Spiritual Formation in a Missional Context

Syllabus

Table of Contents

Required Texts **4**

Recommended Reading **4**

Catalog Description **4**

Course Description **4**

Learning Outcomes **4**

Student Evaluation **5**

- Attendance & Participation 5
- Readings 5
- Threaded Discussions 5
- Vocabulary Exam 6
- Project Reports 6
- Oral Presentation 6

Summary of Grading Distribution **7**

Grade Scale **7**

- A letter grade will be assigned according to the following scale: 7

Logistics Chart **8**

Student Assignments **9**

- Week One: Counting the Cost 9
  - Reading 9
  - Videos to Watch 9
  - Discussion Questions 9
- Week Two: A Responder 10
  - Reading 10
  - Videos to Watch 10
  - Discussion Questions 10
- Week Three: Nehemiah 11
  - Reading 11
  - Videos to Watch 11
  - Discussion Questions 11
- Week Four: God’s Provision 13
  - Reading 13
  - Videos to Watch 13
  - Discussion Questions 13
- Week Five: Follow Me: The Call 14
  - Reading 14

Videos to Watch 14
Discussion Questions 14
Week Six: Spiritual Warfare 16
Reading 16
The oral presentations 16
The written reports 16

Required Texts

Wright, Nicholas Thomas. *Following Jesus: Biblical Reflections on Discipleship*. Cambridge: Eerdmans Publishing., 1994.

Book of Nehemiah. Holy Bible

Recommended Reading

Olsen, Bruce. *Bruchko: The Astonishing True Story of a 19-Year-Old American, His Capture by the Motilone Indians and His Adventures in Christianizing the Stone Age Tribe*. Lake Mary: Charisma House., 2006.

Catalog Description

A in-depth study of spiritual formation through the lens of missions. What does it take to follow Jesus and how can one prepare themself to follow Him. This course will look at being a responder to the world's injustices and the faith needed to respond.

Course Description

Spiritual Formation in a Missional Context examines the cost of following Jesus into the world. It takes a look at what is required and how to prepare yourself to follow Jesus and work in a missional context. This course will also look at today's social injustices and how we can make a difference in them.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course the student will be able to:

1. Understand and describe Jesus' invitation to participate in God's Mission.
2. Offer a personal reflection of the implication of Jesus' invitation to follow.
3. Have a deeper understanding of the Old Testament in relation to God's Mission, and how it impacts our lives today.
4. Understand what social injustices are a problem in our world today.
5. Understand spiritual opposition in fulfilling the call.
6. Research a historical missionary and identify key spiritual principles.

8. Demonstrate skills in research and writing.

Student Evaluation

Class and group participation, threaded discussions, a mid-term objective vocabulary exam, a critical book, project presentations, and reading will assess the student's comprehension, synthesis, and critical evaluation of course materials.

Attendance & Participation

The primary format for the course will be lecture and guided and group discussion. In order to prepare for the discussions, for each class you are asked to submit one good idea or question from the readings. Attendance is expected. You cannot get a participation grade for a class in which you were not present. Unexcused absences during the semester and/or a pattern of being late for class or leaving early will affect the student's grade.

Readings

The readings offer background materials, inform class content, and supplement class discussion. We will read extensively but not exhaustively. Reading assignments will be indicated on the Canvas course outline. You are expected to complete reading prior to coming to class. You should plan to read about 60 minutes for each class session.

Threaded Discussions

The on-line threaded discussions functions much like a discussion in the classroom; however, you can log-in at your convenience and post comments. I will post a topic for discussion, raise questions, concerns or ideas. All students are required to login at least twice a week to post an answer to each discussion topic as well as read and react to others' responses. We will discuss the logistics the first week of class.

Vocabulary Exam

The exam will be an objective exam based on the vocabulary of unreached people groups (exam given Week Four). A “Glossary of Terms” is available. (100 points)

Project Reports

The first presentation will focus on a missionary of your choice and the second will highlight one of the world religions. I will provide a template for both presentations. The presentations must be both descriptive and analytical and should incorporate the theological and methodological concepts covered in the lectures and readings. Topics to be assigned in class.

Oral Presentation

On Week Five, students will give an oral presentation of both the missionary report and the religion report. The oral presentation is worth 100 points. Instructions for the oral presentation will be given in class.

Each of the essays should be double spaced, written in Times New Roman font, 12 pt. In addition to the quality of content, the organization, mechanics and style will be taken into consideration so be sure to edit and proofread the essay before you turn it in. In a header, place your last name and the page number in the upper right corner of the second and subsequent pages. Footnote and bibliographical form should conform to the APA rules of style and formatting.

Summary of Grading Distribution

Class participation	100 points
Short answer assignments	150 points
Readings	120 points
Vocabulary exam	63 points
Missionary report	100 points
World religions report	100 points

Grade Scale

A letter grade will be assigned according to the following scale:

Percentage	Grade	Significance	GPA
93-100%	A		4.00
90-92.9%	A-		3.67
87-89.9%	B+		3.33
83-86.9%	B		3.00
80-82.9%	B-		2.67
77-79.9%	C+		2.33
73-76.9%	C		2.00
70-72.9%	C-		1.67
67-69.9%	D+		1.33
63-66.9%	D		1.00
60-62.9%	D-		0.67
0-59.9%	F		0.00

Logistics Chart

Week	Class Summary	Date
1	Overview and review of class Introduction	
2	A Responder	
3	Nehemiah	
4	God’s Provision	
5	Follow Me: The Call	
6	Spiritual Warfare	

Student Assignments

Week	Reading	Videos	Assignments
Week 1: Counting the Cost	NT Wright Chapter 1-2	Counting the Cost 1	Discussion
Week 2: A Responder	NT Wright Chapter 3-4 Book of Nehemiah	Counting the Cost 2	Discussion
Week 3: Nehemiah	NT Wright Chapter 5-6	Counting the Cost 3 Counting the Cost 4	Discussion
Week 4: God's Provision	NT Wright Chapter 7-8	Counting the Cost 5 Counting the Cost 6	Discussion
Week 5: The Call	NT Wright Chapter 9-10	Counting the Cost 7 Counting the Cost 8	Discussion
Week 6: Spiritual Warfare	NT Wright Chapter 11-12		Oral Presentation Written Reports

Week One: Counting the Cost

Reading

N.T. Wright, Chapter 1-2

Videos to Watch

Watch the following videos and then, on Canvas, write down your thoughts to the questions at the end of each video. Then post your responses to Canvas. These thoughts don't need to be lengthy or complex, just write what your immediate thoughts are to the question posed.

- Counting the Cost Video 1

Discussion Questions

On Canvas, write down your thoughts to the questions at the end of each video. Then post your responses to Canvas. These thoughts don't need to be lengthy or complex, just write your immediate to the question posed.

From the videos, answer the following questions.

1. What is a disciple? What does being a disciple mean?

2. What does following Jesus look like?

3. Read John 13 & 21. How did Jesus resolve it with Peter? Is there a resolve that you need?How did Peter respond?

4. Read Luke 18:9-14, Jon 14:23 & John 15. What is the difference between works and grace when it comes to being a disciple?

Week Two: A Responder

Reading

N.T. Wright, Chapter 3-4

The Book of Nehemiah

Videos to Watch

Watch the following videos and then, on Canvas, write down your thoughts to the questions at the end of each video. Then post your responses to Canvas. These thoughts don't need to be lengthy or complex, just write what your immediate thoughts are to the question posed.

- Counting the Cost Video 2

Discussion Questions

On Canvas, write down your thoughts to the questions at the end of each video. Then post your responses to Canvas. These thoughts don't need to be lengthy or complex, just write what your immediate thoughts are to the question posed.

From the videos, answer the following questions.

1. Read John 13 & 21. How did Jesus resolve it with Peter? Is there a resolve that you need? How did Peter respond?

2. Have you felt disqualified by a personal failure?

3. Read Acts 2:11-41, Acts 4:1-22, and Acts 10. How did Peter respond?

Week Three: Nehemiah

Reading

N.T. Wright, Chapter 4-6

Videos to Watch

Watch the following videos and then, on Canvas, write down your thoughts to the questions at the end of each video. Then post your responses to Canvas. These thoughts don't need to be lengthy or complex, just write what your immediate thoughts are to the question posed.

- Counting the Cost Video 3
- Counting the Cost Video 4

Discussion Questions

On Canvas, write down your thoughts to the questions at the end of each video. Then post your responses to Canvas. These thoughts don't need to be lengthy or complex, just write what your immediate thoughts are to the question posed.

From the videos, answer the following questions.

1. Read Nehemiah. How did Nehemiah respond to the need? What needs are there around you that He wants you to see?

2. How does this scripture relate to unreached and unengaged people groups?

From the videos, answer the following questions.

1. What are some needs right in front of you? Have you ever not responded to a need in order to seek a bigger or better call from God?

2. Do you know someone who responded to a need and it became their calling?

3. What are the social injustices you may encounter in ministry and in your life?

4. What questions do we as a society need to ask God about the world around us?

Week Four: God's Provision

Reading

N.T. Wright, Chapter 7-8

Videos to Watch

Watch the following videos and then, on Canvas, write down your thoughts to the questions at the end of each video. Then post your responses to Canvas. These thoughts don't need to be lengthy or complex, just write what your immediate thoughts are to the question posed.

- Counting the Cost Video 5
- Counting the Cost Video 6

Discussion Questions

On Canvas, write down your thoughts to the questions at the end of each video. Then post your responses to Canvas. These thoughts don't need to be lengthy or complex, just write what your immediate thoughts are to the question posed.

From the videos, answer the following questions.

1. Read Luke 10 and John 13. What does it mean for Jesus to lead with a towel instead of a crown?
2. Read 1 Peter 5:5 and Philippians 2. How can pride affect the Gospel and what should our attitude be?
3. Read Nehemiah 2. How did Nehemiah have favor?
4. Read Nehemiah 6. How did God provide?
5. Read Hebrews 11. Where should I put my faith? Can you answer the call without faith?

Week Five: Follow Me: The Call

Reading

N.T. Wright, Chapter 9-10

Videos to Watch

Watch the following videos and then, on Canvas, write down your thoughts to the questions at the end of each video. Then post your responses to Canvas. These thoughts don't need to be lengthy or complex, just write what your immediate thoughts are to the question posed.

- Counting the Cost Video 7
- Counting the Cost Video 8

Discussion Questions

On Canvas, write down your thoughts to the questions at the end of each video. Then post your responses to Canvas. These thoughts don't need to be lengthy or complex, just write what your immediate thoughts are to the question posed.

From the videos, answer the following questions.

1. Read Nehemiah 4-6. How did the enemy change his schemes and attacks?
2. Read Matthew 4. What was Jesus' response to the enemy?
3. Read Acts 16:25. What was Peter & Silas' response?
4. Could a short term missions call become a selfish call?
5. Could we think our short term call replaces our long term call?
6. Read Nehemiah 7-13. How did Nehemiah establish discipleship? Did he stay to make it happen?

7. Is this just a season in your life or has Jesus called you into full time ministry.

Week Six: Spiritual Warfare

Reading

N.T. Wright, Chapter 11-12

The oral presentations

For the Oral Presentation, students will present both a missionary report explaining the life of a past missionary, their work and hardships, as well as a country report, sharing the facts and understanding of a country or unreached people group. I will assign you a specific case study on Week Three.

Note: If we decide to have group rather than individual presentations, please form your own group of two or three people. You know best whom you can communicate with the easiest. If you do not find a group, let me know and I will assign you to one. Please let me know the members of your group as soon as you can.

Your presentation can be as creative as you wish.The presentation should be approximately15 minutes in length followed by an additional 10 minutes of feedback and discussion.

The written reports

The essay, not to exceed 2,000 words,should be double spaced,written in Times New Roman font, 12 pt. In addition to the quality of content, the organization, mechanics and style will be taken into consideration so be sure to edit and proofread the essay before you turn it in. In a header, place your last name and the page number in the upper right corner of the second and subsequent pages.

Footnote and bibliographical form should conform to theAPA rules of style and formatting.

The final essay should be posted on Canvas on the final day of class.

For the missionary report, make sure to include the following information:

1. Birth and dates of a historic missionary from 1950 or older
2. Overview of the missionary's upbringing and education

3. Overview of the field the missionary worked in
4. Overview of the missionary's ministry with stories of their success and struggles
5. Answer the question of what one can learn from them

For the world religions report, see powerpoint example for needed slides and research.