

school of ministry vision statement 2011

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theme verse: “and the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.” [2Tim.2:2]

objective: to provide a school to mentor students to be spiritual leaders serving God in church and para-church ministry. The program includes 16 months of study, practical experience and personal discipleship [SOMI] and one-year of teacher development [SOMII].

methods: **SOM I** - the program requires one hour of class time per week, one to two hours of homework per week, and approximately one to two hours of practical service per week. The school of ministry will provide approximately 16 months of personal disciple training. **SOM II** – is a one-year teacher development and training program.

purpose: There is a great need for Christ-like leaders. The cross training program is intended to train Christian leaders through personal discipleship, study, and practical experience. Our desire is to equip believers for the work that God has called them to [Eph. 4:11-13]. Jesus spent time with the disciples and put them in situations where they had to apply what they were learning. The disciples learned from the Master’s teaching and example, and sought to replicate His ministry as they followed Jesus. This is our model for ministry.

When we consider the men and women used by God, we are impressed with the diversity of people that God uses to accomplish His purposes. Abraham was the father of the faith. Joseph was a gifted administrator. Moses was a prince and shepherd, and he spoke with God as to a man. He was the great law-giver. Joshua was a courageous and brilliant military leader; and man of faith above his countrymen. David was a poet, shepherd, and Israel’s greatest king. Solomon was the wisest man to walk the earth, besides our Lord Jesus. Ezra brought the Word of God to the life of the people to bring God into the people’s lives. Jeremiah wept for the people as they refused to yield to God. Jonah rebelled, and fulfilled his calling with the wrong attitude. Esther received courage when she thought she had none and helped deliver her people. Peter was impulsive and acted first and thought later. John was a poet who never forgot that Jesus loved him. Paul was brilliant in his logic and understanding of God’s Word and persuasive and bold in declaring the truth.

How would your life be impacted if you were motivated to serve God; and you learned to serve Him effectively? How would your family, church and community be changed if you learned to serve God and His people? If communities of believers are stirred to effective ministry our world will be radically changed.

SOM I

Program: preparation, principles, participation

I. preparation: learning about ministry. Fourteen core subject areas to prepare a sure foundation for Christian service.

1. devotions
 - reading the Bible
 - prayer
2. worship
 - purpose and person
 - preparation and presence
 - passion and power
 - praise and participation

3. servant leadership
 - the heart of Jesus
 - ministering to the Lord
 - people God uses
 - motives for ministry
4. the leader's time
 - faithfulness
 - delegation
 - problem of procrastination
 - excellence vs. obsession
5. expository preaching/teaching
 - studying the text
 - outlining the text
 - presenting the text
 - polishing the presentation
6. defending the faith I
 - cults
 - comparative religions
7. defending the faith II
 - creation and evolution
 - certainty of scriptures
8. ministry and people I
 - compassion and caring
 - conflict
 - counseling
9. ministry and people II
 - restoration
 - relationship building
 - reaching your city
 - recognizing gifts
10. planning and vision
 - establishing a plan
 - communicating a plan
 - implementing a plan
11. equipping and evangelism
12. pastoral epistles
 - 1Timothy
 - 2Timothy
 - Titus
13. calvary distinctive: philosophy of ministry, what we believe and why
14. church history

II. principles: expanding our knowledge. Required and recommended reading to learn necessary principles for ministry.

Bibliography

A. required reading

1. Warren Wiersbe: on being a servant
2. J. Sanders: spiritual leadership
3. Stott: basic Christian leadership
4. Hughes: disciplines of a godly man
5. W. Wiersbe: living with the giants or Tim Jones: christian history made easy
6. Smith: calvary distinctives
7. Erwin: the Jesus style

8. Blackaby: spiritual leadership
9. Hendricks: living by the book
10. Van Cleave: handbook of preaching

B. recommended reading

1. Thiessen: systematic theology
2. C. Spurgeon: lectures to my students
3. Smith: harvest
4. Halley: halley's bible handbook
5. Inductive Bible Study [ICM]
6. Zachary: Fruitful-worship, prayer, ministry, marriage
7. Hession: the calvary road
8. Andrew Murray: absolute surrender

III. participation: applying what we learn.

Each participant in the program shall experience Christian service in a variety of settings within a local church. These shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- bible study: young adult, sr. high, and jr. high
- children's ministry
- ushers and greeters
- hospitality and refreshments
- prayer
- janitorial
- missions

attendance and ministry requirements: all students must be involved in on-going ministry at a local church or para-church organization. Students are allowed 6 absences during the SOM program.

SOM II

The second level course focuses on teacher development. Students participate in a year-long program to equip and encourage expositional teaching. Students develop skills in inductive Bible study methods to prepare and present dynamic Bible studies. Students will learn the art and science of Bible teaching and then present their teaching for review and development. Each student shall be prepared for an effective teaching ministry.

course syllabus

A. the science of Bible teaching:

1. inductive Bible study method: observation, interpretation, application
2. identifying themes, subject, and objective/conclusion
3. outlines, cross references, illustrations, applications, commentaries
4. presentation: introduction, transitions, voice, physical mannerisms

textbook [required reading]: Van Cleave – *handbook of preaching*

B. the art of Bible teaching pt.1:

1. student presentations of 30-40 minute Bible studies with critique from fellow students & lead mentor(s)
2. students select the passage that they will share.

textbook [required reading]: Hendricks - *living by the book*

C. the heart of the Bible teacher: students shall present on one of the following themes (or a theme approved by SOM lead mentor):

1. humility and the pitfall of pride
2. filling of the Holy Spirit: anointed teaching
3. encouraging & comforting through teaching
4. avoiding hypocrisy [the Pharisee syndrome]
5. pointing to Jesus
6. reaching pre-believers while equipping the saints
7. the importance of spiritual disciplines for a teacher
8. the purpose of God's word in every message: doctrine, reproof, correction, & instruction in righteousness [2Tim.3:16]
9. teaching the whole person: convince, rebuke, exhort [mind, spirit, emotion/heart – 2Tim.4:2]
10. the need for the message to have the preacher and the preacher to have the message
11. hearing from God: is it more than reading commentaries?
12. keeping it fresh

textbook [required reading] Thiessen – *systematic theology*

D. how to lead a small group [5 weeks]

1. community group basics & seven mistakes of new leaders
2. community group fellowship
3. community group discipleship
4. empowering the group to use their gifts
5. evangelism – outward focus

E. learning from other Bible teachers: students will consider a variety of teaching styles through video and live presentation to determine benefits and burdens of other teaching methods: [8 weeks]

textbook [required reading] Archer - *encyclopedia of bible difficulties*

F. analyze a book/passage of the Bible [team exercise]:

1. identify meta-themes, subject, object, context, intro., outline
2. observations, interpretation, application

G. the art of Bible teaching pt.3:

1. student presentations of 30-40 minute Bible studies with critique from fellow students & lead mentor(s)
2. students select the passage that they will share.

goals:

1. 25-30 students participating in SOM I and 12 students in SOM II.
2. enroll new students in Spring and Fall.
3. announce enrollment and receive applications for registration beginning in the first week of February, and September.
4. offer additional classes by 12.31.11: orientation to ministry and missions classes [SOMI], issues in theology [SOM2]