MS508 EVANGELISM: THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE

by

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COURSE DESIGN

Master of Divinity
Reformed Theological Seminary

Jackson, Mississippi
Spring 2005 A.D.
TENTATIVE SCHEDULE--SPRING 2005

TOPICS TO BE ADDRESSED

Introduction to the Course

What is this course all about?
- God's glory, the Church, and the Unconverted
  “Followers of Christ: Fishers of Men”
The requirements

The Chief End of Ministry and “Evangelism”

The Problem of Every Person You Meet
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 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
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“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 New Testament church 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 (7) pages report (two pages per book over 100 pages), single space, highlighting the main propositions, statements, theses, principles, etc, gathered from the reading.

3. Serious Involvement in an outreach project during the semester. 50 % of your grade.

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 visit someone.

5. Fifteen minutes personal “testimonies.” Each student will have an opportunity to share his own 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


Articles

To be handed out during the semester by different lecturers.

Other Sources

Use your Internet search engine (Google, 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.”

Preliminary Bibliography

Books


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


