

EVG630 DEVELOPING DEVOTED DISCIPLES

Lyle Pointer, Professor
Fall 2008

COURSE DESCRIPTION--

The spiritual development of new to maturing Christians, from God's call to follow as a disciple through the transitions of life. The course includes study of the church's ministry in accepting newcomers and shaping faithful followers. A practicum is included.

TEXTS--

Mattaei, Sondra Higgins. Making Disciples. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 2000.
Shaver, Charles. Conserve the Converts. Kansas City: Beacon Hill Press, 1998.
Sire, James. Discipleship of the Mind. Downer's Grove: Intervarsity Press, 1990.
Wood, Christine. Character Witness. Downer's Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2003.

OBJECTIVES—

1. To develop a philosophy of follow through on converts.
2. To evaluate various functional models of discipling.
3. To prepare and implement strategies for spiritual growth.
4. To participate in group efforts at maturing believers.
5. To understand what new converts need and want from a body of believers.
6. To articulate the biblical and theological bases for faith development.

REQUIREMENTS—

1. A mid-term exam over lectures and Discipleship of the Mind on **Sept 15**.
2. A final over the lectures and Conserve the Converts on **Dec. 8**.
3. Participate in a small group Bible study or Sunday School class. Write a three-page report describing 10 week's lessons and their impact on participants. **Due Nov. 20**.
4. As a class, develop six lessons from Philippians for recent Christians addressing their needs and concerns. **Due Nov. 17**.
5. Write a four-page paper describing your interviews with three new believers as to their needs and interests upon having accepted Christ. Each new believer must have accepted the Lord within the last twelve months. **Due Oct. 22**.

6. Write a 5 page paper evaluating Mattaei and Wood texts. **Due Sept. 25.**
7. Develop with other students a four-session membership class design with accompanying advertising, lesson plans, lecture and content. **Due Nov. 4.**
8. Write a paper answering the “Questions Christians Ask”, a handout given by the professor. **Due Sept. 30.**
9. Write five (5) discussion questions on each of five articles available on Blackboard. **Due Oct. 2.**
10. Develop a tri-fold tract by **Oct 16** on one of the following:
 - The value of small group Bible studies;
 - The importance of membership;
 - Why be baptized?
 - Understanding communion;
 - Why should I minister, if I’m not called to be a professional?
 - The value of tithing.
 - Why church attendance? Why worship weekly?

Assignments in Blackboard: Written assignments are to be submitted via Blackboard.

GRADING—

Late papers will not be accepted after 1 week. All late work will receive a 10% deduction. The professor may not read or grade late work until the last week of the semester. Late work will be returned to the student on the day of the final exam.

Grading will be based on:

91-100%	= A
81-90%	= B
71-80%	= C
61-70%	= D
Below 60%	= F

The assignments are worth the following points:

Exams (2 @ 100)	200 points
3 Page Report	75 points
Teaching Module (Philippians)	100 points
Interview Report	75 points
Answering questions	100 points
Membership Class	200 points
Article discussion questions	100 points
Tri-fold Tract	<u>100 points</u>
Total	<u>950 points</u>