

**PMCP8303 Developing a Missional Church:
Applying Acts 1:8 to New and Existing Churches
October 21-23, 2015
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New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary**

Seminary Mission

The mission of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary is to equip leaders to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28: 16-20) and the Great Commandments (Matthew 22:34-40) through the local church and its ministries.

Course Purpose

The purpose of this seminar is to help equip those studying at NOBTS to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28: 16-20) through the local church and its ministries.

Core Value Focus

Our seminary has five core values: doctrinal integrity, spiritual vitality, mission focus, character excellence, and servant leadership. This seminar relates in some way to all five core values but especially mission focus which states in part: “We are here to change the world by fulfilling the Great Commission and the Great Commandments through the local church and its ministries.” The core value focus the 2015- 2016 academic year is mission focus.

Curriculum Competencies Addressed

New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary has seven basic competencies guiding the NOBTS curriculum. This seminar supports and relates to various competencies such as biblical exposition in relationship to biblical foundations of missions. The disciple making competency which stated is “to stimulate church health through mobilizing the church for missions, evangelism, discipleship, and church growth” is especially addressed in the curriculum of this seminar.

Course Description

The purpose of this seminar is to examine and explore how to create a biblically based intentional missions focus in a church which includes evangelism, missions, and reproduction through church planting. The mission concepts in Acts 1:8 and other biblical passages will be explored including the importance of witness empowered by the Holy Spirit, the meaning of being Christ’s witnesses, and intentional sharing of the gospel in the local, regional, and international context. These concepts will be applied to new church planting efforts and existing congregations.

Student Learning Outcomes

The student who satisfactorily completes this seminar by fulfillment of the requirements should be able to:

1. Apply a biblically based intentional missions focus to the local church and its ministry.
2. Demonstrate appreciation for the missions opportunities which are available to churches, particularly Southern Baptist churches, through the local association, state conventions, North American Mission Board, and International Mission Board.
3. Articulate and advocate missions through the local church and its ministries.

Course Teaching Methodology

A variety of teaching methods will be utilized such as class presentations by the seminar participants and the professors using Power Point and handouts. Other teaching methods include small and large group discussion, multi-media presentations, utilization of missions related websites, and other communication mediums.

Course Textbooks

Minatrea, Mildred. *Shaped by God's Heart: The Passion and Practice of Missional Churches*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2004. Kindle edition available.

All seminar participants read and complete the assignment described under # 4 on pages 4-5.

Read **Two** of the following:

Find the Discussion Board on Blackboard. Post a thread response for each of your choices of the two books you request to read. Each book should have **one** seminar participant before a second person lists a book so that all books may be covered in textbook presentations during the seminar. Limit of **two** persons for any book.)

Baukham, Richard. *Bible and Mission: Christian Witness in a Postmodern World*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2003.

Ford, Lance and Brisco, Brad. *The Missional Quest: Becoming the Church of the Long Run*. Downers Grove: Intervarsity Press, 2013. Kindle edition available.

Hatmaker, Brandon. *Barefoot Church: Serving the Lord in a Consumer Culture*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2011. Kindle edition available.

McNeal, Reggie. *Missional Renaissance: Changing the Scorecard for the CHURCH*. San Francisco: Wiley, John, & Sons, Inc., 2009. Kindle edition available.

Platt, David. *Radical: Taking Back Your Faith from the American Dream*. Colorado Springs: Multnomah Books, 2010. Kindle edition available.

Roxburgh, Alan J. *Missional: Joining God in the Neighborhood*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2011. Kindle edition available.

Stetzer, Ed and Putman, David. *Breaking the Missional Code: Your Church Can Become Missionary in Your Community*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers, 2006. Kindle edition available.

Stetzer, Ed. *Planting Missional Churches: Planting A Church That's Biblically Sound and Reaching People in Culture*. Nashville: B & H Academic, 2006. Kindle edition available.

Van Gelder, Craig. *The Essence of the Church: A Community Created by the Spirit*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2000. Kindle edition available.

These textbooks may be secured through the LifeWay Bookstore on the New Orleans campus of NOBTS by contacting (504)282-2626.

Course Requirements

Pre-Seminar Assignments

1. **Blackboard.** Each student must enroll in the Internet assisted part of this course by Aug. 28, 2015, **and maintain a valid e-mail address recorded in your Blackboard account at all times.** The Blackboard site will be a source for information that will be useful to the course and may be used for e-mail to students. To enroll go to the nobts.edu site and complete the following steps:

Step 1: Open your web browser to the seminary home page at <http://www.nobts.edu>

Step 2: Click on the **NOBTS - Blackboard** link at the top of the page. **If you already have a Blackboard account, log in and skip to Step 6.** (You only need one Blackboard account.)

Step 3: When the new page opens, choose the **Create Account** button on the left.

Step 4: Enter in your information. (Note: Fields with a red asterisk are required fields.) When finished entering your information, click **Submit**.

Step 5: When the next page loads, confirming your registration, click **OK**.

Step 6: Now, your personal NOBTS-Blackboard home page should appear. To enroll in a class, click on the **Courses** tab at the top of the page.

Step 7: Browse the course catalog for the course ID, PMCP8303PP. Click on orange go button without typing anything in course search textbox.

Step 8: From the browser course catalog page, search the catalog by "Course (ID) (equal to) PMC8303PP Click Go button on screen. (Do not type enter key).

Step 9: When you find the course, click on the **Enroll** button on the right side of the screen. Your course is PMCP8303PP Developing a Missional Church: Applying Acts 1:8 to New and Existing Churches.

Step 10: Enter the access code (Note: The access code is case sensitive.) It is pmcOct2015

Step 11: Click **OK** when the confirmation page appears.

2. Textbook Reading:

Seminar participants will read the required textbooks (Minetra book read by each seminar member and two of the books listed on page 2 under “Read Two of the Following”) prior to the workshop and be prepared to discuss these books during seminar sessions. Presentation assignment times will be made before or early in the seminar.

Teaching Points Paper:

Write and submit a five to seven page, double-spaced typed paper (minimum of five full pages of text excluding cover page or Table of Contents) for one of the books listed under “Read Two of the following” on page 2. Use headings for the following sections of the critique: **Book Information, Synopsis, Key Teaching Points.**

1) Synopsis - Discuss the major themes of the book. This does not have to include every single theme or chapter of the textbook. This section should be approximately two pages.

2) Choose five to ten key teaching points from the book. Using materials from the book explain each teaching point and its application in the lives of people where you minister. Write from the perspective you are teaching a group these insights. The teaching points should be approximately three pages to five pages in length.

Executive Summary

Each seminar participant will submit a four to five page (minimum of four full pages of text excluding cover page or table of contents) executive summary of one of the approved textbooks under “Read Two of the following” on page 2.

Begin with biographical information: Author, Title, (Subtitle if has one), place of publication, Publisher, year of publication.

Present the major thesis or themes of the book in two to three paragraphs.

Highlight what will be learned in the summary. (Use numbers to list)

Write the main idea or ideas of the book.

Discuss including citations or source for several key principles found in the book.

Include at least one page of application for ways to apply in a local church ministry context.

Use headings to separate sections: **Book Information; Thesis (or) Themes of the Book; Highlights of Summary; Main Idea (or) Ideas; Key Principles; Application to Local Ministry**

4. Minatrea Book:

Write and submit a five to seven double-spaced paper (minimum of five full pages excluding cover page or table of contents page) concerning the Minatrea book, *Shaped by God’s Heart* which includes the following:

A. Answer the following Reflection and Application questions in light of your life and present church ministry. Page 99, Questions 1-3; Page 109, Questions 1 & 3; Page 154, Question 1, and Page 172, Questions 1-2 & 4.

B. Make a copy of the Missional Church Cultural Assessment, pages 186-194 and complete yourself assessing your church. (A copy of the completed assessment doesn't have to be turned in with the paper.) Describe your reaction to the assessment in your paper.

C. Describe how you view your church's present status in light of the following missional practices: Number One(described in Chapter 3); Number Three (described in Chapter 5); Number Six (described in Chapter 8);Number Eight(described in chapter 10); and Number Nine(described in chapter 11). Indicate what changes you might need to make in your church to help it become a more intentional missional church.

Use headings to separate the sections such as: **Introduction, Reflection and Application, Assessment Reaction, Church's Present Missional Practices, Conclusion.**

Due Date: The teaching points assignment, executive summary and Minatrea book assignment are to be posted on the correct Blackboard Assignment folders by Wednesday, Oct. 7 . 11:59 P.M. Central Time.

Case Study/Interview:

Choose a Southern Baptist church for which you would like to conduct the following case study. The church should have a missions ministry which includes participation in missions in their community, state or region, North America, and internationally. Churches chosen should have ministries in all four areas. You may not use the church where you serve now or currently a member; have served previously; nor the church in which you attended while growing up. Email Dr. Pinckard for approval and to avoid duplication of using the same church of another seminar participant.

Each seminar participant will prepare a seven to ten page double-spaced(minimum of seven full pages excluding cover page and table of contents page)typed case study and interview with a person(in person; by Skype; face time; or regular phone call) involved in an existing church or new church start with an active intentional missions focus of sharing the gospel in their local context, the surrounding area such as an association and/or state convention, North America, and internationally. The paper should include the following and headings:

A. An overview of the church's missional emphasis.

B. A brief description of how the church helps members stay focused on missions as a church.

C. A description of the leadership principles used by the church staff and key leaders to continue having or keep a missional focus.

D. A description of some lessons or principles gleaned from this church's missional focus which may be adopted and utilized by leaders of other churches. This may include not only possible lessons or principles but also mistakes or suggestions of what to avoid from the person with whom the interview is conducted.

E. Use headings in the case study paper such as: **Introduction, Church's Missional Emphasis, Keeping Members Focused on Missions, Lessons and Principles to Apply, Conclusion.**

F. Prepare a separate one to two page summary of key ideas from the case study and interview. Post a copy on the Case Study Summary heading on Discussion Board of Blackboard by the first seminar session on Oct. 21, 1 P.M. Central Time.

G. Prepare to share a Multi-media presentation of the case study during the seminar using Power Point, video clips, and/or web sites are encouraged. (See # 2 below under "During the Workshop Assignments")

Due Date: The Case Study/Interview Paper is due to be posted on the correct Blackboard Assignments folder by the beginning of the first session of the seminar on Oct. 21, 1 P.M. Central Time.

During the Workshop Assignments

1. Seminar Presentations on Assigned Textbooks:

All seminar, participants will be prepared to participate in discussion of the textbooks prior to the seminar. Each seminar member will be responsible for leading the seminar in the discussion of the particular textbooks read. The details for the discussion time will be shared before the seminar or in the initial seminar meeting.

2. Case Study/Interview Presentations:

Each seminar participant will be expected to give an oral presentation of their particular case study and interview prepared prior to the beginning of the seminar sessions. Each participant should be prepared to give an appropriate thirty minute presentation to the seminar. (This time for each presentation is approximate and may have to be adjusted at the beginning of the seminar sessions based on the number in the seminar.) PowerPoint can be used and/or video excerpts from interviews may be used with permission of the person interviewed but the entire presentation should not be a video. During the first seminar session a schedule for these presentations will be made.

You may contact the professor to sign up for presentations during the first day or evening of the seminar. Please email the professor to sign up for a time slot in advance.

3. Seminar Participation:

Each seminar participant is expected to attend all sessions and participate in the discussions including and apart from individual and group presentations. A portion of the seminar grade will include individual participation. No seminar sessions may be missed.

Post-Seminar Assignment

1. Missional Church Strategy:

Each seminar participant will research and write a missional church strategy designed to enable a local church to implement an Acts 1:8 strategy which includes intentional local (Jerusalem), regional(Judea), North America(Samaria), and international missions(ends of the earth).

Sections of the Paper:

Introduction

Description of Church's Current Missions Involvement

Give a brief description of your church and an overview of the church's current ministries and its current involvement in missions.

Biblical Basis for a Missional Focus by a Local Church

Discuss the biblical basis for having a missional focus as a local church including selected passages. (Refer to appropriate verses, but it is not necessary to copy entire sections of verses.)

Strategy for Carrying out Missions in Geographic Areas

The major focus of the paper will show how a specific local church can implement a missional church strategy in their particular ministry context that includes local, regional, North American, and international missions. Your paper will include developing and formulating a strategy with a description of how you will carry out missions in the four geographic areas. It should include the need for a church to adopt such a strategy and a plan for presenting the strategy to the decision-making authorization body of the church. (If an Acts 1:8 strategy has been adopted already by the church, discuss presenting the plan to key leadership of one's church.)

Strategy for Utilizing the Eight Commitments

Your paper will include developing and formulating a strategy with a description of how you will use each of the eight commitments to develop an Acts 1: 8 strategy for your church. (See the eight commitments on Blackboard course materials.) An overview of information on developing an Acts 1:8 strategy will be given during the seminar.

Conclusion

Examples of Acts 1:8 churches may be found online through <http://commissionstories.com/>, <http://www.imb.org> and <http://www.namb.net/> detailed information on the Acts 1:8 challenge go to the website: <http://dev.actstone8.com/>

The strategy paper should include be a minimum of fifteen full pages in the body of the paper to a maximum of twenty double spaced typed pages in proper Turabian form. (The body excludes cover page ,table of contents page, endnotes, or Works Cited bibliography.) To demonstrate a wide variety of resources have been used to compose the strategy use a minimum of twelve to fifteen different sources in addition to the Bible. These sources may include the textbooks for the seminar and other resources introduced during the seminar. It may include some internet sources in additional to hard copy material such as books, commentaries, reference books, journal articles, and other sources.

Sources used in composing the strategy should be cited in footnotes or endnotes. One source may be cited several times but counts as one source toward the number of different sources.

A separate bibliography of Works Cited in the paper should be included with each different source used in the paper.

Use headings for the different sections of the paper including an Introduction and Conclusion and other sections described above.

(Those ministering in a church context which already has an intentional Acts 1:8 strategy or strong missional focus should focus on how to elevate a missional focus to saturate the entire church body. Those serving in a new church plant may write from the perspective of the church's present context and future plans. Those involved in other ministries besides serving on a local church staff may craft their strategy in relationship to their ministry assignment in helping local churches. However, the strategy must include the four geographic foci: local, regional, and beyond- not just focusing on only one geographic area such as local missions.)

Due Date: The missional church strategy should be posted on the correct Blackboard Assignments folder by Thursday, November 19, 11:59 P.M.

Seminar Reminders:

1. Use the Sixth edition of Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations* as the official style and form guide.
2. Use Times New Roman 12 point font or its equivalent for assignments.
3. Use a cover sheet for all assignments except the interview/case study summary to be distributed to seminar members for which your name on the summary is sufficient.
4. ALL ASSIGNMENTS TURNED IN LATE WILL RECEIVE A MINIMUM OF A ONE LETTER GRADE REDUCTION.
5. Assignments will normally not be accepted two weeks past the due date. The professor should be notified about any emergency prior to the due date of an assignment for any time adjustments.

Due Dates

The teaching points' assignment, executive summary, and Minatrea book assignment are to be posted on the correct Blackboard Assignment folders by **Wednesday, Oct. 7, 11:59 P.M.**

Central Time. (See pages 2-5 of syllabus for details.)

The Case Study/Interview Paper is due to be posted on the correct Blackboard Assignments folder by the beginning of the **first session of the seminar on Oct. 21, 1 P.M. Central Time.** (See pages 5-6 of syllabus for details.)

The missional church strategy should be posted on the correct Blackboard Assignments folder by **Thursday, November 19, 11:59 P.M.** (See pages 6-8 of syllabus for details.)

Regular Seminar Evaluation:

Teaching/Executive Sum papers: 20%

Minatrea Book Assignment: 10%

Case Study / Interview: 20%

Seminar Presentations and Participation including Assigned Textbook, Case/Study Interview, and general participation and attendance for seminar: 20%

Missional Church Strategy 30%

Contact Information:

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Directed Study Options

1. Directed study students will complete all the Pre-Seminar and Post-Seminar assignments as listed earlier in the syllabus with the same due dates.
2. In place of the section, "During the Workshop Assignments," a directed study student will complete three of the following:
 - A. Prepare a video-presentation related to the Acts 1:8 church or ministry examined in the case study which is between 15-20 minutes in length.
 - B. Read two additional books from the seminar bibliography or approved by the professor. Complete an additional two book critiques. (Follow guidelines for Pre-Seminar reviews and include an application section to discuss how the book relates to your ministry context.)
 - C. Use guidelines from Minatrea's book to discuss with key leaders of your church how to become a missional church. Write a summary of your interaction and your reflections on the experience as related to you and your church's ministry. This summary and reflection should be approximately five to seven pages.
 - D. Choose a second church on which to complete a case study, following directions on page 5 for Case Study/Interview for the paper.
 - E. Suggest an alternative assignment to one of the above assignments that must be approved the professor prior to implementation as one of the three directed study foci.

The above assignments for # 2. will be **due by Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2014, 11:59 and** account for 20% of the Directed Study Grade. Post on the correct Blackboard Assignment folder.

Directed Study Evaluation

Textbook Critiques:	20%
Minatrea Book Assignment:	10%
Case Study / Interview:	20%
Special Directed Study Assignments (see above)	20%
Missional Church Strategy	30%

Selected Bibliography

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