



## SYLLABUS

Department of Life Long Learning for Non-credit, Church-based Training  
TIM Centre Diploma: Foundations of Missional Ministry & Church Leadership

**COURSE: *LEADING YOUR CONGREGATION IN MISSIONAL MINISTRY***

**FACILITATORS:** Rev. Dr. Brian Craig – [bcraig@baptist.ca](mailto:bcraig@baptist.ca)

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### I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

With the mission of God as our reason for existence, we are called to lead, equip and care for the people of God as they engage in that mission. As church leaders, what are the understandings, skills and practices that serve this mission and the church? This course will look at who we are as leaders, and how we can grow and develop in our ability to lead effectively and empower others to do the same. One aspect of the course will be to address the life and character of leadership, and another will address the specific tasks and areas of ministry we are most commonly called to undertake in church ministry.

### II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this course, you should be able to:

- Express key aspects of what leaders are called to do in the context of local church ministry
- Mentor and empower others in mission and ministry
- Identify your own gifts and tendencies in leadership
- Practice various skills required for effective leadership

### III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**A. Required Reading: *Practicing Greatness* by Reggie McNeal – 20%**

Read the book and select one of the seven “disciplines” he describes, and write a 3 page reflection on how well you “practice” this pattern. You may feel you do this discipline

well: if so, describe some of the ways you practice this. You may feel you need to grow in this area: if so, say how you need to develop and describe some ways you could do so.  
Due Date:

**B. Attendance and Class Participation - Value: 25%**

Attend each class and participate in class discussions by being prepared, asking questions and interacting with other classmates. Each class missed reduces the participation mark by 50% (i.e. 10% of total mark). More than two missed classes results in a fail.

**C. Leadership lessons from a Biblical Character Value: 25%**

Select one of the biblical characters from the options provided by the instructors. Prepare a 5 minute presentation around what this person can suggest about leadership. Give a brief reminder of the story of the person, and then share your thoughts on some or all of these questions:

What does this person do well as a leader?

How does this person fail, or how do they struggle in leadership?

How do you identify with this person as a leader?

**Due Date: Assigned week – presentation dates will be assigned at the first class, when the characters are selected.**

**D. Yourself as leader - Value: 25%**

For the final class, write up to three pages about what you have learned about yourself as a leader. What are your strengths? What do you need to develop? What next steps can you take to grow in your leadership effectiveness? What’s one “axiom” you might use to focus your leadership practice?

**Due Date: Final Class.**

**E. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING**

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments:

Required reading and reflection	25%	
Attendance and Participation	25%	
Leadership Lessons from a Biblical Character	25%	
Yourself as Leader	25%	
Total grade	100 %	

## **F. SCHEDULE OF CLASSES:**

### **January 10:**

- Introductions: Course Overview & Desired Outcomes.
- What's a Leader? Images of leadership
- Mentoring and Equipping others: Empowering Leadership

### **January 24:**

The Discipline of Self-Awareness: Your attitudes, your gifts, your story, your health  
Essentials of Pastoral Care in a Congregation

### **February 2 (9am – 4pm) :**

#### **Morning:**

The Discipline of Self-management: Expectations, Boundaries, Time and resources, stress.  
Ethics in ministry  
Programming for groups in the congregation

#### **Afternoon:**

The Discipline of Self-development: your traits and skills as a leader  
The ministry of preaching and teaching

### **February 21:**

The Discipline of Mission: Church Health characteristics and Vision  
Church administration, leadership teams, meetings

### **March 7:**

The Discipline of Decision-making: communication and consensus skills  
Attending to Conflict

### **March 21:**

The Discipline of Belonging: the relationships we forge  
Partnerships and affiliations for stronger mission

### **March 28:**

The Discipline of Aloneness: Character and spiritual practices  
Worship leadership and planning  
Wrap up