



15800 Calvary Rd  
Kansas City, MO 64147

# Syllabus

**Course:** MS330-D&ND Discipleship Ministry of the Local Church (Legacy)

**Credit:** 3 hours

**Semester:** Spring 2025, Session 1 (January 13 – March 7)

**Days/Time:** Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:30-3:50 p.m.

**Location:** CABRE 103

**Instructor:** Shaun LePage, ThM, shaun.lepage@calvary.edu, office: CABRE 107;  
(office) 816-768-6971, (mobile) 785-840-8568

This course is offered in two formats: in-person and online. Students registered for in-person attend the classes in person, online students attend the classes via the online classroom. For both in-person and online students, assignments and interaction outside of the class period are done in the learning management system.

## I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

A survey of the various discipleship ministries of the local church with a focus on the unique role each plays in the attainment of the total discipleship goals of the local church. Special emphasis will be given to the major teaching ministries of the local church, available materials and resources, and basic principles and practices of organization, administration, and supervision of church discipleship ministries.

## II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

A. General competencies to be achieved. The student will:

1. Articulate the biblical foundation for the making of disciples. (PLO:\* 1, 2) (A:\*\* A, E)
2. Understand the various stages and challenges of making disciples in the local church. (PLO: 3, 4, 5) (A: A, C, E)

Our Mission: To prepare Christians to live and serve in the church and in the world according to the Biblical worldview.

3. Design a comprehensive discipleship ministry plan for a local church. (PLO: 3, 4, 5) (A: D, E)
- B. Specific competencies to be achieved. The student will:
1. Identify key biblical books defining the discipleship process. (PLO: 2) (A: A, E)
  2. Understand the importance of various “helping” ministries: teaching, mentoring, counseling, etc. (PLO: 2) (A: A, C)
  3. Plan discipleship processes which meet the needs of specific groups of individuals while strengthening the local church. (PLO: 3) (A: A-E)
  4. Develop a biblical philosophy of discipleship ministry. (PLO: 1, 2) (A: A-E)

### III. TEXTBOOKS FOR THE COURSE

- A. English Bible (NAS, NASB-U, NKJV, NET, ESV, or other by approval).
1. The Bible is a required textbook in every course at Calvary University.
  2. To facilitate academic level study, students are required to use for assignments and research an English translation or version of the Bible based on formal equivalence (meaning that the translation is generally word-for-word from the original languages), including any of the following: New American Standard (NASB, English Standard Version (ESV), New King James (NKJV), or King James (KJV). Other translations and versions based on dynamic equivalence (paraphrases and thought-for-thought translations like NLT and NIV) may be used as supplemental sources.
  3. Please ask the professor if you have questions about a particular translation or version.
- B. *Shepherding, Counseling and Sustainability: The Importance of a Well-Trained Eldership* by Jeff Reed, 2015, BILD International, ISBN-13: 978-0-9910852-7-9; \$5. Only available at <https://store.bild.org/shepherding-counseling-and-sustainability/>.
- C. *Teaching The First Principles* by Jeff Reed, 2014, BILD International, ISBN 1-891441-00-0; Note: Only available at <https://store.bild.org/the-first-principles-series/series2/>.

#### IV. COURSE ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

##### A. Reading:

1. Students will read and study various passages in the Bible.
2. Students will read *Shepherding, Counseling and Sustainability* by Jeff Reed and respond to a series of discussion questions provided in the textbook.
3. Students will read *Teaching the First Principles* by Jeff Reed and respond to a series of discussion questions provided in the textbook.

B. **Response Papers.** In conjunction with the textbooks, students will first study a passage of Scripture, then read a portion of the textbook, then write answers to questions in preparation for classroom discussions, then, at the end of the process, consider personal applications.

C. **Weekly Quizzes.** Students will take a brief quiz each week to review and process the material covered in classroom lecture and discussions.

D. **Philosophy Paper.** Students will write a Biblical Philosophy of Discipleship Ministry paper compiling lessons learned throughout the course (Session 6 of *Teaching the First Principles*).

#### V. GRADING FOR THE COURSE

- A. Assignment A = 120 points (40 pts. ea.)
- B. Assignment B = 360 points (40 pts. ea.)
- C. Assignment C = 320 points (40 pts. ea.)
- D. Assignment D = 200 points

**TOTAL = 1000 points**

#### VI. POINTS AND FINAL GRADE

|                 |    |                |    |
|-----------------|----|----------------|----|
| 930–1000 points | A  | 730–769 points | C  |
| 900–929 points  | A- | 700–729 points | C- |
| 870–899 points  | B+ | 670–699 points | D+ |

|                |    |                |   |
|----------------|----|----------------|---|
| 800–829 points | B- | 630–669 points | D |
| 770–799 points | C+ | 0–559 points   | F |

## VII. TENTATIVE COURSE SCHEDULE

- A. Week 1: Introduction to Discipleship Ministry in the Local Church; The Importance of Acts and the Pauline Epistles in the Discipleship Process
- B. Week 2: Discipleship Principles from Acts, Part 1; The Birth of the Church and the Progress of the Gospel in the Ministry of Peter
- C. Week 3: Discipleship Principles from Acts, Part 2; The Missionary Journeys of Paul and the Expansion of the Early Church
- D. Week 4: Discipleship Principles from Paul's Early Letters; The Process of Establishing Believers in the Gospel and Implications
- E. Week 5: Discipleship Principles from Paul's Middle Letters; The Process of Establishing Believers in the Importance and Purpose of the Church
- F. Week 6: Discipleship Principles from Paul's Later Letters; The Process of Establishing Believers in Household Order and Leadership Development in the Local Church
- G. Week 7: Addressing Various Discipleship Challenges and The Stabilization of Local Churches
- H. Week 8: Designing a Discipleship Ministry for the Local Church

## VIII. NOTES

- A. \* PLO = Program Learning Objectives (see Calvary University Catalog, p.142)
- B. \*\* A = Assignments; showing how the assignments for this course are directly linked to the objectives.
- C. Punctual reading and writing will allow the student to get the most out of the course.
- D. About Disabilities: Students with disabilities have the responsibility of

informing the DSS Director (dss@calvary.edu) of any disabling condition that may require support.

- E. About Assistance for All Course Assignments: The Clark Academic Center (learning@calvary.edu) is dedicated to providing free academic assistance for all CU students. Student tutors aid with all facets of the writing process, tutor in various subject areas, prepare students for exams, and facilitate tests. Please take advantage of this service.
- F. About Changes to this Syllabus: The instructor reserves the right to make changes to this syllabus at any time during the course, but any changes made will only be done after clearly communicating the need for the change and the specific change to be made via in-class announcement and Canvas announcement.
- G. Grading criteria for all written assignments: All class papers must follow the Turabian style according to *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th edition and the Calvary Style Guide, 2015 update — title page, footnotes and bibliography. See the “Clark Academic Center” page on the CU website for a “Turabian Help” (<https://www.calvary.edu/clark-academic-center/>).
- H. An assignment-specific rubric will be provided for each assignment.
- I. About Late Assignments: Assignments are due when posted on Canvas. After that time, late assignment grades will be lowered 5% for each day it is late.
- J. About Plagiarism: Plagiarism is defined as copying any content without identifying the source. This also includes taking another person’s or AI entity’s ideas or constructs and presenting them as your own. Plagiarism of any kind will not be tolerated. Most assignments at Calvary require the student to produce original work. Therefore, unless specifically permitted by the instructor, the use of AI-generated content is prohibited (even if cited) as it does not represent original work created by the student and is an unreliable aggregate of ideas from other sources. AI, however, may be utilized in cases where the instructor has explicitly permitted its use to accomplish specific tasks. It is only in these cases that AI-generated (or modified) content may be submitted by the student. If there are any questions as to the permissibility of AI use for an assignment, please ask your instructor for clarification.