

15800 Calvary Road
Kansas City, MO 64147-1341

Course: TH111 D(N) Evangelism/Spiritual Life
Credit: 3 Semester Hours
Semester: Spring 2026
Dates: January 12 – May 8, 2026
Time: Tuesday/Thursday 1:00-2:20 p.m. (small groups determined by leader)
Place: CABRE 101/102; Online Teams/Canvas; (small groups determined by leader)
Professor: Joshua Paxton / Office: CABRE 108
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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 course is offered in two formats: in-person and online. Students registered for in-person attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. For both in-person and online students, assignments, and interaction outside of the class period are done in the learning management system.

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 discussion. More details will be provided in class or in Canvas.

Assignments

1. Study Questions (13 sets worth 10 points each) 130 points

In Canvas the student will find 13 sets of study questions; questions are to be answered prior to the class meeting. 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 Response (13 x 10 points each) 130 points

As the class is separated into smaller groups, to maintain the cohesion of the entire class and involvement of online students, students will give one personal application from their small group time as a practical lesson learned in a discussion forum in Canvas. You must post your own reply before you can see others and it will be graded. Each response is worth 10 points. Students must also comment on the response of another student to receive Full Credit.

3. Testimony (Personal, 20 points); (Evangelistic, 80 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 and write a review according to instructions provided in Canvas.

5. MIDTERM (100 points)

Students will take a "take-home" Midterm in Canvas.

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

The student will read the above book and write a review according to instructions provided in Canvas.

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

The student will read the above book and write a review according to instructions provided in Canvas.

8. Prayer/Devotional Journal (125 points)

- a. Keep a prayer journal for the 16 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 outreach according to instructions provided in class and in Canvas. Students are required to document their encounters in their Prayer/Devotional Journal.

- c. A summary of the journal will be turned in at the end of class. See CANVAS for more information.

9. Final Paper (100 points)

- a. Students will write a final paper according to instructions provided in class and in Canvas.
- b. The paper will be 5 pages (minimum, not including title page; Research paper Turabian format)

10. Final (100 points)

Students will take a "take-home" Final in Canvas.

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.....	130
2. Discussion Questions.....	130
3. Personal Testimony.....	20
4. Evangelistic Testimony.....	80
5. Book/Reading Reviews(75x3).....	225
6. "Midterm" Exam.....	100
7. Prayer/Devotional Journal.....	125
8. Final 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.

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- E. Late Assignments:** Assignments will be penalized according to the professor's late policy as explained in Canvas.
- 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
- 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 will be explained in class and in Canvas.

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** Introduction
Foundation: A Biblical Worldview
- Week 2** The Importance of Theology to Spirituality - Testimonies
Small Group
- Week 3** Testimonies
- Week 4** Theology of Evangelism
Small Group
- Week 5** Evangelism Methods (Role Play)
Small Group
- Week 6** Personal Spirituality
Small Group
- Week 7** Discipline of Faith - The Work of the Holy Spirit
Small Group
- Week 8** Discipline of Righteousness - Discipline of Prayer
Small Group
- Week 9** **Spring Break – NO CLASS**
- Week 10** Discipline of Growth - Discipline of Bible Study
Small Group
- Week 11** Discipline of Love
Small Group
- Week 12** Discipline of Suffering
Small Group
- Week 13** Discipline of Discipline
Small Group
- Week 14** Discipline of Worship
Small Group
- Week 15** Corporate Spirituality / Fellowship
Small Group
- Week 16** Discipline of Teaching / Being Teachable
Small Group
- Week 17** Discipline of Ministry
Small Group

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.