

Prayer and the Practice of Ministry
(C.C.01-U)
Undergraduate Level
Fall, 2018

Instructor:

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Location: Pathways School of Ministry
159 Panin Road, Burlington Ontario

Schedule: October 22nd to 25th, 2018

Course Description:

This course will examine the mutual relationship between prayer and the practice of ministry. By exploring the biblical, theological, and practical aspects of prayer this course will develop a spiritual theology of prayer that both informs and is informed by the practice of ministry. At its core this course will celebrate and reflect on the relational nature of the triune God and how both prayer and practice are defined by the rhythms of grace which originate within God's being. Prayer excites participative action with God, finds stillness in contemplation on God, and pursues relational and spiritual communion with God. The biblical and Christian tradition of prayer will be drawn on to inform the mutuality of prayer and the practice of ministry. We will explore a variety of types of prayer such as adoration, lament, confession, and intercession and consider their relationship on the practice of ministry. In doing so students will discover how prayer and the practice of ministry informs what it means to be Christ-centered, Spirit-empowered and Mission-focused in all aspects of Christian life and ministry.

Course Objectives:

Knowing

1. To aid students in understanding the mutual relationship which exists between prayer and the practice of ministry.
2. To encourage students to consider the participative nature of both prayer and the practice of ministry.
3. To help students to appropriate the rich resources of the Christian tradition of prayer in to their life and ministry.
4. For students to discern the basic contours of a healthy prayer life for a ministering person.

Being

1. For students to pursue spiritual integration as it relates to prayer and the practice of ministry.
2. For students to embrace the relational nature of prayer.

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3. For students to be able to express to God their joys, sorrows, hopes and concerns regarding their practice of ministry.

Doing

1. For students to engage with the various forms of prayer and apply them appropriately in their practice of ministry.
2. For students to learn how to help others experience the relational nature of prayer.
3. For students to be able to articulate their own theology of prayer and apply it in their practice of ministry.

Required Text Books:

Foster, Richard J., *Prayer: Finding the Hearts True Home*. San Francisco: Harper Collins, 1992.

Peterson, Eugene. *Christ Plays in Ten Thousand Places*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2005.

Smith, Gordon T. *The Voice of Jesus: Discernment, Prayer and the Witness of the Spirit*. Downers Grove: IVP, 2003.

Tozer, A.W. *Prayer: Communing with God in Everything—Collected Insights from the Wisdom of A.W. Tozer*. Chicago: Moody Press, 2016.

Recommended Text Books:

Chotka, David. *Power Praying: Hearing Jesus' Spirit by Praying Jesus' Prayer*. Terre Haute IN: PrayerShop Publishing, 2009.

Grenz, Stanley. *Prayer: The Cry for the Kingdom*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Pub. Co., 2005.

Course Requirements:

Item	Value	Due date
Course Participation	10%	Thursday October 25, 2018
Prayer Portfolio	25%	Friday November 2, 2018
Course Text Books Prayer and Ministry	30%	Friday November 9, 2018
Theology of Prayer and the Practice of Ministry Paper	35%	Friday November 30, 2018
TOTAL	100%	

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1. Course Participation

Students will be graded on the course participation during the in-class portion of the course. Students will be graded on their engagement with course lectures, small group times, and overall contribution to the class.

Weight: 10%

Due: Thursday October 25, 2018

2. Develop a Prayer Portfolio

Bring together a portfolio of at least 10 prayers from the Christian tradition. There should be a balance of biblical prayers, prayers from church history and your own prayers (you are part of the Christian tradition!). Include in your portfolio an explanation of why you chose each prayer and how your practice of ministry both influences and is influenced by this prayer. Depending on the length of the prayer each entry should be about two pages.

Length: Varies

Weight: 25%

Due: Friday November 2, 2018

3. Course Text Books Prayer and the Practice of Ministry

Articulate a prayer based on course contents (generally) and course texts books (specifically) for the following four areas of church ministry: 1. The Central Canadian District of the C&MA 2. Your local church. 3. Your ministry in your local church. Part of your assignment is to decide which book to use for which area. You must follow the following format for this paper:

1. Introduce the author of the book (providing brief biographical details).
2. State the thesis of the book and how it is developed (ie short summary of the book).
3. Identify which of the three areas of ministry you are applying the book to and why you are doing so.
4. The prayer you have articulated for that area of ministry.

Length: Varies.

Weight: 30%

Due: Friday November 9, 2018.

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4. Articulate your Theology of Prayer for the Practice of Ministry

Write a paper which researches and articulates your spiritual theology of prayer for the practice of ministry. Provide the biblical, theological and spiritual contours of your theology of prayer but also be mindful of the ministry setting in which you are practicing (your practice of ministry should have a voice in your theology of prayer). The paper should demonstrate comprehension of course materials, the required text as well as relevant research (min. 5 additional sources) on prayer and the practice of ministry.

Length: 10-12 pages

Weight: 35%

Due: Friday November 30, 2018

Course Outline:

Monday 9-12:	Introductions and Syllabus Prayer ~ Moving Beyond Technique (and guilt and clichés) to Relationship
Monday 1-4:	Mutuality of Prayer and Ministry <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prayer filled Ministry• Ministry filled Prayer
Tuesday 9-12:	The Trinity and Participative Prayer <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pray with the Son; to the Father; by the Spirit
Tuesday 1-4:	The Trinity and Participative Practice of Ministry <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minister through Christ's Grace, the Father's Love, the Spirit's Fellowship
Wednesday: 9-12	Towards a Biblical theology of Prayer: Old Testament Prayer Jesus, Prayer and Ministry ~ The Gospels Paul, Prayer and the Church ~ Letters of Paul
Wednesday: 1-4	Developing in Prayer and Ministry <ul style="list-style-type: none">• From Clenched fists to Open Hands• From Knowledge to Love of God• From Servants to Friendship with God Class outing: Prayer Walk

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- Thursday: 9-12 Prayer as Spiritual Participation in God's Ministry in the World
- Cultivating Personal Prayer
 - Cultivating Communal Prayer
- Thursday: 1-4 Types of Prayer and the Practice of Ministry
- Prayer of Adoration and Worship
 - Prayer of Lament and the Funeral
 - Prayer of Healing and Spiritual Care
 - Prayer of Discernment and Church Leadership

Additional Notes:

Formatting - Students must follow the Turabian Formatting for all assignments. See the following link for the guide:

http://www.press.uchicago.edu/books/turabian/turabian_citationguide.html

Academic Dishonesty – Academic dishonesty is a serious offence in the academic world that may take any number of forms, including plagiarism, the submission of work that is not one's own or for which previous credit has been obtained, and/or unauthorized collaboration with other students. Academic dishonesty can result in severe consequences, e.g., failure of the assignment, failure of the course, a notation on the transcript, and/or suspension or expulsion from the College. It is your responsibility to understand what constitutes academic dishonesty. Please refer to the Pathways Student Handbook (forthcoming) Statement on Academic Honesty

Inclusive Language - Pathways program uses inclusive language in worship services, student written materials, and all of its publications. In reference to biblical texts, the integrity of the original expressions and the names of God should be respected. The NRSV is a good example of the use of inclusive language. It is expected that all students will use inclusive language in all Pathways assignments.

Sexual Harassment - Sexual harassment is a violation of the integrity of persons in the form of unsolicited, unwelcome, verbal or physical behavior, which discriminates on the basis of gender about a person's body, attire, gender, marital status or economic status. Among faculty, staff, and students, sexual harassment of any kind will not be tolerated.

Disclaimer - This syllabus is the property of the instructor and is prepared with currently available information. The instructor reserves the right to make changes and revisions up until the first day of class.