

Adventist Institute in Advanced Studies

CHMN 706 Theology and Practice of Ministry

3 Semester Credits

February 2 to 7

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Course Description: This course focuses on the theological and theoretical foundations for practices in mission and ministry. Through an inductive study of the Book of Acts, the practicing pastor will gain a broad basis for reflecting upon and applying the divinely-directed principles which guided the early Church.

Contribution to the Fulfillment of the AIIAS Mission Statement: This course will fulfill the AIIAS mission statement by providing both a theological and practical framework for pastors who are enrolled in the on-campus and intensive D.Min. program. It will endeavor to harmoniously develop the spiritual, social and intellectual life of the pastor so these dynamic elements may then be reproduced in the members they serve.

Contribution to the Attainment of AIIAS Goals: This course will contribute to the attainment of AIIAS goals by offering both an academic and a practical study of pastoral ministry. It will seek to blend spiritual formation with the using of practical tools. It will seek to provide a high quality educational experience in the context of the life of the local church, with practical exercises that will enhance both the spiritual life and pastoral leadership.

Perspective and Goals of the Course: Pastoral leadership in today's world demands the utmost in understanding both the theological and spiritual dynamics of church life and how to practically apply those principles to an ever-changing context. The course will seek to both inform and form within the pastor and his church the following goals:

- 1) Understand how Acts can inform our present day pastoral practices.
- 2) Uncover the principles of ministry which guided the early church.
- 3) Develop an appreciation for the complexity of the problems found in Acts and today.
- 4) Understand the critical role of the pastor in becoming a change agent for his church.
- 5) Appreciate how the SDA church can survive and prosper in difficult settings.
- 6) Seek to apply the theology of Acts to the current pastoral contexts.
- 7) Gain an appreciation of the role of the Holy Spirit in pastoral ministry.

Methodology: The class is initially scheduled to meet Monday, February 2 to Sabbath, February 7 during the following times in order to meet the approximately 28 periods of instruction:

Monday	8:00 am to 11:00 am	1:30 pm to 3:00 pm
Tuesday through Friday:	8:00 am to 12:00 pm	1:30 pm to 3:00 pm
Sabbath Praxis		2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Besides the intensive one week classroom time, the student will be expected to complete 60 hours of working on both pre-course assignments and 60 hours working on the post-course project.

Course Requirements:

A) Class Attendance

Campus policy on attendance will be applied. The students are expected to attend all the lectures and classroom activities. (This is especially critical in an intensive course of a short duration). Emergencies may occur and absences will be accepted up to 15% of the contact hours for a given course (AIIAS Bulletin, p. 27).

B) Pre-Course Assignments—(Hours are approximations only)

- 1) Read the *Purpose Driven Church* by Rick Warren—(15 hours).
 - a) Four Page Reaction Paper: Write a four page paper in which you will reflect on at least three major things you can learn from this book and how it can be applied to your ministry—(15 hours).

- 2) Reading the Book of Acts
 - a) Print out the book of Acts which accompanies this outline and then carefully read the book by marking the text and making notes in the margins. (10 hours).

 - b) Choose 10 out of the 60 principles of ministry noted in the text and write a two page paper on each principle. Use the first page of the paper to reflect on what the text says and then use the second page to see how this principle might be applied to your own ministry. (0 hours).

C) Post-Course Assignment

There will be a twenty page paper due by June 1, 2004 which will take one specific section in Acts and develop further how that principle was applied in Acts and how it can be applied in your own ministry. Your topic should be discussed with the Professor during the instructional week to give guidance before the research begins. It is especially important that the topic be relevant to your own context and ministry. The final paper should be e-mailed to the Professor—(60 hours).

D) Breakdown of Grade

Reading and reaction of *The Purpose Driven Church* 300 points
10 two page papers will be graded at 30 points apiece 300 points
1 twenty page paper on the theology and practice of ministry 400 points

E) The Final Grade

The following will serve as a general guideline in determining the final grades. The percentages may be altered slightly to accommodate the overall class level.

Letter Grade	Percentage	Letter Grade	Percentage	Letter Grade	Percentage
A	93-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79
A-	90-92	B	83-86	C	73-76
		B-	80-82	C-	70-72

F) Ethics

All quotations taken from an author needs to be properly noted. Even when paraphrasing an author's thoughts and putting them in your own words, it is always best to let the teacher know just where you are getting the source of your remarks. When in doubt, give the note. Plagiarism, or taking of a writing or idea that belongs to another without proper credit is intellectually dishonest and can lead to academic investigation and consequences. Finally, when mentioning an author in any way, make sure the position presented in the text is an honest and complete formulation of his thought.