ORDERING YOUR PRIVATE WORLD
2DME 837 Spirituality Elective
January 10-14, 2005
Gordon MacDonald

Course Description

This course will focus on the inner life of the leader. Much is being said in recent days about the leader’s need for vision, management skill, planning, and people development. Too little is being said about the personal life of the leader: his/her spiritual and intellectual disciplines, the nature of personal relationships, work habits, legitimate aspirations for growth, fun, contentment, and all the classic “minefields” that lead to failure and disappointment. Working from forty-four years of pastoral experience, Gordon MacDonald will lead the class through a discussion of these issues and more.

Course Instructor

Gordon MacDonald is an author, speaker, and teacher. He has pastored for more than thirty-five years, most recently serving as the senior minister at Grace Chapel, Lexington, MA. His other pastorates were in New York City, southern Illinois and Kansas. For three years he was president of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. He now serves as an Editor-at-Large with Leadership Journal and is Chairman of the Board of World Relief. Gordon speaks frequently at seminars for the Willow Creek Association leadership conferences both in the U.S. and abroad. He also teaches regularly at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary in New England.

MacDonald has written more than a dozen books and co-authored others with his wife, Gail. Perhaps his best-known book is Ordering Your Private World which won the Gold Medallion and the Platinum Awards from the Evangelical Christian Publishing Association. Among his other books are Secrets of a Generous Life, The Life God Blesses, Renewing Your Spiritual Passion, When Men Think Private Thoughts and Mid-Course Correction (a book on deep life-change).

His academic background includes a B.A. from the University of Colorado (’62), and a M. Div from Denver Seminary (’66). Barrington College (later merged with Gordon College) awarded MacDonald an honorary Doctor of Divinity Degree in 1979.

The MacDonalds live in Canterbury, N.H., where they have maintained a quiet home in the woods for more than twenty years called Peace Ledge. Their greatest enjoyment is in their two married children and five grandchildren. The MacDonalds are hikers, bikers, skiers, and voracious readers.
Required Reading

Students will read from the following reading list and from articles received via email after the class roster is finalized (hopefully by December 1). Please write a one page standard reading report on each book or article over 50 pages.


Course Integration Papers

The course Integration Papers will reflect an understanding of your course reading, lectures and classroom interaction and will be integrated with a personal application to your present life and ministry situation.

Papers are due in the D.Min. Office by 5:00pm, April 29, 2005. The paper is to be 15-20 pages in length (12-point font, Times New Roman, double-spaced) using our “Doctoral Thesis Guidelines” and *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* (6th Edition) by Kate L. Turabian.

Your cover sheet should include the course name, number, date, the professor’s name, and your name, address, and phone number. Please number pages and staple at the top left hand corner.

Please mail your paper to the D.Min. Office
(Please, do not mail papers to the professor)

RTS D.Min. Office
1231 Reformation Drive
Oviedo, FL 32765
Title of Book
Complete Bibliographic Reference

Overview—Give a brief overview of the book, including its theme, perspective and approach.

Critique—Offer a brief critique of the book, including elements of strength and weakness.

Application—Offer some specific application to your own ministry—demonstrating the value and relevance of the material in this book.

Best Quote—Be sure to include the page number where the quote can be found.
### Reading List

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<th>Author</th>
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Total Pages Read _________________

Signed __________________________

Date_____________________________