MS508 EVANGELISM: THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE

by

Elias dos Santos Medeiros

COURSE DESIGN

Reformed Theological Seminary

Jackson, Mississippi
Spring 2011 A.D.
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE--SPRING 2011

TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED

Introduction to the Course

What is this course all about?
- The greatest joy in Christian living
- Biblical Theology of “Evangelism”
  (God’s glory, the Church, the Unconverted, the Problem, The Solution, and the Means)
- Ecclesiological Applications (Your Local Churches)

The Chief End of Ministry and “Evangelism”

Evangelism, Evangelist, Evangelize, Intercultural Evangelism
God’s glory, the Church, and the Unconverted
The Problem of Every Person You Meet, the Solution, and the Means
The Teachings and Ministry of Jesus
The Teachings and Ministry of Peter
The Teachings and Ministry of Paul

The Practice of Evangelism

Evangelizing in Prisons
Evangelizing College Students
Evangelizing Roman Catholics
Evangelizing Muslims in USA
Evangelistic “methods”–Small Groups Discussion

Reformed and Puritan Evangelism

The Sovereignty of God and Evangelism
Calvin and the TULIP
Discussion on Baxter and Beeke

Outreach Project Reports
Course Description

“Evangelism” and its relationship with the pastoral ministry are reviewed in light of the teaching of Jesus, the apostles, and the dynamics of the preaching of the gospel as portrayed in the context of the Scriptures and the Reformed faith. “Evangelism” as an effort to reach out to different groups is also studied, encouraged, and considered in the light of the Scriptures.

The Lord willing we will have the participation of some experts on the topics of Evangelizing Muslims, Evangelizing Roman Catholics, Evangelizing Inmates, etc. Please pray for our class and all the participants. You will be engaging in a tremendous and unbelievable spiritual warfare zone.

Course Requirements

1. Classroom attendance and active participation in the small group discussions. “Classroom attendance [and active participation in the small group discussions] [are] for the glory of God and preparation for the gospel ministry.
   - SIX (6) ABSENCES: GRADE F
   - FOUR (4) ABSENCES: GRADE C+
   - THREE (3) ABSENCES: GRADE B-

2. The careful reading of the assigned materials and four reading reports (two pages each per book), single space, highlighting the main propositions, statements, theses, principles, etc, gathered from the reading.

3. Serious involvement in and commitment to an outreach project (Evangelism Explosion, Gateway Homeless Ministry, Hospital Visits, Prison Ministry, etc.) during this semester. 50 % of your grade. You can also create your own outreach project or share your faith with, at least, 10 different unconverted, unchurched people during the semester.

4. A journal of your outreach project with the dates and main experiences, lessons, and/or impressions that you have each time you went out to speak to someone.

5. Written Personal “testimonies.” Each student will have an opportunity to share his/her written personal testimony in the context of a small group. For a format of how to prepare your personal “testimony,” see Metzger 2002, 209-210.
Required Readings

Books

The whole book of *Acts*. Inspired by the Holy Spirit. Commanded by God. **Due on February 9.**


At least 250 pages of an “evangelist” biography/biographies. **Due on May 04.** Some suggestions:¹


- Chapman, J. Wilbur. [1900]. *The life and work of Dwight Lyman Moody (1837-1899)*. Wilbus Chapman was a close friend of Moody. This biography is available online: [http://www.biblebelievers.com/moody/index.html](http://www.biblebelievers.com/moody/index.html)

- Fullerton, W.Y. *Charles Haddon Spurgeon: A biography*. This biography is available online: [http://www.spurgeon.org/misc/biopref.htm](http://www.spurgeon.org/misc/biopref.htm)

**DISCIPLINE YOURSELF TO READ 10 PAGES PER DAY. YOU WILL FINISH THESE READINGS BEFORE MAY 1.**

¹ Please, take the initiative to select the evangelist biography/biographies you would like to read during this semester. Check the internet, RTS Library, etc. Take a look at [http://www.desiringgod.org/ResourceLibrary/Biographies/](http://www.desiringgod.org/ResourceLibrary/Biographies/).
Other Sources

Use your Internet search engine (Google, Yahoo, Copernic, etc.) and search for “books on evangelism,” “evangelism bibliography,” “bibliography on evangelism,” “evangelism institute,” “evangelism books,” “evangelism resources,” “theology of evangelism,” “history of evangelism,” “evangelism and culture,” “evangelism methods,” “Reformed Evangelism,” “Puritan Evangelism.”

Off the Map Organization--http://www.off-the-map.org/

Recommended Articles on Evangelism–Monergism website--

John Piper resources--http://www.desiringgod.org/resource-library

Eerdmans.com--http://www.eerdmans.com/shop/subjectarea_list.asp?pg=1

Bakerpublishinggroup.com 3--

InterVarsity Press--http://www.ivpress.com/

Crossway Press--http://www.crossway.org/search?q=evangelism

Reformed Evangelism--http://www.the-highway.com/c_evangelism.html


Preliminary Bibliography4

Books


3 Includes the following publishing companies: BakerAcademic, BakerBooks, BethanyHouse, Revell, Chosen, BrazosPress, and Cambridge University Press.

4 Update this preliminary bibliography by accessing the recommended websites above.


Edwards, Jonathan. 2002. *The salvation of souls: Nine previously unpublished sermons on the call of ministry and the gospel*. Wheaton: Crossway Books. These sermons were edited by Richard A. Bailey and Gregory A. Wills. Book well recommended by John Piper (Senior Pastor of Bethlehem Baptist Church), Douglas A. Sweeney (Chair, Department of Church History and the History of Christian Thought, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School), Harry S. Stout (Jonathan Edwards Professor of American Christianity, Yale University) and others. 179 pages


