

RADICAL GRACE
2DM 844 Spirituality Elective
July 7-11, 2008
Steve Brown

DESCRIPTION

Never before has pastoral ministry been so difficult, so painful, and so confusing. Most of us have thought that the remedy for the difficulty, the pain, and the confusion is to acquire an increasing number of pastoral skills and to apply them to the church. Thereby, we believe, we will be able to fix the problems, become successful, and see the church become increasingly effective in bringing glory and honor to God.

While there is nothing wrong with the acquisition of pastoral skills and, in fact, those are necessary, sometimes real help comes not from knowing more or becoming more skilled at what we do know, but from returning to the basics of our faith and drawing supernatural power, freedom, and joy from that return.

The purpose of this course is to aid the pastor in the return to the roots, the incredible joy and freedom we knew at the beginning of our Christian journey.

INSTRUCTOR

Dr. Steve Brown is a former pastor with over twenty-five years of ministry in churches, seventeen of those years at Key Biscayne Presbyterian Church in Miami, FL. He currently teaches pastoral ministry, preaching, and communications at RTS and is a visiting preacher at Perimeter Church in Atlanta, Willow Creek Presbyterian, Northland, A Church Distributed in Orlando, and Seven Rivers Presbyterian in Crystal River, FL, as well as in other churches and organizations.



Steve is the founder and president of Key Life Network, Inc. He has an extensive national *Key Life* radio ministry and international tape ministry. He is also a contributing writer and editor for many Christian publications, and is an international conference speaker. Some of his books include: *How to Talk So People Will Listen*, *Heirs with the Prince*, *Born Free*, *Living Free*, *If God is in Charge*, *When Your Rope Breaks*, *Approaching God*, *When Being Good Isn't Good Enough*, *Follow the Wind: Our Lord, the Holy Spirit*, and his latest book, *What Was I Thinking?*

REQUIREMENTS

Complete 2000 pages of new reading prior to the first day of class. Reading Reports are due on Monday morning July 7. If the reports are not submitted on time: 1) there will be a grading penalty—normally a 1/3 total grade deduction (an A will become A-, B+ will become a B, etc.), and 2) the new deadline will be automatically extended to the same deadline as the course integration paper. (See the Reading Report Guideline and the Cover Sheet Guideline following the reading list.)

In this course, you will be required to examine the layers of ecclesiastical, institutional and personal issues which have layered over and robbed you and the church of the power of grace. To that end, you will be required to:

- 1) Design and apply a study instrument which will ascertain the reality of your members' understanding and application of grace.
- 2) Write a 15-20 integration paper, collating material from your reading, your congregation study, class lectures and discussions, and your own thoughts and insights. The paper will be graded not only on your understanding of the cognitive material but also on your experience of and application of the doctrines of grace.

The paper will be received by the Doctor of Ministry office no later than October 31, 2008. The cover sheet should include the course title and number, professor's name, and the student's name and contact information. Staple in the top left corner. If you want to have your graded paper mailed to you include a self-addressed envelop with adequate postage for return delivery. Mail to: D. Min. Office, 1231 Reformation Dr., Oviedo, FL 32765. Students who fail to submit the assigned integration paper by the due date are granted an automatic two-month extension and will be assessed a \$100 per paper penalty. The paper and payment must be received no later than December 31, 2008.

READING LIST

Please read 2000 pages (not previously read) and report on each book.

- Brown, Steve. *A Scandalous Freedom*. Howard Books, 2004. 224 pages. ISBN: 978-1582293929
- Brown, Steve. *When Being Good Isn't Good Enough*. Baker Pub Group, 1995. 222 pages. ISBN: 978-0801054464
- Brown, Steve. *Born Free: How to Find Radical Freedom and Infectious Joy in an Authentic Faith*. Ravens Ridge Books, 1994, 206 pages. ISBN: 978-0801010699
- Brown, Steve. *Living Free: How to Find Radical Freedom and Infectious Joy in an Authentic Faith*. Baker Pub Group, 1995. 186 pages. ISBN: 978-0801010941
- Brown, Steve. *Follow the Wind (Our Lord, the Holy Spirit)*. Baker Books, 1999. 188 pages. ISBN: 978-0801058349
- Brown, Steve. *What Was I Thinking?* Howard Books, 2006. 224 pages. ISBN: 978-1582295701
- Chapell, Bryan. *Holiness By Grace*. Crossway Books, 2003. 288 pages. ISBN: 978-1581344653
- Cloud, Henry and John Townsend. *How People Grow: What the Bible Reveals About Personal Growth*. Zondervan, 2004. 368 pages. ISBN: 978-0310257370
- Curtis, Brent and John Eldredge. *Sacred Romance*. Thomas Nelson, 2001. 228 pages. ISBN: 978-0785267232
- Eldredge, John. *The Journey of Desire*. Thomas Nelson, 2001. 224 pages. ISBN: 978-0785267164
- Eldredge, John. *Wild at Heart*. Thomas Nelson, 2006. 256 pages. ISBN: 0785206779
- Miller, John C. *A Faith Worth Sharing: A Lifetime of Conversations about Christ*. R&R Publishing, 1999. 152 pages. ISBN: 978-0875523910
- Yancey, Phil. *What's So Amazing About Grace*. Zondervan, 2002. 304 pages. ISBN: 978-0310245650

Please type your one-page, single-spaced report for each book. Write approximately one paragraph per topic (Overview, Critique, & Application). Reports are due on the first day of class.

Your Name
Course Title & Number
Professor
Date

Enter 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.

Please type & sign

Name
Course Title & Number
Professor
Date

Reading List

<u>Author</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Actual Pages Read</u>
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Total Pages Read _____

Signed _____

Date _____