



CEAD 9402 Family Ministry in Church Life
New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary
Christian Education Ministries Division
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The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church.

Purpose of the Course and Core Value Focus

This seminar is designed to survey contemporary family life and to investigate discipleship strategies and developmental concerns involved in family living. The role of family ministry in the local Baptist church in addressing these needs is stressed. The course will emphasize the seminary's current core value focus assigned annually by the Administrative Council.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

This course will address the following curriculum competencies:

1. *Interpersonal Skills*: Understand how to build relationships with other ministry leaders within the local church.
2. *Servant Leadership*: Determine how the senior pastor, staff members, and lay leaders can serve one another while still providing the appropriate leadership required to minister to families.
3. *Spiritual and Character Formation*: As a leadership team intentionally "grow up in all things into Him who is the head – Christ" (Eph. 4:15b, NKJV).

Course Description

This seminar is designed to survey contemporary family discipleship ministry and developmental concerns involving preschoolers, children, youth and parents. Needs that can be addressed through family ministry and discipleship endeavors in local Baptist churches are identified and researched. Special attention is given to introduction to current literature in the field. Family discipleship projects are developed and evaluated.

Course Objectives

1. Discuss selected topics representing concerns that may be addressed through family ministry in the church.
2. Demonstrate special understanding of one family ministry topic chosen for extensive research.
3. Develop a family ministry/church model appropriate for the local church.

Course Texts

Anthony, Michael J. and Michelle. *A Theology for Family Ministry* Nashville, TN: B&H Academics. 2011.

Balswick, Jack O. and Judith K. Balswick. *The Family: A Christian Perspective on the Contemporary Home*. 4d ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2014.

Garland, Diana. *Family Ministry: A Comprehensive Guide*. 2d. ed. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Academic Press, 2012.

Kostenburger, Andres with David W. Jones. *God, Marriage and Family: Rebuilding the Biblical Foundation*. 2d. ed. Wheaton, Ill: Crossway Books, 2010.

Renfro, Paul, Brandon Shields, and Jay Strother. *Perspectives on Family Ministry: 3 Views*. Edited by Timothy Paul Jones. Nashville, TN: B&H Academic, 2009.

Rienow, Rob. *Limited Church: Unlimited Kingdom*. Nashville, TN: Randall House Publications, 2013.

Smith, Christian with Kari Christofferson, Hillary Davidson, and Patricia S. Herzog. *Lost in Transition: The Dark Side of Emerging Adulthood*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press, 2011.

Stinson, Randy, and Timothy Paul Jones. *Trained in the Fear of God: Family Ministry in Theological, Historical, and Practical Perspective*. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic, 2011.

Assignments and Evaluation Criteria

Assignment Formatting

- Unless otherwise noted, type all assignments according to Turabian 7th Edition format
- All papers must be written in third person
- Use 12 point Times New Roman font
- Use an appropriate number of references
- Use correct spelling and grammar
- Use proper pagination
- Include your name on the cover page
- Staple assignments together as necessary or as required (no report covers)
- Write the full assignment
- Please bring a hard copy of your written work for the professor during the on-campus meeting in which each assignment is due

Required Assignments Summary – 100 points

- Personal Introductions - **Due the first week of the semester**
- Book Critique and Discussion (15 pts)- **Due: First seminar**
- Family Ministry/Church Analysis Executive Summary (15 pts) - **Due: First seminar**
- Rough Draft of Research Question(s) (10 pts) – **Due: First seminar**
- Literature Review & Preliminary Research for Major Paper (25 pts) - **Due: Second seminar (submit online one-week prior to meeting)**
- Major Paper (35 pts)- **Due: Final seminar (submit online one-week prior to meeting)**

Personal Introductions

During the first week of the semester introduce yourself to the rest of the seminar via the seminar Blackboard site.

Book Critique, Summaries and Discussion

Read of *all* the texts in their entirety. Write a two-page double-spaced executive summary, highlighting the author's purpose and the book content of all the assigned books, with the exception being the assigned book for critical review. Write a critical review of the *assigned* text of not less than *five* doubled spaced pages including the following: (1) a bibliographic entry for the text; (2) the purpose of the book; and (3) no less than four pages of your personal critique of the book *both* positive and negative. *Please bring a hard copy for the professor.* **Pay close attention to the Assignment Formatting section of this syllabus!**

Additionally each student will develop a series of questions about their assigned book in order to facilitate discussion on at the **first seminar**. The remaining students will be prepared to give thoughtful answers and contribute in a robust discussion of each text. Success in this assignment involves a thoughtful question/response. The professor will stay in the background except for occasional comments.

Family/Church Ministry Analysis

Each student will analyze the practice of family ministry of his/her current church in which he/she is active *or* a church he/she is presently working with. Specific attention is to be given to the church's development and implementation of the theological rationale of this ministry through its existing ministry programs. Particular attention should be given in to the assessment of the family/church ministry model utilized by the church and its ministry. The current family ministry of the church is also to be evaluated in regard to:

- Church tradition
- Biblical integrity
- Theological soundness
- Implementation - making disciples in the church (must define the characteristics of a disciple to adequately include this evaluation)
- Budget allocation
- Value to the church.

This analysis is to be presented in an executive summary format of just a *few* pages (just do your best) and will be presented at the **first seminar** on-campus meeting using a PowerPoint type presentation. Please bring a hard copy of the Executive Summary for the professor.

Literature Review and Preliminary Research for Major Paper

Select a topic that falls within family ministry area. The issues that effect a healthy family ministry model include, but are not limited to the following: parenting of preschoolers, parenting of children, parenting of youth, adoption of orphans, marriage enrichment, family missions and ministry opportunities, family worship (church and home), biblical worldview of the family, ministry to single parents, domestic violence in families, children with special needs, biblical pre-marriage counseling, parenting in a social media world/culture, alcohol and substance abuse in families, ministering and caring for adult children, impact of pornography on families, etc. This research should include the biblical role and responsibility of both the **church** and the **parents**, with implications for each.

Write a research question/problem that investigates the family ministry topic from a position of ministry leadership; e.g., possible questions for the adultery category might be, “To what extent can the leadership in the local church provide a ministry model for nurturing biblical marriages among its members?” *or* “What motivation might exist for a spouse who betrays his/her marital relationship?” A rough draft of the Research Questions should be brought to the first on-campus meeting of the seminar.

Develop a review of precedent literature of at least *twenty* doubled spaced pages for your chosen topic. This paper will cover the milieu of the particular topic and will be organized in a categorical arrangement to address a healthy family ministry model in the church. The twenty-page review of precedent literature will be presented due at the **second seminar** on-campus. The paper should be submitted to blackboard **one-week** prior to the seminar.

Major Paper

From your precedent literature research construct a survey which will assess some aspect of your research question. The survey should have up to 10 questions, depending upon how you wish to measure your question. Your survey needs to measure how the topic relates/impacts making disciples in the church. You may use an established survey if you wish, but document it and indicate permission to use if necessary. If you construct your own, time will constrain your ability to fully validate, but at least establish a level of face validity by asking several knowledgeable persons if they think it will measure what you are attempting to measure. Include their responses as appendices of the final paper.

Submit a paper of at least *fifteen* double spaced pages of text reporting on your topic and the subsequent findings. Include your literature review in synthesized form and your survey instrument and a selected bibliography. Sources may include books, periodicals, (online) journals, electronic databases, interview and magazines. During the presentation and discussion of your paper, you should be able to introduce the seminar to new research regarding family ministry as well as the particular discoveries from your survey. Your paper should include implications from your findings for the discipleship strategy in the church. Papers must be posted

on Blackboard or e-mailed to each seminar participant and professor) in a MS Word or pdf format. The paper should be submitted to blackboard **one-week prior** to the seminar.

While it is expected that all students carefully will read each contribution, papers will be assigned a responder/reviewer who will examine the paper for form, style, and logic (flow, sequence of arguments, interpretation of survey results) issues. The responder should mark the paper for spelling, grammar, flow, style, and Turabian format.

*Note: The following book will provide valuable instructions on the organization and design of a major research paper. Pyrczak, Fred, and Randall R. Bruce. *Writing Empirical Research Reports: A Basic Guide for Students of the Social and Behavioral Sciences*. 6th ed. Glendale, CA: Pyrczak Publishing, 2007.

Present your paper during the **final seminar** weekend using a PowerPoint presentation. Please bring a hard copy to the professor. Presentations will be in random order. The professor will evaluate papers for content. Each presentation will conclude with a response from the designated seminar colleague who will comment on content, style, and presentation.

Course Policies

The following policies will to be observed in the duration of this course.

Absences

Due to the nature of this Ph.D. seminar format there are no absences permitted.

Late Assignments

Personal time management is as much a requisite skill for ministry as is mastery of the course content. Accordingly, assignments are expected on the due date as indicated in the Course Schedule. The due dates for the assignments to be submitted electronically to professor and/or other students is listed above in the “Required Assignments Summary.” Submission after the date/time will result in a grade no higher than a B in the seminar.

Grading Scale

Your final grade will be based on your total accumulation of points as indicated under the *Learning Activities and Assessments* section of this syllabus according to the grading scale in the NOBTS 2013-2014 catalog.

A: 93-100 B: 85-92 C: 77-84 D: 70-76 F: 69 and below

Selected Bibliography

Children's Ministry

Anderson, Bill. *When Child Abuse Comes to Your Church*. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1992.

Anderson, Herbert, and Susan B. W. Johnson. *Regarding Children*. Westminster John Knox Press, 1994.

Barna, George. *Transforming Children into Spiritual Champions*. Regal Books, 2003.

Bernstein, Joanne E. *Loss and How to Cope With It*. New York: Houghton Mifflin, 1977.

Blackwell, Muriel. *How Do I Become a Christian?* Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.

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Briggs, Dorothy Corkville. *Embracing Life: Growing Through Love and Loss*. New York: Doubleday, 1985.

Chamberlain, Eugene. *Carol Beth Learns About Following Jesus*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.

Coles, Robert. *Spiritual Life of Children*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1990.

Davis, Cos. *I'm Big Enough*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.

Davis, Cos. *Children and the Christian Faith*. (rev.) Nashville: Broadman Press, 1990.

Edleman, Marian Wright. *The Measure of Our Success*. Boston: Beacon Press, 1992.

Elkind, David. *The Hurried Child: Growing Up Too Fast Too Soon*. Reading, MA: Addison Publishing, 1981.

Garland, Diana. *Precious in His Sight*. Birmingham: New Hope, 1993.

Goffney, Donna A. *The Seasons of Grief: Helping Your Child Grow Through Loss*. New York: American Library, 1988.

Gore, Tipper. *Raising PG Kids in an Xrated Society*.

Halverson, Delia Touchton. *Helping Your Child Discover Faith*. Valley Forge: Judson Press, 1982.

Hammer, Richard R. *Reducing the Risk of Child Sexual Abuse in Your Church*. Matthews, North Books, 1991.

Hewlett, Sylvia Ann. *When the Bough Breaks: The Cost of Neglecting Our Children*. New York: Basic Books, 1991.

Ketterman, Grace and Pat Holt. *Choices are Not Child's Play: Helping Your Child Make Wise Decisions*. Wheaton: Harold Shaw Publishers, 1990.

Lester, Andrew D. *Pastoral Care with Children in Crisis*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1985.

Lester, Andrew D. *When Children Suffer*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1987.

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Smalley, Gary and John Trent. *The Blessing*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1986.

Waldrop, Sybil. *Guiding Your Child Toward God*. Nashville: Broadman Press, 1985.

Wright, H. Norman. *The Power of A Parent's Words*. Ventura, CA: Regal Books, 1991.

Adolescent Ministry

Atkinson, Harley. *Ministry with Youth in Crisis*. Birmingham: Religious Education Press, 1997.

Benson, Peter L. *What Kids Need to Succeed*. Minneapolis: Free Spirit Press, 1995.

Benson, Peter L. *The Troubled Journey: A Portrait of 6th to 12th Grade Youth*. Minneapolis: Search Institute, 1993.

Borgman, Dean. *When Kumbaya is Not Enough*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1997.

Cobb, Nancy J. *Adolescence: Continuity, Change, and Diversity*. Mountain View, CA: Mayfield Publishing Co, 1995.

DeVries, Mark. *Family-Based Youth Ministry*. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1994.

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Jackson, Allen and Randy Johnson. *Connected, Committed and a Little Bit Crazy*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1996.

McNabb, Bill and Steven Mabry. *Teaching the Bible Creatively: How to Awaken Your Kids to Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990.

Mueller, Walt. *Understanding Today's Youth Culture*. 2nd ed. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1999.

Parrott, Les. *Helping the Struggling Adolescent*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2000.

Peterson, Eugene. *Working the Angles*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1987.

Robbins, Duffy. *Youth Ministry Nuts and Bolts*. El Cajon, CA: Youth Specialties, 1990.

Stiles, Mack. *Speaking of Jesus*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1995.

Yancy, Philip. *What's So Amazing About Grace?* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997.

Adult Development

Aiken, Lewis R. *Aging: An Introduction to Gerontology*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 1995.

Cavanaugh, John C. *Adult Development and Aging*. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing, 1990.

Jordan, C. Ferris. *Today's Adults: A Profile for Teachers and Leaders*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1993.

Lefrancois, Gary R. *The Lifespan*, 2nd ed. Belmont, CA: Wadsworth Publishing, 1987.

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Roof, Wade C. *A Generation of Seekers: The Spiritual Journeys of the Baby Boom Generation*. New York: Harper Collins Publishers, 1993.

Rybash, John M., Paula Roodin, and William J. Hoyer. *Adult Development and Aging*. 3rd ed. Dubuque, IA: Brown and Benchmark, 1995.

Santrock, John W. *Lifespan Development*. Dubuque, IA: W.C. Brown, 1986.

Stevens-Long, Judith. *Adult Developmental Life Processes*, 2nd ed. Palo Alto: Mayfield Publishing Co., 1984.

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Turner, Jeffrey S. and Donald B. Helms. *Lifespan Development*, 6th ed. New York: Holt, Rinehart, and Winston, 1995.

Adult Learning

Gangel, Kenneth O. and James C. Wilhoit, eds. *The Christian Educator's Handbook on Adult Education*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Books, 1993.

Hanks, Louis. *Vision, Variety, and Vitality: Teaching Today's Adult Generations*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1996.

Knowles, Malcolm. *The Adult Learner: A Neglected Species*. 4th ed. Houston: Gulf Publishing, 1990.

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Intergenerational Religious Education

White, James W. *Intergenerational Religious Education: Models, Theory, and Prescription for Interage Life and Learning in the Faith Community*. Birmingham: Religious Education Press, 1998.

Senior Adult Ministry

Dychtwald, Ken and Joe Flower. *Age Wave: The Challenges and Opportunities of an Aging America*. Los Angeles: Jeremy P. Tarcher, Inc. 1989.

Howse, W.L., compiler. *Senior Adult Leader's Notebook*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1990.

Johnston, Jay, compiler. *Forward Together: A New Vision for Senior Adult Ministry*. Nashville: Convention Press, 1998.

Single Adult Ministry

Cleary, Tim, compiler. *The Single Adult Ministry Solution*. Nashville: Lifeway Press, 1996.

Fagerstrom, Douglas, L. ed. *Single Adult Ministry: The Next Step*. Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1993.

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Family Issues

Barna, George. *The Future of the American Family*. Chicago: Moody Press, 1993.

Lampman, Lisa Barnes, ed. *Helping a Neighbor in Crisis*. Foreword by Charles Colson. Wheaton, IL: Tyndale House, 1999.

Self, Charles M. *Family Ministry*, 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.

Understanding and Ministering to/with Families

Beavers, W. Robert. *Successful Marriage: A Family Systems Approach to Couples Therapy*. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 1985.

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