

Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry  
Doctor of Ministry Program

ME 800: Ministry in Missiological Perspective

Credits: 3 units

(January 9-13, 2008)

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Course Description

The God of Jesus Christ is a missionary God, and the church of Jesus Christ is a missionary church. All authentic Christian ministry therefore takes place in a missiological framework. This course will introduce students to basic missiological discourse and consider its application to different forms of ministry.

Course Objectives

The class will seek to provide a framework for ministry in such areas as mission, evangelism, social concern, cultural awareness, and communicating the Gospel to the unchurched. Classes will include lecture, discussion, Bible study, video, and daily readings.

Pre-Seminar Requirements

Students will read at least 1500 pages from the lists below, including the two Essential Texts, and write a two-page double spaced paper for each book read, interacting with the author's major points in critical-theological fashion, and suggesting, where appropriate, relevance to the student's life and/or ministry. Note: students should select books not previously read.

**All pre-seminar work will be submitted the first day of the seminar.**

### In-Seminar Requirements

Full attendance and participation in the seminar.  
Reflection papers and exercises as assigned.  
Proposal for post-seminar project approved by professor.

### Post-Seminar Requirement

The course project will be an analysis of a ministry with which the student is familiar in the light of the course. Students will look particularly at the ministry from theological, missiological and historical perspectives, and propose strategies for fostering future missiological understanding and endeavor within that ministry. More guidance as to how to write this paper will be given during the course.

**All post-seminar work will be sent to the instructor (see address page 1) by April 13, 2008 (postmark), three months after the last day of the course.**

## **Bibliography**

### Notes on the bibliography

1. I have chosen the two required texts because they provide a useful introductory overview to thinking about (a) evangelism (Watson) and (b) mission (Newbiggin). Watson was an outstanding Anglican pastor and evangelist in England until his untimely death in 1984. The book, though dated in some ways, still provides the most comprehensive introduction to church-based evangelism I am aware of. Newbiggin is perhaps the most influential theologian of the latter part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century on topics of mission and culture. This book is the best introduction to the breadth and depth of his work.
2. This is not an exhaustive bibliography. If there is a relevant title not listed here which you would like to read, please email me the details and I will let you know whether it is suitable. Usually the answer is yes.
3. Please notice the indicators (A) = more academic, (P) = more popular. In an attempt to equalize the difficulty of what people read, I propose the following rule of thumb: one page of a more academic text (marked A) is the equivalent of 1.5 “normal” pages. One page of a more popular text (P) is the equivalent of 2/3 of a “normal” page.
4. The term “popular” does not necessarily mean “bad.” It simply indicates a different style which can normally read more quickly. (Equally, “academic” does not necessarily mean “good.”)

5. An asterisk indicates those books I consider basic in each section. If you are not drawn to any other title or author, these are good ones to begin with.
6. Please draw your reading from a variety of sections, not just one or two.
7. With some of the more lengthy books (e.g. Bosch, Green's History), feel free to pick and choose within the text what chapters or sections you read. Merely keep a note of which and how many pages you read.

### **Essential Texts**

- Newbigin, Lesslie. The Gospel in a Pluralist Society. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans/Geneva: WCC Publications, 1989.
- Watson, David C.K. I Believe in Evangelism. London: Hodder and Stoughton 1976. If you cannot find this, check a second hand book website such as Abebooks.com or alibris.com. They usually have multiple copies. The ISBN, should you need it, is 0340246111.

### **Theology and Praxis of Mission**

- Barrett, Lois Y. et al, editors. Treasure in Clay Jars: Patterns in Missional Faithfulness. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 2004.
- (A) \* Bevans, Stephen B. and Roger P. Schroeder. Constants in Context: A Theology of Mission for Today. Maryknoll NY: Orbis Books 2004.
- (A) \* Bosch, David. Transforming Mission: Paradigm Shifts in Theology of Mission. Maryknoll NY: Orbis Books, 1993.
- Cray, Graham (chair). Mission Shaped Church: Church Planting and Fresh Expressions of Church in a Changing Context. London UK: Church House Publishing 2004.
- Donovan, Vincent J. Christianity Rediscovered. Maryknoll NY: Orbis Books 1978.
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- Neill, Stephen. A History of Christian Mission. Harmondsworth: Penguin Books, 1964.
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- (A) \* Sanneh, Lamin. Translating the Message: the Missionary Impact on Culture. Maryknoll NY: Orbis Books, 1996.
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- Sider, Ronald. Good News and Good Works. (Grand Rapids: Baker Books 1999)
- \* Stott, John R.W. Christian Mission in the Modern World. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press 1975.
- (A) \* Walls, Andrew F. The Missionary Movement in Christian History: Studies in the Transmission of Faith. New York: Orbis Books 2001.

### **Being the Church in a Post-Christendom World**

- Berger, Peter L. ed. The Desecularization of the World: Resurgent Religion and World Politics Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 1999.
- Carroll, Colleen. The New Faithful: Why Young Adults are Embracing Christianity Orthodoxy. Chicago: Loyola Press 2002.
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- (P) \* McLaren, Brian D. A New Kind of Christian: A Tale of Two Friends on a Spiritual Journey (San Francisco: Jossey Bass 2001)
- (P) McLaren, Brian D. More Ready Than You Think (Grand Rapids: Zondervan 2002)
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- (P) \* Warren, Rick, The Purpose Driven Church. Zondervan Publishing House, 1995.

### **Evangelism: Theology and Practice**

- (A) Abraham, William J. The Logic of Evangelism. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans 1989.
- Abraham, William J. The Art of Evangelism. Nashville: Abingdon Press 2002.
- Booker, Mike & Mark Ireland. Evangelism—Which Way Now? An Evaluation of Alpha, Emmaus, Cell Church and other Contemporary Strategies for Evangelism. London UK: Church House Publishing 2003.
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