

Church Growth



Classroom Hours: 24 (minimum)

Description/Overview:

An apostolic church is founded upon seven principles: prayers, planning, persistence, preaching and teaching, power of the Spirit, personal care, and personal involvement. Through this course the student will learn to implement each principle as well as the art of attracting, winning, and retaining church members.

Objectives:

At the end of this course students will be able to:

- 1.) Establish that apostolic growth defines an apostolic church.

- 2.) Define spiritual leadership as the key to church growth.
- 3.) State that prayer should be the first item on the agenda of any church.
- 4.) Identify the importance of planning in church growth.
- 5.) Explain why patience is an important factor of church growth.
- 6.) Classify preaching and teaching (coupled with prayer) as the most powerful means to transform people.
- 7.) Emphasize the necessity of practicing the power of the Spirit.
- 8.) Illustrate the importance of personal care of a congregation by using the example of the Apostle Paul.
- 9.) Restate that every believer of Christ should be actively involved in ministry for him.
- 10.) Expound upon the necessity and method of attracting, winning, and keeping people.

Topics / Concepts:

- What it means to have an apostolic church: apostolic prayer and praise, anointing, doctrine, experience, fellowship, miracles and outreach.
- The purpose of prayer and all of the things we receive through it such as divine call and direction.
- The concept of corporate prayer and how to go about holding or scheduling it.
- The necessity of goals and vision statements.
- Financial and legal planning
- Preaching and teaching in the Old and New Testaments, similarities and differences.
- Creating an atmosphere of faith for the furthering of the Kingdom.
- Anointing: What it is and why we need it.
- Care groups for congregations.
- How to respond when people have failed.
- Daughter works.

Recommended Primary Textbook(s):

Growing a Church: Seven Apostolic Principles – David K. Bernard

Recommended Alternatives:

An Introduction to Church Growth – James Poitras

Overview of Lessons available in the Recommended Primary Textbook:

Foreword

Preface

Introduction: An Apostolic Church

1. Prayer
2. Planning
3. Persistence
4. Preaching and Teaching
5. Power of the Spirit
6. Personal Care
7. Personal Involvement

Conclusion: Attracting, Winning, and Retaining People

Appendixes

- A. Organizing a Church Legally
- B. Guidelines for Leadership and Public Ministry
- C. Visitor Follow-up Strategy
- D. Job Descriptions for Church Growth Personnel

Languages Available:

Course Packet Resources:

Comments:

Date of Last Revision: