

ME-5001 FOUNDATIONS OF EVANGELISM

Wi/Sp Semester 2010, Tuesdays, 5:30—8:00pm

Pastor Jay Halley, DMin (The Chapel)

COURSE SYLLABUS

A. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

1. To examine the biblical/theological foundations of evangelism.
2. To learn how to present the gospel effectively in a variety of contexts and as a way of life.
3. To understand the role of the individual, the local church and the church leader in evangelistic efforts.
4. To gain the ability to integrate evangelism into the broader scope of making disciples.
5. To examine and appreciate opportunities for outreach in the context of post-modernity.
6. To exit the class with a healthy mindset and effective methods...in balance.

B. METHOD OF STUDY

1. “Small group” interaction and a form of accountability.
2. Discussion-oriented classroom presentations.
3. Reading of the Bible, articles, book excerpts and books on evangelism.
4. Evangelism in the field. “Learning by doing.”

C. READING

1. Required:

Dever, Mark. 2007. *The gospel and personal evangelism*. Wheaton: Crossway. (128 pages)

Dickson, John. 2002. *If I were God, I'd end all the pain: struggling with evil, suffering and faith*. Kingsford, Australia: Matthias Media. (70 pages)

Dickson, John. 2002. *If I were God, I'd make myself clearer: searching for clarity in a world full of claims*. Kingsford, Australia: Matthias Media. (83 page)

Geisler, Norman and David Geisler. 2009. *Conversational evangelism: how to listen and speak so you can be heard*. Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House. (211 pages)

Pollard, Nick. 1997. *Evangelism made slightly less difficult: how to interest people who aren't interested*. Downers Grove: IVP. (176 pages)

Stanley, Andy. 2003. *How good is good enough?* Sisters, Oregon: Multnomah Publishers. (92 pages)

Two ways to live: know and share the gospel (participant's manual).

Order:

<http://www.matthiasmedia.com/two-ways-to-live-know-and-share-the-gospel-participant-s-manual>

2. Other really good books to read but *not* required:

Barna, George. 2005. *Revolution: finding vibrant faith beyond the walls of the sanctuary*. Tyndale House Publishers.

Carson, D.A. (ed) 2000. *Telling the truth: Evangelizing postmoderns*. Grand Rapids, Zondervan.

_____. 1996. *The gagging of God: Christianity confronts pluralism*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.

Chamberlain, Paul. 1996. *Can we be good without God?* Downers Grove: IVP.

Chapman, John. 2002. *Know and tell the gospel*. Kingsford, Australia: Matthias Media.

Donahue, Bill and Russ Robinson. 2002. *The seven deadly sins of small group ministry: A troubleshooting guide for church leaders*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.

Downs, Tim. 1999. *Finding common ground: How to communicate with those outside the Christian community--while we still can*. Chicago: Moody Press.

Evans, C. Stephen. 1996. *Why believe? Reason and mystery as pointers to God*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.

Gorman, Julie. 2002. *Community that is Christian: A handbook on small groups*. Grand Rapids: Baker.

Green, Michael. 1987. *Evangelism in the early church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.

Hull, Bill. 1990. *The disciple making church*. Old Tappan: Fleming H. Revell Company.

Hunter, George G. 2000. *The Celtic way of evangelism: how Christianity can reach the west...again*. Abingdon Press.

Jacks, Bob and Betty Jacks. 1986. *Your home, A lighthouse*. Colorado Springs: NavPress.

Kimball, Dan. 2007. *They like Jesus but not the church: insights from emerging generations*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan. (272 pages)

Larimore, Walt and William Carr Peel. 2003. *Going public with your faith: becoming a spiritual influence at work*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.

Mittelberg, Mark. 2000. *Becoming a contagious church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.

Newman, Randy. 2004. *Questioning evangelism: engaging people's hearts the way Jesus did*. Grand Rapids: Kregel.

- Packer, J.I. 1981. *Evangelism and the sovereignty of God*. Downers Grove: IVP.
- Pollard, Nick. 1997. *Evangelism made slightly less difficult*. Downers Grove: IVP.
- Petersen, Jim. 1993. *Evangelism as a lifestyle*. Colorado Springs: NavPress.
- _____. *Lifestyle discipleship*. Colorado Springs: NavPress.
- Petersen, Jim and Mike Shamy. 2003. *The insider: Bringing the kingdom of God into your every day world*. Colorado Springs: NavPress.
- Pippert, Rebecca Manley. 1979. *Out of the saltshaker and into the world*. Downers Grove: IVP.
- Pritchard, Ray. 2000. *An anchor for the soul: help for the present, hope for the future*. Chicago: Moody.
- Rainer, Thom S. 2003. *The unchurched next door*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- Sjogren, Steve/Dave Ping/Doug Pollock. 2004. *Irresistible evangelism: natural ways to open others to Jesus*. Loveland, Colorado: Group.
- Stott, John R. W. 1964. *Basic christianity*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- _____. 1975. *Christian mission in the modern world*. Downers Grove: IVP.
- _____. 1969. *Our guilty silence*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans.
- Strobel, Lee. 1993. *Inside the mind of unchurched Harry and Mary*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- _____. 1998. *The case for Christ*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.
- _____. 2000. *The case for faith*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan.

D. COURSE ASSIGNMENTS/REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

1. Evangelistic efforts (15%)
2. Various assignments (10%)
3. Class attendance and participation (10%)

Because of the nature of this class and the way it is structured, the student must come to class ready to participate in discussions. The best way to make this happen is for the student to come with all reading and evangelism assignments fully accomplished. Notation will be made of each student's full *attendance* and thoughtful *interaction*.

4. Personal story (5%)

We live in a culture that loves a good story. Combining a personal story with God's story is a powerful sharing tool. The student will be asked to prepare and present a four-minute personal story according to guidelines provided in class. The story should be written for the ears of your Sunday morning church service. (Because of class time and other considerations, exceeding four minutes will

detract from the grade.) Write it out according to guidelines given—*then time yourself.*

5. Book readings/reports (40%)
6. Final Exam (20%)