TIM Centre Foundations in Missional Ministry and Church Leadership

Course Syllabus Winter 2016 "Survey of the Old Testament"

This is one of four core courses offered in the TIM Centre's Certificate in "Foundations of Missional Ministry & Church Leadership." The training is prepared to serve the ministry leader who may not have a recognized theology degree but is seeking to be credentialed within a partner denomination.

Course Instructor: Dr. Bob Morris

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

"Survey of the Old Testament" is designed as a panoramic view of the books of the Old Testament canon and explores the underlying themes that are woven all through the Bible's grand narrative – themes that are foundational pillars of the biblical worldview and therefore also of biblical understanding. This course understands the Old Testament as the narrative of God's missional purposes in the world and seeks to find each person's own place in the Biblical story.

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

Upon completion of this course, you should have acquired a good knowledge of, and/or skills in the following:
1. How to read the narrative of the Bible to gain insights into who God is, who we are, and what God is doing in the world to reconcile all creation onto Himself.
2. A deep appreciation of the unity, artistry, the construction, and the depth of meaning in the grand narrative of the Old Testament.
3. Insights into the Old Testament foundations of the New Testament.
4. A personal Biblical worldview and philosophy of missional ministry that will shape the way you live as a person, and as a leader in the church.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. Readings

Text Book:

Gordon D. Fee and Douglas Stuart, How to Read the Bible Book by Book – A Guided Tour *(*Zondervan 2002)

In addition, each student must have access to at least two modern translations of the Bible, preferably employing different translation techniques. For example, students may choose one of the following "dynamic" translations: NIVI, NIV, NEB, GNB; and one of the following "formal" translations: NRSV, RSV, NASB, and NKJV.

B. Suggested Readings and Resources

Wright, Christopher J.H., The Mission of God: Unlocking the Bible's Grand Narrative. *(*IVP Academic, 2006)

Wright, Christopher J.H., How to Preach and Teach the Old Testament for All Its Worth *(* Zondervan, 2016)

Barthomemew, Craig G. and Goheen, Michael W., The Drama of Scripture, Finding Our Place in the Biblical Story, *(*Baker Academic, 2004)

C. Assignments and Grading

1. **Class Participation** –Attendance & Participation. Because the Foundations of Missional Ministry course incorporates a cohort learning style, it is crucial that students attend and participate in all classes. Any class missed reduces the participation mark significantly. More than two missed classes result in a fail to pass. (15% of final mark). Evaluated weekly.

2. **Reflection Paper**: Students will submit a 3 – 5 page personal reflection paper on one narrative theme of the Old Testament showing how it is developed in the Old Testament and what application it can have for your life and ministry today. (35%) (Due Date: Nov. 7, 2016).

3. Lesson/devotional outline: Select one passage from the Old Testament and develop a lesson or devotional outline. This should be based on doing an exegetical interpretation of the text, showing what it means and how it could apply in your ministry context. (30%) (Due: Oct.24)

4. Memorization of the books of the Old Testament (10%) (Due: Oct.3)

5. Memorization of verses from each of the 5 different sections of the Old Testament – Law, History, Poetry, Major Prophets, Minor Prophets (10%) (Due: Oct. 17)

Assignment	Due Date	Percent of Final
Reflection Paper (3-5 pages)	Nov. 7	35%
Lesson Outline	Oct.24	30%
Memorization of the books of the Old Testament	Oct. 3	10%
Memorization of verses from 5 different sections of the Old Testament	Oct. 17	10%
Class participation	Weekly	15%

D. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WORK

- Keep your paper within the range of length that is assigned.
- Use standard margins, double-spaced, typed, 12 point font.
- Use gender-inclusive language. For example, use "we are made in the image of God" rather than "men are made in the image of God."

E. COURSE SCHEDULE

Classes are on Mondays (6:30-9:30) beginning September 19th. NOTE: There will be no class on October 10th.

Lesson 1. Background of the Old Testament (Date: September 19)

Lesson 2. Genesis and the Pentateuch (Date: September 26)

Lesson 3 Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy) (Date: October 3)

No class October 10

Lesson 4 History: From Conquest to Exile (Date: October 17)

Lesson 5 Poetry: Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs (Date: Oct.24)

Lesson 6 Major Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel (Date: Oct. 31st)

Lesson 7 Minor Prophets (Date: November 7)

Lesson 8 Intertestamental Period (Date: November 14)