“Strengthening the Church and Advancing the Kingdom Through Small Group Ministry”
RTS Atlanta
Summer of 2012

Course Title – Small Group Ministry (04DM818)

Class Schedule: 8-5pm on Tuesday-Friday, July 17-20, 2012 (might include some field experience in the evenings to observe small groups in local churches)

Purpose of the Course – To empower the Church to Fulfill the Great Commission through Mastery of the Small Group Methodology

Course Description – This Small Group Training Course is designed to be a practical overview of the ministry of small groups and its broad application to all areas of church life. It is structured to cover the fundamental aspects of the biblical paradigm for small groups as well as offer a comprehensive overview of this topic including current literature. Tools will be offered to assist students to follow the model of Jesus, the Master Teacher who laid down for His followers a pattern of worldwide ministry impact that centered around the small group nucleus of twelve men. The atmosphere will be one of interactive learning designed to develop in students a balance of knowledge (learning), understanding (equipping), and wisdom (engaging) in the skill of small group leadership. Also, guest presenters who have developed effective small group models will be featured at points in the course. Depending on the number of students in the class, the goal is to visit other quality small group models in Atlanta local churches for first hand observation.

Course Objectives:
The overall goal of the class is to stir our zeal for small group ministry, root it in the soil of biblical content, and ground it on the foundation of sound theology.
To build the necessary skill set to plan, develop, and implement an effective small group strategy for the local church.
To analyze small group ministry and make it practical and understandable.
To learn insights, approaches, and practices in small group ministry that are current and relevant to influencing people in today’s culture.
To learn a comprehensive view of small groups as a process, not as point action.

Topics to be Covered:
The Current Climate
  Introduction and Overview
  Cultural Considerations
  The Current Fellowship Deficit in the Church
  The Vibrant Relationship Between Community and Spirituality
The Biblical and Theological Foundations for Small Group Ministry
Small Group Ministry Rooted in the Theology of the Trinity
Scriptural Basis for Small Group Ministry
The Ultimate Model for Small Group Ministry – Modeled by Jesus
The Apostolic Paradigm for Small Group Ministry
Biblical Examples of Small Group Relationships

Historical Precedents
The Early Church Model – House churches
The Moravian Model – Followers of John Hus
The Great Awakening Model – John Wesley, Founder of Methodism
The Secular Model – Communism

Review of Current Literature
Renewed Interest in Small Group Ministry
Emerging Definitions
Recent Trends
Small Group Relevance

Ministry Model
A Small Group Paradigm that is Biblical
Small Group and Church structure
Optional Small Group Paradigms for the Local Church
Overview of the Spheres of Application and Sub-congregations

Course Requirements - three components:

1. Assigned reading of approximately 2,000 pages to be completed before attending the classroom session.

2. A one-week (four days) session of classroom meetings for lectures, reflection, and evaluation. Tuesday-Friday, July 17-20 – 8-5pm.

3. A post-session integration paper (about 20 pages) growing out of the reading and class work must be submitted on some aspect of Small Groups Ministry. The specific topic must be approved by Dr. Saxon by the end of the class week and the completed assignment must be submitted by September 15, 2012.
BIBLIOGRAPHY
필독서 목록

- **Cloud, Dr. Henry and Townsend, Dr. John. Making Small Groups Work: What Every Small Group Leader Needs to Know.** Zondervan. 2003. (279 pages)
  헨리 클라우드, 존 타운SEND 지음 : 소그룹 협력 : 소그룹 인도자가 꼭 알아야 할 모든 것 (좋은씨앗) 359 pgs

- **Donahue, Bill. Building a Church of Small Group: A Place Where Nobody Stands Alone.** Zondervan. 2001. (217 pages)
  빌 도나휴. 소그룹 중심의 교회를 세우라 (국제제자훈련원) 347 pgs

  빌 도나휴. 삶을 변화시키는 소그룹 리더 코칭 (국제제자훈련원) 249 pgs

- **Donahue, Bill. The Seven Deadly Sins of Small Group Ministry.** Zondervan. 2002. (241 pages).
  빌 도나휴. 소그룹 사역을 망치는 7가지 실수 (국제제자훈련원) 294 pgs

- **Galloway, Dale. 20/20 Vision How to Create a Successful Church with Lay Pastors and Cell Groups.** Tyndale House Publishers. 1986. (158 pages)
  데이일 E. 갈로웨이 저 : 송용조 역 : 20/20 비전 : 교회성장을 위한 능력, 원리, 계획 (서울 성경학교 출판부) 222 pgs (CSU lib)

  칼 F. 조지 저 : 김현주 옮김. (성장하는 미래교회) 메타교회 (요단출판사) 362 pgs

- **Navpress. The Navigator Bible Studies Handbook.** The Navigators. 1979. (103 pages)
  네비게이토 성경공부 방법 (네비게이토) 134 pgs

- **Poole, Garry. Seeker Small Groups: Engaging Spiritual Seekers in Life-Changing Discussions.** Zondervan. 2003. (270 pages)
  게리 폴 저 : 서진희 옮김. 구도자를 위한 소그룹 (국제제자훈련원) 451 pgs

- **Snyder, Howard A. The Problem of Wine Skins: Church Structure in a Technological Age.** Inter-Varsity Press. 1975. (191 pages)
  하워드 스나이더 저 : 이강천 역 : 새 포도주는 새 부대에 : 기계문명 시대에 있어서 교회의 구조는? (생명의 말씀사) 238 pgs
**Course Objectives Related to DMin* Student Learning Outcomes**

Course: 04DM818 – Small Group Ministry  
Professor: Dr. James Saxon  
Campus: Atlanta  
Date: July 17-20, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><em><em>DMin</em> Student Learning Outcomes</em>*</th>
<th><strong>Rubric</strong></th>
<th><strong>Mini-Justification</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>In order to measure the success of the DMin curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the DMin outcomes.</em></td>
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<td><strong>Biblical/Theological Foundations:</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>This will be covered extensively within the biblical foundation for small groups.</td>
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<td>Significant knowledge of biblical and theological foundations for pastoral ministry. (This includes interaction with Biblical texts, as well as awareness of Reformed Theology.)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Historical/Contemporary Practices:</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>This will be covered extensively within the teaching on historical models.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Significant knowledge of historical and contemporary practices of pastoral ministry.</td>
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<td><strong>Integration:</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>The integration of theology and practice is the core purpose of their assignment to write a paper on the implementation of a small group strategy within their current ministry context.</td>
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<td>Ability to reflect upon and integrate theology and practice, as well as implementation in a contemporary pastoral setting.</td>
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<td><strong>Sanctification:</strong></td>
<td>Strong</td>
<td>Small group ministry is composed of believers in fellowship centered around the word. The model for small group ministry is the Trinity and the aim of small group ministry is personal sanctification.</td>
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<td>Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids in the student's sanctification.</td>
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**Teacher/Professor** – This course will be led by Dr. James Saxon, an ordained PCA minister since 1979, who has actively served in the pastorate for the last 32 years. He was converted to Christ at the age of twenty while a student at the University of Alabama. His conversion was so dramatic that he decided against going into the business world with his Marketing Degree and instead began pursuit of his call to pastoral ministry by enrolling in RTS Jackson in the summer of 1975. After serving as a youth director and taking a year internship at the well-known Spanish River Presbyterian Church in Boca Raton, Florida, he discerned God’s calling to go into church planting. He founded and pastored the Tampa Bay Presbyterian Church, in Tampa, Florida for 20 years and had oversight of the founding of one daughter church, Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Brandon, Florida. He joined the staff of the fast-growing, outreach-minded Church of The Apostles in Atlanta in the fall of 2000. Since coming to Apostles, he has served in a variety of staff roles and has recently assumed the role of Director of ApostlesLife.

In addition to being a successful church-planter, James spearheaded the founding of the Southwest Florida Presbytery in the early 1990’s, and then led the effort to host the 2000 General Assembly in Tampa by that presbytery. He graduated from the RTS Doctorate of Ministry program in the spring of 2005, completing his dissertation entitled, “Empowering the Local Church through Mentoring” which featured a practicum that field-tested mentoring seminary students as a part of their theological education. He was motivated to address the topic of Mentoring in his dissertation due to the dynamic results he experienced in his long-term Tampa pastorate during which he had the opportunity to test a variety of ministry methodologies ranging from large groups to one-to-one relationships. It was through this experience that he came to understand the unique transformational power of mentoring.

He is currently the director of the ministry initiative entitled ApostlesLife, the outreach ministry strategy for the next twenty years of the church. He also oversees the men’s mentoring ministry track entitled “Next Generation - Small Group Mentoring”. He also supervises three departments – Children’s, Student, College and Young Adult ministries.

Since 2005, he has served as a guest lecturer at RTS Atlanta and has taught two courses, Evangelism and Pastoral Care. In the summer of 2011, he taught the seminary gateway course, Introduction to Pastoral and Theological Studies. Also, later that summer, he taught his first Korean DMin course on Mentoring. Though he is currently involved in outreach ministry, he is a pastor at heart and his life ministry verse is Colossians 1:28, “And we proclaim Him, admonishing every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, that we may present every man complete in Christ.”