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WBU Online

School of Christian Studies

**UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT**

Wayland Baptist University exists to educate students in an academically challenging, learning-focused and distinctively Christian environment for professional success and service to God and humankind.

**COURSE NUMBER & NAME:**

MNST 3300 VC01 Introduction to Ministry

**TERM:**

Spring 1, 2020

**INSTRUCTOR:**

Dr. Gary Mitchell

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Home phone: (575) 389-3343

WBU Email: mitchellg@wbu.edu

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**OFFICE HOURS, BUILDING & LOCATION:**

WBU Online

**COURSE MEETING TIME & LOCATION:**

Meeting day & time: Asynchronous, Virtual Campus

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

Introduction to the Christian ministry; calling to church-related vocations; evaluation of gifts and abilities to perform ministry; and overview of the theological foundations for ministry and the historical organization and practices of the church.

**PREREQUISITE:** None.

**REQUIRED TEXTBOOK AND RESOURCE MATERIAL:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **TITLE** | **AUTHOR** | **PUBLISHER** | **ED** | **YEAR** | **ISBN#** |
| The Power of the Call | Blackaby & Brandt | B&H |  | 1997 | 9780805462975 |
| 10 Power Principles for Christian Service | Warren & David Wiersbe | Baker Books | 2nd | 2010 | 9780801072581 |
| The Church Leader’s Answer Book | Phyllis TenElshof, ed. | Tyndale House |  | 2006 | 9781414303543 |

* **The Holy Bible**
* **Access to WBU Learning Resources:** Click on link at left entitled "Wayland Library"; Email Distance Librarian Sally Quiroz ([lrcref@wbu.edu](mailto:lrcref@wbu.edu)) about having books mailed to you.
* **Internet links:** See "Web Resources" tab.
* **Class message board:** See “Announcements” and "Discussion Board" tab.
* **Email:** All students will need to set up and use their Wayland student email account.

**COURSE OUTCOMES AND COMPETENCIES:**

Students will:

* Be able to define the biblical and theological foundations of Christian ministry.
* Be able to articulate his/her calling and awareness of various gifting, personality traits, and talents for ministry.
* Be able to describe the nature, purposes, and ministries of the church as the foundation for doing Christian ministry.

**ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:**

As stated in the Wayland Catalog, students enrolled at one of the University’s external campuses should make every effort to attend all class meetings. All absences must be explained to the instructor, who will then determine whether the omitted work may be made up. When a student reaches that number of absences considered by the instructor to be excessive, the instructor will so advise the student and file an unsatisfactory progress report with the campus executive director. Any student who misses 25 percent or more of the regularly scheduled class meetings may receive a grade of F in the course. Additional attendance policies for each course, as defined by the instructor in the course syllabus, are considered a part of the University’s attendance policy.

**STATEMENT ON PLAGIARISM & ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:**

Wayland Baptist University observes a zero tolerance policy regarding academic dishonesty. Per university policy as described in the academic catalog, all cases of academic dishonesty will be reported and second offenses will result in suspension from the university.

**DISABILITY STATEMENT:**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), it is the policy of Wayland Baptist University that no otherwise qualified person with a disability be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination under any educational program or activity in the university. The Coordinator of Counseling Services serves as the coordinator of students with a disability and should be contacted concerning accommodation requests at (806) 291-3765. Documentation of a disability must accompany any request for accommodations.

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS and GRADING CRITERIA:**

**BASIC COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

* Read assigned material; participate in class discussions
* Complete assignment regarding your “Call to Christian Ministry”
* Turn in 3-page book review/reaction paper to *The Power of the Call*
* (2) Practical Ministry Assignments and a (5) page paper with ***each*** assignment
* Watch “Forged in Faith” video about Baptist faith & history and comment in Discussion Board forum

**COURSE EVALUATION:**

“Call to Christian Ministry” Assignment: 100 pts 20% of total grade

Book Review/Reaction Paper: 50 pts 10% of total grade

“Forged by Faith” Video/Discussion Board: 50 pts 10% of total grade

2 Practical Ministry Assignments: 300 pts (150 pts each) 60% of grade

Total Possible Points 500 pts

Grading: 450-500 points = A

400-449 points = B

350-399 points = C

300-349 points = D

299 points and below = F

This corresponds to the WBU grading system in the Academic Catalog:

A = 90-100

B = 80-89

C = 70-79

D = 60-69

F = 59 and below

**Grade Appeal Statement**:

“Students shall have protection through orderly procedures against prejudices or capricious academic evaluation. A student who believes that he or she has not been held to realistic academic standards, just evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course by using the student grade appeal process described in the Academic Catalog. Appeals may not be made for advanced placement examinations or course bypass examinations. Appeals are limited to the final course grade, which may be upheld, raised, or lowered at any stage of the appeal process. Any recommendation to lower a course grade must be submitted through the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee for review and approval. The Faculty Assembly Grade Appeals Committee may instruct that the course grade be upheld, raised, or lowered to a more proper evaluation.”

**TENTATIVE SCHEDULE**

**NOTE**: A HUGE part of this learning experience is your participation in the Discussion Board forums in Blackboard. You are going to find wisdom in a multitude of counselors there. Graduate students will help mentor and encourage undergraduates in the course by offering suggestions and encouragement on the practical assignments (and of course, undergrads can encourage one another as well). Make your part meaningful and genuinely interactive.

**Week 1 (January 11 – 17)**

1. By January 31, **Getting to Know You & Your Call** – type up the following information:
   1. All your current contact information: mailing address, phone numbers I can most easily reach you, etc... and upload it in the Journal on Ministry tool link in Blackboard. The Journal tool link will be privileged communication between each student and the instructor only.
   2. Not more than one page describing your call to ministry. If you are currently serving in a ministry position, please let me know in very specific terms what you are doing. Your ***two*** Ministry Assignments will be personalized to your calling/position of ministry, as much as possible.
   3. If you are not sure what your calling is, let me know that as well. In addition to your one-page assignment, any special (personal) concerns you have should be communicated here.
   4. Finally, please let me know the expectations you have for this class; what

do you expect to gain/take away from this class?

1. Type up and submit your ***Call to Ministry*** one-page paper by uploading it in the Blog for Ministry area in Blackboard so all class members can have access to it. This assignment is to place information you do not mind others knowing about, and may duplicate what you have already turned in to me, though this one should NOT have any personal or private information attached as everyone will see this. The purpose of this assignment is to help you get a ministry perspective on the other students in the class. When you get into classroom discussions and wonder why in the world someone responded like they did, you may want to refer back to their call to ministry information☺.
2. Your assignment for the coming week is to read the entire book and then write a 3-page book review and personal reaction related to ***The Power of the Call***  by the end of the third week of this course. Reading this book and writing up the review/personal reaction paper is the big assignment for the first two weeks!
3. Sometime between the second week of the course and the 7th week of the course, please view the video on Baptist faith and history, entitled “Forged by Faith – One Sacred Effort,” produced by the Baptist General Convention of Texas and respond to the corresponding Discussion Board forum about your perspectives on the video.
4. Start researching your Practical Ministry Assignments and accompanying papers for each project:

I would like you to use your textbook, ***The Church Leader’s Answer Book*** for these ministry assignments:

* 1. Find (1) project idea related to a section or chapter of this book that relates to one or more of your ***strengths*** in ministry. Plan one practical ministry project around those strengths. Tell in your project paper why you believe the project reflects your strengths.
  2. Find (1) project idea related to a section or chapter of this book that relates to one or more of your ***weaknesses*** in ministry. Plan one practical ministry project around those weaknesses. Tell in your project paper why you believe the project reflects your weaknesses.
  3. Please ***Do Not*** use an existing project already in play as part of your on-going ministry, either full time professional ministry or lay ministry, as either of your projects. You can, and should, use your ***position*** in ministry, either as laity or professional, to implement this project. For instance: A Youth Minister has a Spring Retreat planned for March 2021. Planning a Spring Retreat for March 2021 would ***not*** be an acceptable project here. However, planning and implementing (hitherto unplanned and unimplemented) a Parent/Youth Conference on Abstinence Education might be, tying that in with principles from Part 11, Chapter 3 or Part 13, Chapter 4 of the textbook, would be very acceptable. Again, tie in your projects with the textbook.
  4. No later than by the start of the 4th week, communicate to me via [mitchellg@wbu.edu](mailto:mitchellg@wbu.edu) the foundational ideas of your project and what chapter or chapters from ***The Church Leader’s Answer Book*** you intend to tie in with your projects/papers. The purpose of this is three-fold:
     1. To keep you on schedule
     2. To help you with ideas that will make your projects better
     3. To approve your projects
  5. When you are completed with these projects, you will write up a 5-page paper for each project in Turabian style.
  6. You need to type up and turn in both of your 5-page papers, under a title that tells what you did. Those project papers will be copied and distributed to other class members. This allows you, any and all of your fellow students, to access your practical ministry ideas and use them, as the Lord leads, in future ministry. If you start early, you might get some good feedback from other students in the course. Your final, completed practical ministry assignments is ***due February 21.*** This gives me time to grade these and post your grade by the Monday after the end of the term.

**Week 2 (January 18 – 24)**

OK, at the end of this week, you should be halfway through the book, ***The Power of the Call***, and after you read it, please respond to the questions in the appropriate Discusssion Board forum. From this point forward, you will be using your books, ***10 Power Principles for Christian Service*** and ***The Church Leader’s Answer Book***,for the rest of the course. Each week you will read and respond to the discussion questions related to each of the 10 Power Principles as we go along. At the same time, you will be working toward the completion of your Practical Ministry Assignments, which you will write up and turn in when finished.

1. Read principle 1 in ***10 Power Principles for Christian Service***; answer required questions and respond in Discussion Board
2. Practical Ministry Assignments/Papers – By the end of next week, ***make sure your two practical projects have been approved***.
3. Complete book review/personal reaction paper on ***The Power of the Call***, and submit it by **January 31.**

**Week 3 (January 25 – 31)**

1. Read principle 2 in ***10 Power Principles for Christian Service***; answer required questions and respond in Discussion Board
2. Watch the video, “Forged by Faith – One Sacred Effort,” and respond to the appropriate Discussion Board question on the video
3. Book review/personal reaction paper due by **January 31**
4. Practical Ministry Assignments/papers…keep working

**Week 4 (February 1 – 7)**

1. Read principle 3 in ***10 Power Principles for Christian Service***; answer required questions and respond in Discussion Board
2. Read principle 4 in ***10 Power Principles for Christian Service***; answer required questions and respond in Discussion Board
3. Watch the video, “Forged by Faith – One Sacred Effort,” and respond to the appropriate Discussion Board question on the video
4. Practical Ministry Assignments/papers…keep working

**Week 5 (February 8 – 14)**

1. Read principle 5 in ***10 Power Principles for Christian Service***; answer required questions and respond in Discussion Board
2. Read principle 6 in ***Power Principles for Christian Service***; answer required questions and respond in Discussion Board
3. If you haven’t already done so . . . Watch the video, “Forged by Faith – One Sacred Effort,” and respond to the appropriate Discussion Board question on the video
4. Practical Ministry Assignments/papers…keep working

**Week 6 (February 15 – 21)**

1. Read principle 7 in ***10 Power Principles for Christian Service***; answer required questions and respond in Discussion Board
2. Read principle 8 in ***10 Power Principles for Christian Service***; answer

required questions and respond in Discussion Board

1. Practical ministry assignments/papers – ***FINAL SUBMISSIONS – FINAL EDITS***.
2. Review, comment, and encourage colleagues in the course in relation to their submitted practical ministry assignments

**Week 7 (February 22 – 28)**

1. Read principles 9 & 10 in ***10 Power Principles for Christian Service***; answer required questions and respond in Discussion Board
2. Review, comment, and encourage colleagues in the course in relation to their submitted practical ministry assignments

**Week 8 (March 1 – 6)**

1. Wrap up final class discussions
2. Congratulations! Well Done!