



Nazarene Theological Seminary

1700 E Meyer Blvd • Kansas City, MO 64131 • 816/333-6254

EVG565— Starting Strong, New Churches *January 19-29, 2009*

Essential Information

Please refer to the following resources for information essential for the successful completion of courses and degree programs at Nazarene Theological Seminary. Links to these resources are available under the Syllabus link in the Blackboard course. Additional information can be found at <http://bbwiki.nts.edu>.

- NTS Mission Statement & Purpose and Master of Divinity Objectives
- Tips for online learning success
- NTS library services
- NTS bookstore procedures
- Online technical requirements and Blackboard support information
- NTS Student Handbook including statements on quality of work, plagiarism, and academic probation
- *A Handbook for Inclusive Language*

Instructor Information

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Catalog Description

This course provides an overview of the NewStart strategy, launched in 1994, as the new church emphasis for The Church of the Nazarene in the USA and Canada. The course will focus on preparing a Ministry Action Plan for the pre-launch concerns one year before launching a healthy church. The Ministry Action Plan cover the wide range of concerns for a new church, including worship, preaching, teaching, evangelism, ministry to children and developing a crowd into a congregation.

Course Narrative and Rationale

These classes serve an introduction for the NewStart strategy to those unfamiliar with this new church emphasis for The Church of the Nazarene in the USA and Canada. Materials will include research findings in new church evangelism, best practices being used in evangelism and discipleship across the USA and Canada, and resources for each student in developing their own effective Ministry Action Plan, as a M.A.P. for their future ministry endeavors. Additional resources will be available at no cost to students upon request from the Evangelism Ministries offices

Course Outcomes

1. To begin the development of a personal bibliography of new church evangelism resources - in print, audio, and on-line.
2. To understand the NewStart Strategy for starting strong new churches the right way, in the various ministry models and styles.
3. To become familiar with the most effective ministry models for new churches across the USA and Canada, and begin to choose your preferred approach.
4. To prepare a ministry action plan for one year before the launch.
5. To determine how a new church may be in your future ministry.

Required Texts and Course Materials

Planting Missional Churches, Ed Stetzer

* *Starting Strong New Churches*, Bill Sullivan

* *Toolkit for Starting Strong New Churches*, Jim Dorsey

* These two texts are free upon request from the NewStart offices at 1-800-306-8294.

Other Recommended Texts and Course Materials

1. *Church for the Unchurched*, George Hunter
2. *The Purpose Driven Church*, Rick Warren
3. *How to Start a New Service*, Charles Arn
4. *Best Practices in Discipleship*, Evangelism Ministries
5. *Small, Strong Congregations*, Kennan Callahan

Course Outline

The following topics will be presented and discussed throughout this course. The class questions and discussions will determine the pace and progress of these presentations.

“The NewStart Strategy”

- Introductions
- Syllabus Review
- “New Strategies for New Churches”
- “Research on New Churches”
- “The Ten Key Strategies of NewStart”

“The Launch Team Personnel”

- “Gathering a Launch Team”
- “All Kinds of New Churches”
- “An Evangelism Plan and Process”
- “Finding Partners in Ministry”
- “Turning a Crowd into a Church”
- “A Relevant Organizational Structure”

“The Ministry Action Plan”

- “The Timeline for Launching”
- “The Pre-Launch Checklist”
- “Making the Money Work”
- “Building Ministry Teams”
- “Choosing Program Priorities”

“The Missional Leadership”

- “Qualities of NewStart Leaders”
- “Relating to the Unchurched”
- “How the Leadership Matters”
- “Seeing a New Way of Doing Church”
- “Lessons Learned from Multi-sites
- Self-testing and Evaluations
- “Casting the Vision; Catching the Values”

“The Missional Purpose”

- “Ongoing Process for Evangelism”
- “Best Practices for Evangelism”
- Class Presentations
- Understanding Our Nazarene Heritage
- The Danger of Institutionalization
- “Organizing for Evangelism”

- “Missional Staffing and Programming”
- Class Presentations
- “Starting Strong, Staying Healthy”

“An Evangelism and Discipleship Plan”

- “Opening the Front Door”
- Class Presentations
- “Closing the Back Door”
- “Renewing the Missional Spirit”
- “Landmines for New Churches- I”
- “Landmines for New Churches- II”
- Creating a Climate for Reproduction
- Coaching and Mentoring
- Simple Church
- The Big Idea
- Class Presentations

Course Assignments & Requirements

1. Become familiar with the required texts (Stetzer, Sullivan, and Dorsey) as references for preparing a Ministry Action Plan.
2. Complete the multiple self exams presented during these classes for developing a better understanding of you own gifts, graces, and calling in ministry.
3. Class attendance, participation, and interaction assist in your learning process and will impact your final grade for the course.
4. Prepare and present a ministry action plan for launching a new church that you would lead. The plan will cover a mission statement, description of the target group with community demographics, proposed budget for three years, ministry teams and volunteers, description of worship style, location for the church and other details as you think are needed.

Begin to develop your own bibliography of preferred resources of books, websites, audio and video recordings, and training conferences. Your resource listing should reflect both the philosophy of ministry and new church model you present in your ministry action plan. The attached bibliography can be the start of your list of your additional 50 Future Ministry Resources.

Method for Submitting Assignments

Assignments will be submitted to Jim Dorsey at NewStart1K@aol.com as email attachments, or If you wish, you can turn in all written assignments in class, only for assignments due no later than January 29.

Policy Regarding Late Work & Missed Exams

Regarding the policy for late work, grades drop one letter grade for each day it is late, with a legitimate excuse - other than "I've not had time to study yet."

Course Grading

Class Attendance and Participation	20%
Completion of all self exams	20%
Preparations of 50 Future Ministry Resources	20%
Preparation of Ministry Action Plan	20%
Presentation of Ministry Action Plan	20%

Course Calendar

Date	Week	Assignment
1-19-09		Complete reading of two NewStart texts; submit two page report for each
1-22-09		Complete all personal survey and self-testing work
1-26-09		Complete draft of Ministry Action Plan
1-27-09		Prepare for Ministry Action Plan Class Presentations
2-9-09		Complete reading of Stetzer text
2-16-09		Turn in final draft of Ministry Action Plan
2-16-09		Submit a listing of 30 your existing new church resources

Bibliography

FREE NewStart Resources

Best Practices in Discipleship: Renewing Our Missional Passion - This book is a must read for every Nazarene pastor and lay leader wanting their church to be more of a missional influence. Beyond just a simple program, these presenters and authors have proven principles for the encouraging the ongoing process of evangelism and discipleship in your local church, by closing the back door and more effectively enfolded new believers.

Churches Starting Churches - View the table of contents for this valuable resource. Each chapter provides insights for various approaches for starting strong new churches the right way. Designed for sponsoring pastors and churches, this volume outlines options for starting several kinds of new churches—the right way.

Churches Starting Churches Implementation Workbooks - These six workbooks apply basic information from the book *Churches Starting Churches* to the practical process for starting a new church. As a complementary discussion guide for each chapter, these workbooks correspond to one of the chapters in the book for sponsorship, *Churches Starting Churches*.

NewStart Seminars and Workshops - New Start offers ongoing training on a wide variety of subjects from proven church leaders at General Church gatherings. These seminars are designed to equip you with practical tools for starting and growing new churches, including Assessment Centers, Preparing for a New Church Launch, Funding Your Vision, Sponsorship Orientations and Planning for District Teams.

District Office's Guide for Registering NewStarts - This resource is available for every district office to assist in the steps to officially register each new church on their district, including how to register, organize, and report for NewStarts and fully organized churches.

Missional Hearts: Best Practices in Evangelism - The authors of this book agreed these chapters gave them new insights and ideas to use in their own evangelism ministries. Learn from more than a dozen other church leaders what they are using most effectively to attract, win and disciple new people into their congregation.

NewStart Introduction Brochure - Here's a helpful introduction for your congregation to discover the strategies for starting strong new Nazarene churches the right way. This colorful brochure outlines why starting new churches is so important and how your members can be a part of this endeavor.

Five Step NewStart Strategy - This communication piece allows your church to respond to new church evangelism in various ways for every member. The tear off reply card allows for members to sign up in a variety of categories for ministry.

NewStart Assessment Center - The first key strategy for strong new churches involves finding the right leader. Regional NewStart Assessment Centers are conducted quarterly across the USA to assist new church leaders understand their spiritual gifts and graces for starting a new church. For further details, call the NewStart offices toll free at 1-800-306-8294.

NewStart Sponsorship Checklist - This helpful discussion guide leads local church leaders and members through the topics related to sponsoring a new church. In addition to a congregational questionnaire, several lists of discussion questions help leaders process the wide range of decisions to be made.

Starting Strong New Churches -Bill Sullivan acknowledges the full range of questions and challenges associated with starting a new church today. This volume describes the motivation and mission for starting strong new churches. Here is an excellent book to introduce leaders and members to the concept of new church evangelism.

Starter Kit for Starting Strong New Churches -This is a suggested workbook for pastors of new churches, in building their own missional action plan. Each stage of the new church development is followed with ideas and checklists of items to complete before moving on to the next stage. This is a helpful guide for every NewStart pastor and leadership team of new churches.