within certain guidelines. Your ministry should provide ministry experience in either evangelism or discipleship. We encourage you to use your Practical Christian Ministries to explore areas that you sense God is leading you.

WHY DO WE HAVE A PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES PROGRAM?

- **Our accreditation association, Association of Biblical Higher Education, requires it.**
- **Involvement in ministry is a vital part of your training and maturing process.**
- **To further God's Kingdom!** Our desire is that your Practical Christian Ministries will help prepare you for a life of service, build a resume of ministry experience, and confirm (or decide) your academic major. We pray that your ministries will be used by the LORD to strengthen His kingdom.
- **It is how Jesus disciplined His disciples.** Jesus spent time with His followers. He called them, empowered them, and sent them out to minister. Jesus also questioned and gently corrected the disciples when needed. Our prayer is that God will use local churches, pastors, ministries, and faculty, staff, and fellow students to give you the best discipleship training experience possible.

WHO IS REQUIRED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN MINISTRY PROGRAM?

- **Undergraduate Students** need to complete 1 Practical Christian Ministry per semester.

- **Graduate students in the following programs** will need to complete Practical Christian Ministries requirements for graduation (see Practical Christian Ministries Handbook for specific details).

MA in Bible and Theology

MA in Biblical Counseling

MDiv

MS in Education (leading to licensure)

MS in Organization Development

ACCELERATED DEGREE OPTIONS:

5 Year BA in Bible & Theology and MDiv

5 Year BS in Biblical Counseling and MA in Biblical Counseling

5 Year BS in Business Administration and MS in Organization Development

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETING A CHRISTIAN MINISTRY?

- Your advisor will register you for Practical Christian Ministry when you register for your classes. The assignments will be in Canvas.
- Attend two church services per week: (Morning Worship, Sunday School, Bible Study, Prayer Meeting, Youth or College Group, etc. (Haystack, a missionary prayer group that meets on campus, can count as one of these services).
- Faithfully serve in the ministry that God has led you to for the semester. To fulfill your requirements for receiving credit, you need to have a minimum total of 24 hours in ministry per semester (ideally 2 or more hours per week for at least 12 weeks).
- Complete a "Church/Ministry" form each semester. You may use your first semester to search for your church home. Every other semester, you will be involved in ministry.
- Have your mentor fill out the mentor form, preferably with you. It will help you and your mentor evaluate your time in the ministry of your choice. Your mentor cannot be a peer.
- Complete a Debriefing Interview. You will debrief with the Practical Christian Ministries Director once per year according to the following schedule:
 - Fall: last name beginning with letter A-M
 - Spring: last name beginning with letter N-Z
 Schedule an interview at calendly.com/practicalchristianministries/meet or via the link on the Practical Christian Ministries page.

Blessings!

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