

PATH 8304 Critical Issues in Church Revitalization

A Professional Doctoral Seminar

September 10-11 & October 8-9, 2009

Fall 2009 Trimester

CIV New Orleans, Atlanta, Orlando, Birmingham

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NOBTS Mission Statement

The mission of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.

NOBTS Core Values and Core Value Focus

The Seminary's core values are: (1) Doctrinal Integrity, (2) Spiritual Vitality, (3) Mission Focus, (4) Characteristic Excellence, and (5) Servant Leadership. The 2009-10 core value focus is Spiritual Vitality.

Course Description

The purpose of this seminar is to explore and examine critical issues of churches experiencing plateau and decline. The seminar will identify common factors, specific implications, and strategic solutions involving church revitalization, utilizing case studies, reading assignments, demographic evaluations, and research applications.

Seminar Objectives

1. Students will become familiar with significant church revitalization resources.
2. Students will analyze their ministry context in order to select appropriate church revitalization strategies.
3. Students will develop essential leadership skills necessary for revitalizing churches experiencing plateau and decline.
4. Students will develop specific action plans for revitalizing churches experiencing plateau and decline.
5. Students will explore biblical and theological foundations for church revitalization.

Pre-Seminar Assignments

1. Each student will read and submit an **Annotated Analysis** of the following textbook: Olson, David T. *The American Church in Crisis*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2008. ISBN: 9780310277132

The Annotated Analysis is to be single-spaced, involving the following components: (1) a two-page summary of the contents of the book, including strengths and weaknesses, (2) a two-page discussion of five [5] key insights and issues addressed in the book related to church revitalization, (3) a two-page synthesis of five [5] implications of the book for 21st century

church revitalization. The Annotated Analysis must utilize formal style according to Turabian, 6th edition, regarding cover page, margins, pagination, footnotes, headings/subheadings, etc. No first person allowed.

2. Each student will be assigned by the professor ONE of the following textbooks and submit an **Annotated Analysis**, using the same format as Assignment #1.

Kotter, John P. *A Sense of Urgency*. Boston: Harvard Business Press, 2008
ISBN: 9781422179710.

Malphurs, Aubrey. *A New Kind of Church: Understanding Models of Ministry for the 21st Century*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2007. ISBN: 9780801091896.

Rainer, Thom S. *Breakout Churches: Discover How to Make the Leap*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005. ISBN: 9780310257455.

Stetzer, Ed and Mike Dodson. *Comeback Churches: How 300 Churches Turned Around and Yours Can, Too*. Nashville: B & H, 2007. ISBN: 978080544

3. Each student will read: Peter L. Steinke. *Healthy Congregations*. Herndon, VA: Alban, 2006 (ISBN: 9781566993302) and be prepared to discuss the questions at the end of each chapter during the October 8-9 seminar sessions.

4. Each student will download the formal paper by Dr. Ogea entitled "*Critical Issues in Church Revitalization*" and be prepared to discuss the contents during the October 8-9 seminar sessions. The paper is currently posted on the online **Journal of Christian Ministry** (www.journalofchristianministry.org, browse by title or author, and click Ogea – PDF).

Note: Assignments #1 and #2 (Annotated Analysis of textbooks) are to be posted on Blackboard no later than 12 noon, Monday, September 7, 2009, and will be discussed during the September 10-11 seminar sessions. Instructions for Blackboard are listed below following the Assignments section of the syllabus.

During the Seminar Assignment:

Each student should be prepared to be involved in class discussion and dialogue regarding the pre-seminar assignments.

Post-Seminar Assignment:

Each student will develop a **Church Revitalization Strategy** for a church experiencing plateau or decline. The Strategy must utilize all of the seminar textbooks and class discussions. Specific instructions regarding the format, structure, and components of the Strategy will be given by the professor prior to the end of the seminar. **The Church Revitalization Strategy paper is to be mailed to Dr. Ogea, postmarked no later than November 20, 2009**

Directed Study Requirements:

1. Directed Study Students will complete **Pre-Seminar Assignment #1** and will mail to the professor postmarked on or before September 10, 2009.

2. Directed Study Students will complete **Pre-Seminar Assignment #2** by choosing TWO of the four textbooks listed and will mail to the professor postmarked on or before September 10, 2009.
3. Directed Study Students will complete **Pre-Seminar Assignment #3** by submitting answers to all of the questions at the end of each chapter of the Steinke book and will mail to the professor postmarked on or before October 8, 2009
4. Directed Study Students will complete **Pre-Seminar Assignment #4** by writing a one page Reaction to each of the five critical issues in the Ogea formal paper, for a total of five pages, single-spaced, and will mail to the professor postmarked on or before October 8, 2009..
5. Directed Study Students will complete the **Post Seminar Assignment** and will mail to the professor postmarked by the listed due date. Email Dr. Ogea for assignment instructions.
6. Directed Study Students will **Interview** the Pastor of a church that experienced a turnaround following a period of plateau and decline and will mail to the professor postmarked by the Post-Seminar due date. Email Dr. Ogea for assignment instructions.

How to Enroll in a Blackboard Course:

1. Know your course's specific COURSE ID: "PATH8304", (no spaces) which is different from the COURSE NAME: "Critical Issues in Church Revitalization"
2. Logon to <http://courses.nobts.edu/webapps/login/>
3. Go to the COURSES tab in the top-left part of the web page.
4. In the COURSE SEARCH box, click the orange **GO!** button. This will bring you to the BROWSE COURSE CATALOG screen.
5. From the SEARCH CATALOG box search by "COURSE [ID] [CONTAINS]" and then type PATH8304.
6. Click the square GO button instead of typing the Enter key on your keyboard. Now you will find a new area called SEARCH RESULTS, which should list your course.
7. Make sure that you find the specific COURSE ID you are looking for, and that it shows the correct COURSE NAME and INSTRUCTOR.
8. Click the ENROLL button. This will take you to the SELF ENROLLMENT screen.
9. Click the SUBMIT button.

Posting Assignments on a Discussion Board

1. Log-in to Blackboard.
2. Under MY COURSES, click on "Critical Issues in Church Revitalization"
3. You will see a menu on the left side of the screen. Click on DISCUSSION BOARD.
4. On the discussion board page, click on the forum created for the specific assignment.
5. Under the title of the discussion board you will see several options. Click on THREAD.

6. On the ADD THREAD page complete Step 1—type the subject and any message you need to add.
7. Scroll down to Step 2 on the same page and click on ATTACH A FILE.
8. Choose the file you would like to attach.
9. Once you've written your message and chosen the file to attach, click SUBMIT.
10. Your thread and attached file will appear for any other students to access.

If you have any problems regarding Blackboard, call the NOBTS Institutional Technology Center (ITC) 800-662-8701, extension 8180 and ask for the "Blackboard Helpdesk."

Course Evaluation

In Residence Seminar Students:

Annotated Analysis #1	25%
Annotated Analysis #2	25%
Church Revitalization Strategy	40%
Seminar Discussion & Dialogue	10%

Directed Study Seminar Students:

Annotated Analyses	30%
Healthy Churches Q & A	20%
Church Revitalization Strategy	30%
Interview	20%

Special Invitation: A FALL PLAN FOR READING THE BIBLE HAS BEEN INCLUDED. OUR CORE VALUE EMPHASIS FOR THIS YEAR AT NOBTS IS SPIRITUAL VITALITY. DR. KELLEY IS INVITING THE ENTIRE SEMINARY FAMILY TO READ THE BIBLE THROUGH TOGETHER. THERE IS NO FORMAL GRADE FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY BUT STUDENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE.

Fall Semester Bible Reading Plan September 1, 2009 – December 19, 2009

SEPTEMBER

- 1 Genesis 1:1-2:25, Matthew 1:1-25, Psalm 1:1-6, Proverbs 1:1-4
- 2 Genesis 3:1-4:26, Matthew 2:1-23, Psalm 2:1-6, Proverbs 1:5-6
- 3 Genesis 5:1-6:2, Matthew 3:1-17, Psalm 2:7-12, Proverbs 1:7
- 4 Genesis 7:1-9:7, Matthew 4:1-20, Psalms 3:1-8, Proverbs 1:8-9
- 5 Genesis 9:8-10:32, Matthew 4:21-5:12, Psalm 4:1-8, Proverbs 1:10-14
- 6 Genesis 11:1-12:20, Matthew 5:13-32, Psalm 5:1-6, Proverbs 1:15-16
- 7 Genesis 13:1-15:6, Matthew 5:33-6:4, Psalm 5:7-12, Proverbs 1:17-19
- 8 Genesis 15:7-17:27, Matthew 6:5-24, Psalm 6:1-5, Proverbs 1:20-23
- 9 Genesis 18:1-19:22, Matthew 6:25-7:12, Psalm 6:6-10, Proverbs 1:24-27

10 Genesis 19:23-21:21, Matthew 7:13-8:4, Psalm 7:1-8, Proverbs 1:28-31
 11 Genesis 21:22-23:20, Matthew 8:5-27, Psalm 7:9-17, Proverbs 1:32-33
 12 Genesis 24:1-54, Matthew 8:28-9:17, Psalm 8:1-9, Proverbs 2:1-5
 13 Genesis 24:55-26:11, Matthew 9:18-38, Psalm 9:1-6, Proverbs 2:6-8
 14 Genesis 26:12-27:29, Matthew 10:1-20, Psalm 9:7-12, Proverbs 2:9-10
 15 Genesis 27:30-29:12, Matthew 10:21-42, Psalm 9:13-20, Proverbs 2:11-15
 16 Genesis 29:13-30:43, Matthew 11:1-19, Psalm 10:1-6, Proverbs 2:16-19
 17 Genesis 31:1-55, Matthew 11:20-12:8, Psalm 10:7-12, Proverbs 2:20-22
 18 Genesis 32:1-33:20, Matthew 12:9-37, Psalm 10:13-18, Proverbs 3:1-2
 19 Genesis 34:1-35:29, Matthew 12:38-13:9, Psalm 11:1-3, Proverbs 3:3-4
 20 Genesis 36:1-43, Matthew 13:10-35, Psalm 11:4-7, Proverbs 3:5-6
 21 Genesis 37:1-38:30, Matthew 13:36-58, Psalm 12:1-5, Proverbs 3:7-8
 22 Genesis 39:1-41:7, Matthew 14:1-21, Psalm 12:6-8, Proverbs 3:9-10
 23 Genesis 41:8-42:4, Matthew 14:22-15:9, Psalm 13:1-6, Proverbs 3:11-12
 24 Genesis 42:5-43:14, Matthew 15:10-39, Psalm 14:1-7, Proverbs 3:13-14
 25 Genesis 43:15-44:34, Matthew 16:1-20, Psalm 15:1-5, Proverbs 3:15-16
 26 Genesis 45:1-46:27, Matthew 16:21-17:13, Psalm 16:1-6, Proverbs 3:17-18
 27 Genesis 46:28-48:22, Matthew 17:14-18:9, Psalm 16:7-11, Proverbs 3:19-20
 28 Genesis 49:1-50:26, Matthew 18:10-35, Psalm 17:1-5, Proverbs 3:21-24
 29 Exodus 1:1-2:25, Matthew 19:1-22, Psalm 17:6-12, Proverbs 3:25-26
 30 Exodus 3:1-4:31, Matthew 19:23-20:19, Psalm 17:13-15, Proverbs 27-28

OCTOBER

1 Exodus 5:1-6:30, Matthew 20:20-21:11, Psalm 18:1-6, Proverbs 3:29-32
 2 Exodus 7:1-8:32, Matthew 21:12-27, Psalm 18:7-12, Proverbs 3:33-35
 3 Exodus 9:1-10:20, Matthew 21:28-46, Psalm 18:13-19, Proverbs 4:1-2
 4 Exodus 10:21-12:36, Matthew 22:1-22, Psalm 18:20-24, Proverbs 4:3-4
 5 Exodus 12:37-14:20, Matthew 22:23-46, Psalm 18:25-29, Proverbs 4:5-6
 6 Exodus 14:21-16:20, Matthew 23:1-22, Psalm 18:30-36, Proverbs 4:7-9
 7 Exodus 16:21-18:27, Matthew 23:23-39, Psalm 18:37-42, Proverbs 4:10-13
 8 Exodus 19:1-20:26, Matthew 24:1-14, Psalm 18:43-50, Proverbs 4:14-17
 9 Exodus 21:1-22:20, Matthew 24:15-35, Psalm 19:1-6, Proverbs 4:18-19
 10 Exodus 22:21-24:18, Matthew 24:36-51, Psalm 19:7-14, Proverbs 4:20-22
 11 Exodus 25:1-26:14, Matthew 25:1-13, Psalm 20:1-9, Proverbs 4:23-24
 12 Exodus 26:15-28:14, Matthew 25:14-30, Psalm 21:1-7, Proverbs 4:25-27
 13 Exodus 28:15-29:25, Matthew 25:31-26:5, Psalm 21:8-13, Proverbs 5:1-2
 14 Exodus 29:26-30:38, Matthew 26:6-25, Psalm 22:1-5, Proverbs 5:3-6
 15 Exodus 31:1-32:35, Matthew 26:26-50, Psalm 22:6-10, Proverbs 5:7-8
 16 Exodus 33:1-34:35, Matthew 26:51-75, Psalm 22:11-15, Proverbs 5:9-10
 17 Exodus 35:1-36:19, Matthew 27:1-23, Psalm 22:16-21, Proverbs 5:11-14
 18 Exodus 36:20-37:29, Matthew 27:24-44, Psalm 22:22-26, Proverbs 5:15-17
 19 Exodus 38:1-39:31, Matthew 27:45-66, Psalm 22:27-31, Proverbs 5:18-20
 20 Exodus 39:32-40:38, Matthew 28:1-20, Psalm 23:1-6, Proverbs 5:21-23
 21 Leviticus 1:1-3:17, Mark 1:1-20, Psalm 24:1-10, Proverbs 6:1-3

- 22 Leviticus 4:1-5:19, Mark 1:21-45, Psalm 25:1-7, Proverbs 6:4-5
- 23 Leviticus 6:1-7:21, Mark 2:1-22, Psalm 25:8-15, Proverbs 6:6-8
- 24 Leviticus 7:22-8:36, Mark 2:23-3:12, Psalm 25:16-22, Proverbs 6:9-11
- 25 Leviticus 9:1-11:12, Mark 3:13-35, Psalm 26:1-7, Proverbs 6:12-15
- 26 Leviticus 11:13-13:17, Mark 4:1-20, Psalm 26:8-12, Proverbs 6:16-19
- 27 Leviticus 13:18-14:14, Mark 4:21-41, Psalm Ps 27:1-6, Proverbs 6:20-22
- 28 Leviticus 14:15-15:12, Mark 5:1-20, Psalm 27:7-14, Proverbs 6:23-26
- 29 Leviticus 15:13-16:34, Mark 5:21-43, Psalm 28:1-5, Proverbs 6:27-29
- 30 Leviticus 17:1-19:10, Mark 6:1-20, Psalm 28:6-9, Proverbs 6:30-31
- 31 Leviticus 19:11-20:27, Mark 6:21-46, Psalm 29:1-6, Proverbs 6:32-33

NOVEMBER

- 1 Leviticus 21:1-22:33, Mark 6:47-7:16, Psalm 29:7-11, Proverbs 6:34-35
- 2 Leviticus 23:1-24:23, Mark 7:17-37, Psalm 30:1-6, Proverbs 7:1-3
- 3 Leviticus 25:1-55, Mark 8:1-21, Psalm 30:7-12, Proverbs 7:4-5
- 4 Leviticus 26:1-46, Mark 8:22-9:1, Psalm 31:1-8, Proverbs 7:6-8
- 5 Leviticus 27:1-34, Mark 9:2-29, Psalm 31:9-18, Proverbs 7:9-12
- 6 Numbers 1:1-54, Mark 9:30-50, Psalm 31:19-24, Proverbs 7:13-17
- 7 Numbers 2:1-3:16, Mark 10:1-22, Psalm 32:1-7, Proverbs 7:18-21
- 8 Numbers 3:17-4:20, Mark 10:23-45, Psalm 32:8-11, Proverbs 7:22-23
- 9 Numbers 4:21-5:31, Mark 10:46-11:11, Psalm 33:1-9, Proverbs 7:24-27
- 10 Numbers 6:1-7:29, Mark 11:12-33, Psalm 33:10-17, Proverbs 8:1-3
- 11 Numbers 7:30-89, Mark 12:1-27, Psalm 33:18-22, Proverbs 8:4-5
- 12 Numbers 8:1-10:10, Mark 12:28-44, Psalm 34:1-7, Proverbs 8:6-7
- 13 Numbers 10:11-11:35, Mark 13:1-20, Psalm 34:8-14, Proverbs 8:8-9
- 14 Numbers 12:1-14:4, Mark 13:21-37, Psalm 34:15-22, Proverbs 8:10-13
- 15 Numbers 14:5-45, Mark 14:1-21, Psalm 35:1-10, Proverbs 8:14-17
- 16 Numbers 15:1-41, Mark 14:22-42, Psalm 35:11-16, Proverbs 8:18-19
- 17 Numbers 16:1-50, Mark 14:43-72, Psalm 35:17-21, Proverbs 8:20-21
- 18 Numbers 17:1-19:8, Mark 15:1-21, Psalm 35:22-28, Proverbs 8:22-24
- 19 Numbers 19:9-21:9, Mark 15:22-47, Psalm 36:1-6, Proverbs 8:25-26
- 20 Numbers 21:10-22:41, Mark 16:1-20, Psalm 36:7-12, Proverbs 8:27-29
- 21 Numbers 23:1-24:25, Luke 1:1-23, Psalm 37:1-6, Proverbs 8:30-31
- 22 Numbers 25:1-26:22, Luke 1:24-56, Psalm 37:7-13, Proverbs 8:32-33
- 23 Numbers 26:23-65, Luke 1:57-80, Psalm 37:14-20, Proverbs 8:34-36
- 24 Numbers 27:1-28:31, Luke 2:1-20, Psalm 37:21-26, Proverbs 9:1-2
- 25 Numbers 29:1-30:16, Luke 2:21-38, Psalm 37:27-33, Proverbs 9:3-6
- 26 Numbers 31:1-54, Luke 2:39-52, Psalm 37:34-40, Proverbs 9:7-9
- 27 Numbers 32:1-42, Luke 3:1-20, Psalm 38:1-8, Proverbs 9:10-12
- 28 Numbers 33:1-56, Luke 3:21-38, Psalm 38:9-14, Proverbs 9:13-15
- 29 Numbers 34:1-35:34, Luke 4:1-21, Psalm 38:15-22, Proverbs 9:16-18
- 30 Numbers 36:1- Deuteronomy 1:46, Luke 4:22-44, Psalm 39:1-6, Proverbs 10:1-2

DECEMBER

- 1 Deuteronomy 2:1-3:29, Luke 5:1-20, Psalm 39:7-13, Proverbs 10:3-5
- 2 Deuteronomy 4:1-49, Luke 5:21-6:11, Psalm 40:1-5, Proverbs 10:6-8
- 3 Deuteronomy 5:1-6:25, Luke 6:12-36, Psalm 40:6-10, Proverbs 10:9-11
- 4 Deuteronomy 7:1-8:20, Luke 6:37-7:10, Psalm 40:11-17, Proverbs 10:12-14
- 5 Deuteronomy 9:1-10:22, Luke 7:11-35, Psalm 41:1-6, Proverbs 10:15-17
- 6 Deuteronomy 11:1-12:19, Luke 7:36-8:3, Psalm 41:7-13, Proverbs 10:18-21
- 7 Deuteronomy 12:20-14:21, Luke 8:4-25, Psalm 42:1-11, Proverbs 10:22-25
- 8 Deuteronomy 14:22-16:22, Luke 8:26-56, Psalm 43:1-5, Proverbs 10: 26-27
- 9 Deuteronomy 17:1-19:13, Luke 9:1-22, Psalm 44:1-8, Proverbs 10:28-30
- 10 Deuteronomy 19:14-21:23, Luke 9:23-45, Psalm 44:9-16, Proverbs 10:31-32
- 11 Deuteronomy 22:1-23:25, Luke 9:46-62, Psalm 44:17-26, Proverbs 11:1-4
- 12 Deuteronomy 24:1-26:19, Luke 10:1-24, Psalm 45:1-5, Proverbs 11:5-6
- 13 Deuteronomy 27:1-28:14, Luke 10:25-11:4, Psalm 45:6-12, Proverbs 11:7-8
- 14 Deuteronomy 28:15-68, Luke 11:5-28, Psalm 45:13-17, Proverbs 11:9-11
- 15 Deuteronomy 29:1-30:20, Luke 11:29-54, Psalm 46:1-11, Proverbs 11:12-13
- 16 Deuteronomy 31:1-29, Luke 12:1-21, Psalm 47:1-9, Proverbs 11:14-15
- 17 Deuteronomy 31:30-32:52, Luke 12:22-40, Psalm 48:1-7, Proverbs 11:16-18
- 18 Deuteronomy 33:1-34:12, Luke 12:41-59, Psalm 48:8-14, Proverbs 11:19-21
- 19 Joshua 1:1-3:17, Luke 13:1-21, Psalm 49:1-9, Proverbs 11:22-23

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- _____. *User Friendly Churches: What Christians Need to Know about the Churches People Love to Go To*. Ventura: Regal Books, 1991.
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