

PURPOSE OF THE CLASS

Some people are well-versed in theology but struggle with sharing the gospel with their neighbor or studying the Bible one-on-one with a co-worker. The Practical Ministry Training Course is designed to prepare Christians to live out their faith and serve others through various skills such as prayer, Bible study, discipleship, Biblical counseling, and evangelism. Any one of these topics could have its own ten-week course, yet this class seeks to provide a brief introduction to each in order to build Christians up to engage in ministry in their day-to-day lives.

The main goal and guiding objective is to equip Christians to confidently establish discipleship relationships.

Additional objectives are to:

- Equip individuals for ministry in their local church
- Prepare individuals to potentially serve the church in the office of elder or deacon, as well as other leadership roles such as deaconess or growth group leader
- Invest in leaders who take initiative to influence others through Christ-centered relationships
- Provide practical skills to grow in intentionally pursuing personal ministry opportunities
- Deepen conviction for, and confidence in, using spiritual gifts to serve the body of Christ

ASSIGNED READING

Discipling: How to Help Others Follow Jesus, Mark Dever

Honest Evangelism, Rico Tice

One-to-One Bible Reading, David Helm

Side By Side, Ed Welch

Discerning and Exercising Spiritual Gifts, [article](#) by Tim Keller

ASSIGNMENTS

Required:

- Study the Bible for four sessions with someone
- Share the gospel with one person
- Engage with two people after a Sunday morning/evening service and pray with them (and check-in later)

Pick one:

- Counsel one person using the “How Do People Change?” diagram
- Develop a discipleship plan for one person

EXPECTATIONS

- Attend at least eight of the ten sessions
- Come to each session prepared and willing to engage with the content
- Pray for yourself and the others in the class, that you would grow in diligence and excitement to use your gifts to love the lost and serve the saints in the church
- Complete all assignments and turn in the Evaluation Questionnaire by **June 1**

SCHEDULE

Note: All class periods are Thursday mornings from 6:30-7:45am

Class 1 Introduction to Discipleship

Mar 4 Preparatory Reading: none
Memory Verse: Philippians 3:17

Class 2 Praying with and for Others

Mar 11 Preparatory Reading: *Side By Side*, introduction & chs. 1-6
Memory Verse: Colossians 4:2

Class 3 Discipleship: Biblical Counseling 1

Mar 18 Preparatory Reading: *Side By Side*, chs. 7-12
Memory Verse: 2 Peter 1:3

Class 4 Discipleship: Biblical Counseling 2

Mar 25 Preparatory Reading: *Side By Side*, chs. 13-17 & conclusion
Memory Verse: Ephesians 4:15

Class 5 Leading a Small Group

Apr 1 Preparatory Reading: *One-to-One Bible Reading*, chs. 1-8
Memory Verse: 2 Tim 3:16-17

Class 6 Bible Study Methodology

Apr 8 Preparatory Reading: *Discipling*, introduction & Part 1 (chs. 1-4)
Memory Verse: Hebrews 10:24-25

Class 7 One-on-One Meetings

Apr 15 Preparatory Reading: *Discipling*, Parts 2-3 (chs. 5-10) & conclusion
Memory Verse: 1 Thessalonians 2:8

Class 8 Evangelism: Definitions and Directions

Apr 22 Preparatory Reading: *Honest Evangelism*, foreword, introduction, and chs. 1-4
Memory Verse: Romans 6:23

Class 9 Evangelism: Blunders, Barriers, and Blueprints

Apr 29 Preparatory Reading: *Honest Evangelism*, chs. 5-8
Memory Verse: 1 Timothy 2:5

Class 10 Spiritual Gifts

May 6 Preparatory Reading: “Discerning and Exercising Spiritual Gifts”, Tim Keller
Memory Verse: Romans 12:6a

MEMORY VERSES

- PHILIPPIANS 3:17** Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.
- COLOSSIANS 4:2** Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.
- 2 PETER 1:3** His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence
- EPHESIANS 4:15** Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ
- 2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17** All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.
- HEBREWS 10:24-25** And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.
- 1 THESSALONIANS 2:8** So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us.
- ROMANS 6:23** For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- 1 TIMOTHY 2:5** For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus
- ROMANS 12:6A** Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTED RESOURCES

PRAYER

Henry, Matthew. *A Method for Prayer: Freedom in the Face of God*. Fearn, Scotland: Christian Focus, 2001.

Miller, Paul. *A Praying Life: Connecting with God in a Distracting World*. Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House, 2009.

Watts, Isaac. *A Guide to Prayer*. Carlisle, PA: Banner of Truth, 2001.

Whitney, Donald S. *Praying the Bible*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2015.

EVANGELISM

Gilbert, Greg. *What is the Gospel?* Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2010.

Guinness, Os. *Fool's Talk: Recovering the Art of Christian Persuasion*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2015.

Metzger, Will. *Tell the Truth: The Whole Gospel Wholly by Grace Communicated Truthfully & Lovingly*. 4th edition. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2012.

Packer, J.I. *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2012.

Sproul, R.C. *Defending Your Faith: An Introduction to Apologetics*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2018.

Stiles, Mack. *Evangelism: How the Whole Church Speaks of Jesus*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2014.

———. *Marks of the Messenger: Knowing, Living and Speaking the Gospel*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 2010.

OTHER

Butterfield, Rosaria. *The Gospel Comes With a House Key*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2018.

Helopoulos, Jason. *A Neglected Grace*. Fearn, Scotland: Christian Focus, 2013.

Tripp, Paul David. *Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands*. Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 2002.