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MS 610 The Ministry of Evangelism

James B. Buskirk

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A SYLLABUS AND GENERAL GUIDE FOR

MS610 “The Ministry of Evangelism”

Fall Semester, 2002

Thursday, 6:15-9:00 p.m.

James B. Buskirk, Professor

Asbury Theological Seminary

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course equips students with contemporary models and strategies of personal, small group, congregation, community and world evangelization based on biblical, theological, historical and cultural foundations. Attention will be given to recognizing the social, personal and spiritual needs of people and relating the gospel to such needs. Efforts will be made to develop an integrated, Wesleyan model of evangelism bringing strategies and methods into closer harmony with God’s ultimate purpose: the great commission, and the commandment of love. This is a basic course for all that seek to serve Christ and his Church with a global consciousness and a local effectiveness.

II. COURSE OBJECTIVES

- A. A clear understanding of the gospel with regard to content and delivery.
Content: The student should know the basic content of the gospel as taken from Scripture and informed by theology, tradition, and experience.
Delivery: While having an overall appreciation for the different approaches to evangelism, the student should develop a style of presentation that acknowledges his/her uniqueness and gifts to proclaim the Good News in several different kinds of settings.
- B. Some practical experience in witnessing. Each student will be required to present the gospel in two different settings and write a summary and a case study evaluating their own effectiveness.
- C. An awareness of one’s own sphere of influence. Each student should also be able to risk going beyond their comfort zones to identify those opportunities where they can minister effectively.
- D. Each student should have developed some specific tools for motivating churches lay ministry and evangelism.
- E. Each student will write an evangelistic sermon including the invitation for response and extra credit will be given to those who present this in the class.
- F. Each student will be required to develop a specific program of evangelism for a particular local church.

III. TOPIC LISTINGS AND SEQUENCE (Subject to modification)

Classes INTRODUCTIONS: to the class and professor; to the course's contents,
1—3 contexts, requirements and some definitions; to evangelistic thought and practice informed by syntheses of biblical, theological, historical, ethical, cultural and personality foundations

Classes THE PASTOR AS EVANGELIST: unifying concepts of ministry with a focus
4—6 on evangelism
Futuring and Person centered administration
Time management: weekly and monthly
Motivating and supervising the ministerial staff and/or lay staff
Affirmation and Accountability

Classes THE CHURCH AS EVANGELIST: Believing, Belonging, Becoming
7—9 Believing: “Kerygma” and “Didache” for the local church
A Trinitarian Theology of Evangelism
(Book Critique due)

Classes GRACE UPON GRACE
10—12 A Wesleyan Understanding of Grace

Classes EVANGELISTIC PRESENTATIONS
13-15 Preparation to Preach/Teach Evangelistically
Preaching the evangelistic sermon
The Invitation: preparing and giving the invitation
Attracting new prospective Christians through the media

Classes EVERY FELLOWSHIP AS EVANGELIST
16—18 BELONGING A Biblical View of “Soteria”
Salvation of the whole person: Personality Dynamics and Grace
“Koinonia” in the Body of Christ: Appropriate texts
Pastoral leadership in diverse congregations
(Evangelistic Sermon due)

Classes HEALING AND EVANGELISM: Pastoral Counseling for Wholeness
19—21 The Lay Ministry of Healing for Believers

Reading Week

Classes FELLOWSHIP EVANGELISM AND ASSIMULATION

22—24 Small Groups: Disciples Making Disciples
Evangelism and the Church School
Youth and Family Evangelism

Classes EVANGELISM AND CHRISTIAN DISCIPLINES

25—27 The Care and Feeding of New Christians
The Vows we make—and keep: Begging to Pray, Worship, Give and Serve
The Awesome Potential of Mobilized Disciples

Classes EVERY MEMBER AS EVANGELIST

28—30 BECOMING as we DO Evangelism: Going beyond our comfort zone
Prayer and Worship in Evangelism
(Book critique due)

Classes SERVICE EVANGELISM Every member, a minister

31—33 Community Ministries and Urban Outreach
Twenty Transferable Principles: How to begin with
one fourth of the active worshipping congregation
supervising, renewing and enlarging
Discovering our Gifts in Ministry!

Classes WITNESS EVANGELISM

34—36 Jesus' Evangelism: Direct, Indirect, and Directed
Ten Ways to "be" His Witnesses
Called to Be Witnesses—
Gifted in Witnessing
Adult Pedagogy: Practicing and Reflecting
(Case Study/Evangelistic Conversation #2 due)

Classes CROSS CULTURAL WITNESSING(Reading Report Sheet-beginning of class)

37—39 Missions through the local Church and Connectional Church
"Go" and/or "Send" "Wanted: World Christians"
Into the World: Here and to the uttermost
(Integrative Term Report due)

Exam Week Typed class notes or final exam

IV. Course Evaluation Procedures

Requirements:

- A. Attend and participate in class sessions.
- B. Complete assigned readings of approximately 1200 pages (900 pages in the required texts), and at least one text from the collateral reading (for the remaining 300 pages). A **READING REPORT** form attached, must be signed and turned in no later than the final class date and must include all texts and reading credit to be counted, including any make-up credit needed for absences.
- C. Three book critiques limited to one single-spaced, typewritten page (two from the four required texts and one or more from the collateral reading).
- D. Two case studies using the prepared forms (to be explained). (Maximum of 2 pages).
- E. Write an evangelistic sermon plus the invitation utilizing the class lecture and your Reading. Extra credit will be given to those who preach their sermon in class (limited number).
- F. Integrative term report (10-12 pages, typewritten, double-spaced) composed as if it is to be given to the ruling board of a local congregation (or youth group) known to you. It should incorporate recommendations for more effective community ministries or evangelistic outreach, taking into consideration the nature of your community, and the condition of your church (or youth group). Apply what you deem helpful from the course readings, lectures, and your personal involvement. Note the additional guidelines at the end of the syllabus.

Grading scale for course:

Three book critiques	30% (maximum of 1 page each)
Two case studies	10% (not graded but read with professor's comments. Maximum of two pages each)
Prepare an evangelistic sermon with invitation	10% (maximum of 7 pages) Preached in class 1-5 extra points (on term grade)
Term Report (10-12 pages)	20%
Typed class notes or exam	30%

[ALL PAPERS MUST HAVE A SPO# FOR THEM TO BE RETURNED VIA THE SPO! Students desiring privacy may attach a self-addressed large envelope.]

Attendance:

Students are required to record their own attendance on an attendance sheet. Missing more than one class period will require 100 extra pages read for each class missed up to two. Further absences will reduce the grade for the course three points for each additional absence. **You are responsible to report the number of classes missed on your READING REPORT form and identify the pages read as "make-up."**

V. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Required Texts:

- Bama, George. Evangelism That Works, Regal Books, Ventura, CA, 1995, 164 pp.
- Beckham, William A. The Second Reformation, Touch Pub., 1995, 241 pp.
- Hybels and Mittelberg. Becoming a Contagious Christian, Zondervan, 1994, 221 pp.
- *Seamands, John T. Tell It Well, Beacon Hill Press, 1981, 223 pp.
- Streett, R. Alan. The Effective Invitation, Kregel Publications, 1984, 218 pp.
- Swanson and Clement. The Faith Sharing Congregation, Discipleship Resources, 1999, 104 pp.
- Tuttle, Robert G., Jr. Can We Talk? Abingdon, 1999, 119 pp.
- *This book is difficult to get in significant quantity. The student may want to select either Seamands or Tuttle in that one book deals with the Gospel across cultures and the other with the transcultural Gospel.
- Note: Approximately 900 pages are to be read from this list.

Collateral Texts:

- Crandall, Ron. Turnaround Strategies for the Small Church, Abingdon, 1995, 166 pp.
- *Green, Michael. New Testament Evangelism, OMF Literature, 1979.
- Hunter, George, III. To Spread the Power. Abingdon, 1987, 200 pp.
- Lascalgo, Criag, A. Evangelistic Preaching That Connects, InterVarsity Press, 1995, 167 pp.
- *Raines, Robert A. The Secular Congregation, Harper and Row, 1968, 132 pp.
- *These books are difficult to get.
- Note: Approximately 300 pages should be read from this section.

Recommended Reading:

- Abraham, William, J. The Logic of Evangelism, Eerdmans, 1989.
- Aldrich, Joseph C. Life-Style Evangelism, Mulnomah, 1978.
- Arn, Win and Charles Arn. The Master's Plan for Making Disciples, Church Growth Press, 1987.
- Benedict & Miller. Contemporary Worship for the 21st Century, Discipleship Resources, 1994.
- Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. Letters and Papers From Prison, Macmillan, 1953.
- Bugbee, Bruce. What You Do Best, Zondervan, 1995.
- Coppedge, Allan. The Biblical Principles of Discipleship, Frances Asbury Press, 1989.
- Crandall, Ron. The Contagious Witness, Abingdon, 1999.
- DeVries, Mark. Family-Based Youth Ministry, InterVarsity Press, 1994.
- Dodson, Ed. Starting a Seeker Sensitive Service, Zondervan, 1993.
- Dunnam, Maxie. Congregational Evangelism, Discipleship Resources, 1989.
- Dunnam, Maxie. Going On To Salvation, Discipleship Resources, 1989.
- Fox & Morris. Faith Sharing, Discipleship Resources, 1986.
- Garlow, James L. Partners in Ministry, Beacon Hill, 1981.
- George, Carl F. Prepare Your Church for the Future, Revell, 1992.
- Green, Michael. Evangelism Through the Local Church, Nelson, 1992.
- Green, Michael. Evangelism In The Early Church, Hodder & Stoughton, 1970.

Green, Michael. I Believe in the Holy Spirit, Eerdmans, 1975.

Harper, Steve. Devotional Life in the Wesleyan Tradition, Upper Room, 1983.

Harre, Alan F. Close the Back Door, Concordia, 1984.

Henderson, D. Michael. John Wesley's Class Meeting, Evangel, 1997.

Hull, Bill. Building High Commitment in a Low-Commitment World, Revell, 1995.

Hunter, George, III. The Celtic Way of Evangelism, Abingdon, 2000.

Hunter, George, III. Church for the Unchurched, Abingdon, 1996.

Hunter, George, III. Leading & Managing a Growing Church, Abingdon, 2000.

Johnson, Ben. Speaking of God: Evangelism as Initial Spiritual Guidance, Westminster/John Knox, 1991.

Johnson, Ronald W. How Will They Hear If We Don't Listen?, Broadman & Holman, 1994.

Jones, E. Stanley. Conversion, Abingdon, 1959.

Krass, Alfred C. Beyond the Either-or Church, Tidings, 1973.

Lacour, Lawrence. Adventuring With God in Evangelism, Fairway, 2000.

Maddox, Randy L. Responsible Grace, Kingswood Books, 1994.

Martin, O. Dean. Invite What Do You Do After the Sermon, Tidings, 1973.

Mathison, John Ed. Tried and True, Discipleship Resources, 1989.

Mead, Loren B. The Once and Future Church: Reinventing the Congregation For a New Mission Frontier, Alban Institute, 1991.

Ogden, Greg. The New Reformation, Zondervan, 1990.

Ortlund, Raymond C. Let The Church Be The Church, Word, 1983.

Pippert, Rebecca M. Out of the Salt Shaker, Inter-Varsity, 1979.

Raines, Robert A. New Life in the Church, Harper, 1961.

Schaller, Lyle. The Seven-Day-a-Week Church, Abingdon, 1992.

Seamands, Stephen A. Holiness of Heart and Life, Abingdon, 1990.

Smith, Donald K. Creating Understanding: A Handbook for Christian Communication Across Cultural Landscapes, Zondervan, 1992.

Stagg, Paul L. The Converted Church, Judson Press, 1967.

Stiles, J. Mack. Speaking of Jesus: How to Tell Your Friends the Best News They Will Ever Hear, IVP, 1995.

Strobel, Lee. Inside the Mind of Unchurched Harry and Mary, Zondervan, 1993.

Tuttle, Robert G., Jr. Someone Out There Needs Me: A Practical Guide to Relational Evangelism, Zondervan, 1983.

Warren, Rick. The Purpose Driven Church, Zondervan 1995.

Weber, Hans-Ruedi. Salty Christians, Seabury Press, 1963.

Wright, Timothy. A Community of Joy: How to Create Contemporary Worship, Abingdon, 1994.