

**EVAN9407 Church Revitalization & Strategic Development**  
**Drs. Bill Day & Jake Roudkovski**  
**Fall 2008**

**Helpful Information**

**Dr. Bill Day**

Office: Leavell Center for Evangelism and Church Health Phone: 816-8820  
Email Address: [bday@nobts.edu](mailto:bday@nobts.edu)

**Dr. Jake Roudkovski**

Office: Dodd 200 Phone: 504-282-4455 ext.3236  
Email Address: [jaker@nobts.edu](mailto:jaker@nobts.edu)

**I. NOBTS Mission Statement:**

The mission is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

**II. NOBTS Core Values:**

The seminary's core values are: (1) doctrinal integrity, (2) spiritual vitality, (3) mission focus, (4) characteristic excellence, and (5) servant leadership. The focus of the seminary during the 2008-9 academic year is doctrinal integrity.

**III. Course Description**

The purpose of this seminar is to identify the factors common to leaders and their churches which have experienced growth from a plateau or declining position. The factors associated with church health and revitalization will be compared and contrasted with characteristics of churches experiencing plateau and decline. Implications will be drawn for strategic planning, the S.B.C., and the personal development of the church's leaders.

**IV. Course Methodology**

- A. Lectures. The lectures of the professor will be a resource material for the course.
- B. Discussion. There will be class discussions based on questions raised in the assigned reading and in the lectures.
- C. Presentations. Student will prepare research papers and present them in the seminar.

## **V. Course Objectives**

1. Students will become familiar with significant literature on church revitalization and strategic leadership.
2. Students will learn and understand the relationship of strategic leadership and church revitalization
3. Student will participate in a church revitalization research project and write a major paper on their part of the project.

## **VI. Course Requirements**

1. Each student will read and submit a review on the required textbooks:

*How to Change Your Church (without killing it)* by Alan Nelson and Gene Appel  
*Growth by Accident, Death by Planning* by Bob Whitesell  
*Leading Turnaround Churches* by Gene Wood  
*The First 90 Days* by Michael Watkin  
*Leading the Comeback Church* by David Nixon  
*Comeback Churches - How 300 Churches Turned Around and Yours Can Too*  
by Ed Stetzer and Mike Dodson.

2. Each student will read and submit a review on one of the following books\*:

*Advanced Strategic Planning* by Aubrey Malphurs  
*A Practical Guide for Successful Church Change* by Ramsey Coutta  
*Built to Last* by James Collins & Jerry Porras  
*Churches that Make a Difference* by Ronald Sider, et. al.  
*Developing a Vision for Ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* by Aubrey Malphurs  
*Effective Small Churches in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* by Carl Dudley  
*From Embers to a Flame: How God can Revitalize Your Church* by Harry L. Reeder  
*Harvard Business Review on Change* by Jerry Collins, Jerry Porras, et. al.  
*Leading Congregational Change Workbook* by James Furr, et. al.  
*Leadership: Theory and Practice* by Peter Northouse  
*Studying Congregations: A New Handbook* by Nancy Ammerman, et. al.  
*The Big Idea* by Dave Ferguson  
*Turn Around Strategies for the Small Church* by Ron Crandall  
*Transform Your Church with Ministry Teams* by E. Stanley Ott  
*Transforming Leadership* by James MacGregor Burns

Assignments will be made on the first day of class.

Note: Books in section 2 will be loaned to the student by the professor.

3. Each student will be assigned Ph.D. and D.Miss. dissertations and D.Min. projects to read and discuss in class. See the dissertations and projects marked with an asterisk. Assignments will be made on the first day of class.

4. Each student will participate in Research Project I dealing with the revitalization of churches in various contexts. Assignments will be made on the first day of class.

5. Each student will participate in Research Project II dealing with the revitalization of zero baptism churches. Assignments will be made on the first day of class.

## **VII. Course Grading Procedures**

### Percent of Grade:

1. Research project I	35%
2. Research project II	35%
2. Book reviews	20%
4. Doctoral research discussion	10%

## Selected Bibliography

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