ME-5001 FOUNDATIONS OF EVANGELISM
Wi/Sp Semester 2014, Thursdays, January 16 – March 27, 5:00-6:30
Instructor: Jay Halley, DMin
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COURSE SYLLABUS

A. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES
1. To examine the biblical/theological foundations of evangelism.
2. To understand the gospel and how to represent and communicate the gospel confidently.
3. To consider the role of the local church and the church leader in evangelism.
4. To exit the class with a healthy mindset and timeless principles for personal practice of evangelism and related church leadership.

B. LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the completion of this course, the student will be: 1) Exposed to the nature of God’s mission and the consequent mission of the local church and individual believer; 2) Prepared to critically participate with an unchurched culture; 3) Equipped to communicate clearly, confidently and compassionately the message of the gospel of Jesus Christ.

C. METHOD OF STUDY

1. Discussion-oriented classroom presentations.
2. Reading of the Bible, articles, book excerpts and books on evangelism/mission.
4. In the field, “learn by doing” experiences.

D. READING

1. Required:


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


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


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)


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


Pippert, Rebecca Manley. 1979. Out of the saltshaker and into the world. Downers Grove: IVP.

D. COURSE ASSIGNMENTS/REQUIREMENTS AND GRADING

1. Evangelistic efforts (15%)
   To be explained in class.

2. Class attendance and participation (15%)
   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 three to four minute personal story according to guidelines provided in class. The story should be written primarily for those who do not yet follow Christ. (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 (50%)

6. Project (15%)
   Using the elements of the gospel as discussed in class and reading material, create a culturally relevant and easy-to-convey original diagram that can be shown to anyone as an explanation of the gospel. Step-by-step main points, supporting passages and transitions are expected.

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**Book reading/reports:**  (EVERY BOOK CRITIQUE MUST RECORD % OF THE BOOK YOU HAVE READ.)

Ashford (15%)
How does this book inform and enhance your view of mission and evangelism. What is compelling, clarifying, convicting, etc? (3 pages)

Dever (10%)
Talk about your own barriers to personal evangelism and what in this book may help you to move to another level of effort. What in this book do you think would perhaps most help your church go to another level? (2 pages)

Gilbert (10%)
How has this book helped you in your understanding of the gospel? How could it assist you in your explanation of the gospel to those in your relational circles? (2 pages)

Pollock (10%)
Talk about the three chapters that influenced you the most and explain why. How could these chapters change the way your represent Christ and the gospel? (2-3 pages)

Stanley (5%)
What helpful illustrations or thoughts did you pick up that would aid you in your own evangelistic efforts. To whom in your circle could you give it and what needs to be said? (1 page)