

Biblical Hospitality & Encouragement - Online

Using God's Tools

Syllabus

Free Methodist Church of North America
Acts 12:24 Churches
Online Campus, NY/NJ Metro Ministry Education Center
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Course # Acts12:24 1014

Biblical Hospitality & Encouragement

Attributes of Outcomes-Based Ordination this course addresses

- Demonstrate a high level of self-awareness. They understand and articulate their strengths and weaknesses, build teams around their blind spots, and know how their leadership and communication style impacts others both positively and negatively.
 - Be characterized by spiritual maturity and a strong sense of call to ministry. They are shaped by the spiritual disciplines, root their identity and calling firmly in Christ, and model a Spirit-led life of holiness.
 - Possess the ability to practically apply learning. They model an ability to make complex theology understandable to all, to find God's redemptive activity in daily life, and to deepen faith through real-life experiences.
 - Embrace ministries of justice and compassion. They challenge injustice and discrimination whenever it is found, engage local and global needs of the broken and poor, and continually focus ministry on the margin, seeking to emancipate all who exist within enslaving systems.
 - Model humility. They remain teachable and accept correction when given; maintain a non-defensive posture towards leaders, followers, and peers; and willingly seek the perspective of others.

Expected Outcomes

Ø Cognitive

- Understand that Christian hospitality, as given to us in the Bible, is a sacred process of 'receiving' outsiders and changing them from strangers to guests
- Recognize that Hospitality is not a specialized spiritual gift that only a few people possess
- Understand that there is an underlying theme that the entire Christian life can be seen through the grid of Incarnation and Hospitality.
- Hospitality cannot be separated from the coming of God's Kingdom both now and at the end of history.
- See the progression that Jesus uses in the New Testament: Jesus as stranger, Jesus as Guest, and Jesus as Host
- Understand that Christian Hospitality as a way of life

Ø Behavioral

- Search out the key themes in the new Testament: Hospitality and Gospel Transmission Hospitality Openness, but also Boundaries Hospitality and Eschatology (last things) Hospitality and Divine Surprise Hospitality and the Poor

Ø Afferent

- Recognize the three areas for Hospitality in your walk with the Lord: Hospitality in the home, in the church and in the world.

Course Description: The course will give you a clear knowledge of the Biblical concept of hospitality. You will understand that God's purpose advances on earth through the hospitality of believers. The course will train you to become a leader who practices hospitality and encourages others to do the same. You will understand the power of biblical encouragement. Finally, you will develop and implement a practical real life strategy for using Biblical Hospitality and Biblical Encouragement as tools to build God's kingdom both in your personal life and in ministry.

Course Texts:

Community Church Planting (CCP) Implementation Manual
– Section 9.5 (Encouragement) and Section 9.6 (Hospitality).
(This material is available via download upon registration.)

Crabb, Larry, Encouragement: The Unexpected Power of Building Others Up: Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2013.

Willis, Dustin and Clements, Brandon, The Simplest Way to Change the World: Biblical Hospitality as a Way of Life: Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2017.

Grading Scale:

90-100 %- A
80-90 % -B
70-80 % - C
70 % and below – F

Assignments and Grading:

1. Do all assigned readings and submit signed acknowledgement – 20%
2. Prepare a 4-5 page reflection paper (Times New Roman, 12pt, Double Space) on Biblical Hospitality. – 40%
3. Prepare a 4-5 page reflection paper (Times New Roman, 12pt, Double Space) on Biblical Encouragement. – 40%

Your reflection papers should include the following:

- A bullet point list of 5 key principles from the readings
- Reflections on how each of these principles will affect your personal life
- A specific plan on how you will implement these principles into your ministry

Reading Assignments & Order:

Hospitality

- ❖ Read CCP Manual – Hospitality
- ❖ Read The Simplest Way
- ❖ Submit Hospitality Paper

Hospitality

- ❖ Read CCP Manual – Encouragement
- ❖ Read Encouragement
- ❖ Submit Encouragement Paper