

4DM801

Theology of Ministry Seminar

Course Description:

A study of ministerial activity and responsibility from a theological perspective.
An evaluation of personal competencies for ministry helps participants to identify an area of need and interest for individual major projects.

Course Objectives:

For the students to be able to formulate a theology of ministry that will guide their practice.

For the students to be able to review the history of the development of the theology of ministry and to isolate issues that inform their practice of ministry and to show how these issues can enlighten their practice.

For students to be able to relate major themes of Christian theology to the practice of ministry.

For students to be able to formulate exegetical arguments for their theology of ministry.

For students to be able to evaluate their own ministry in light of the theology of ministry they develop.

For students to be able to recognize the role of the social sciences in the practice of ministry and to compare the relative value of those disciplines with the direction they get from the exegetical and theological sciences.

For students to be able to embrace their roles in the church, broadly considered, and to set an example for their parishioners and colleagues that reflects the Bible's teaching about the role of the minister.

Course Requirements:

You must read 2000 pages on the topic of theology of ministry. When you submit your paper for this course, you will be required to turn in a reading report. The report should consist of the bibliographic material describing the book together with the number of pages.

A twenty page paper describing a problem that the student encounters in his ministry and showing how his theology of ministry provides direction for instituting programs in the church that lead to a resolution of the problem

The paper will be graded on the basis of how clearly the situation in the church is described, the extent to which pertinent issues in theology of ministry are expounded and applied to the problem, and the usefulness of the solution. Consideration will also be given to the extent that the paper: reflects the reading done by the student, integrates material from class lectures, and

reflects serious thought about how theology of ministry can and should guide the practice of ministry.

All written work is due by the date assigned by the D.Min. office.

All papers must conform to the RTS style manual for D.Min. papers (available from the D.Min. office). The use of the parenthetical reference is required.

Course Outline:

Introduction to theology of ministry

Ministry in the perspective of exegesis

Ministry and biblical terminology

Ministry in biblical theological perspective

Ministry and biblical models

Ministry in the perspective of systematic theology

Ministry in the perspective of history

Ministry in the ancient church

Ministry in the medieval church

Ministry in the reformation church

Ministry in the modern church

Ministry in the perspective of the social sciences

Ministry and the professions

Ministry and executive leadership

Ministry and counseling

Ministry and the community

Ministry in the perspective of practice

Ministry and your present situation

Ministry and your long term goals

Ministry and a changing culture

Ministry and the DMin project

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