

The Practical Concerns of Doing Church

VICPR-0040

Course Credits:

3 Semester Units

Course Professor:

Your Local Vineyard Pastor & Michael Gatlin - Multiply Vineyard National Coordinator

Course Description:

This course, The Practical Concerns of Doing Church, is the fourth of four courses in the Residency+ Program. It is designed to be an introduction to the multiple key areas in the practice of church for church planters. Students will be led through each session by their facilitating local pastor who may add supporting material or assignments to the course when necessary.

Course Aims:

This course aims to provide a and overview of key areas of church practice. Specifically, this course explores the topics: preaching, church systems, strategic planning, marketing, pastoral care, small groups, and finance.

Course Learning Outcomes/Objectives:

- Students will learn and practice the art of biblical preaching.
- Students will be introduced to creating systems and structures for a healthy church.
- Students will complete their 3 year strategic plan for church planting.
- Students will discuss a philosophy of pastoral care and small groups.
- Students will analyze church finance structures and stewardship resources.

Course Structure:

Below you will find an outline of this course. All assignments are to be completed by the time you arrive for the session they are listed in. Course books are the student’s responsibility to purchase. All other curriculum, reading, and assessments are provided in the Vineyard Institute Online course though My.Vineyardinstitute.org.

Week:	Session:	Assignments:	Reflection Journal accepted online until:
	New Student Application Deadline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday, Aug. 22nd: All Students Apply to VI 	N/A
	Quarter Begins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday, Sept. 12th, 2016: Course opens for students 	N/A
1 & 2	Session 1 - Preaching: <i>How To Put Together A Great Sermon And Practice Preaching</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BOOK: “Planting Missional Churches” by Stetzer and Im - Section 1 - The Foundations of Church Planting PDF: “Preaching As If It Were A Matter of Life and Death” by Nathan PDF: “VLI Mentoring Preaching Manual” by Robbins PDF: Review “Assessment Rubric” ASSIGNMENT: Begin preparing 10min sermon, to be given later in quarter. 	9/25/16
3 & 4	Session 2 - Systems: <i>Cultivating Healthy Systems Throughout The Church</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BOOK: “Planting Missional Churches” by Stetzer and Im - Section 3 - Systems for Church Planting BOOK: “Advanced Strategic Planning” by Malphurs AUDIO & PDF: Cause, Community, Corporation by Willow Creek 	10/10/16
5 & 6	Session 3 - Planning: <i>Why Strategic Planning Matters</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PDF & VIDEO: Multiply Growth Intensive BOOK: “Planting Missional Churches” by Stetzer and Im - Section 2 - Models of Church Planting PDF: Great Weekend Services ASSIGNMENT: Begin 3 year plan 	10/24/16
Thurs, Oct. 27th 7pm CT	NATIONAL WEBINAR: <i>Am I Called To Be A Church Planter</i> with Michael Gatlin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend: Thur. October 27th 2016, 7pm CT 90 minutes in length. Register in the myVI course. Be prepared to ask thoughtful questions to our panelists 	N/A

7 & 8	<p>Session 4 - Pastoral Care & Small Groups: <i>Two Keys To A Healthy Church</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOOK: "Planting Missional Churches" by Stetzer and Im - Section 4 - Ministry Areas for Church Planting • BOOK: "Preventing Ministry Failure" by Wilson & Hoffman - Foundation Stone 7 (p. 220-250) • PDF: Small Group Purpose and Structure • PDF: A Philosophy of Pastoral Care • PDF: "The New Gold Standard" by Michelli (Ch. 1, 2, 5, 8) • Webinar Recording: A Strategy For Making Your Church's Story Go Viral with Gatlin & Wilt 	11/7/16
9 & 10	<p>Session 5 - Finance: <i>The Dollars And Sense Of Church Finance</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BOOK: "Planting Missional Churches" by Stetzer and Im - Section 5 - Chapter 26 (p. 319-332) • BOOK: "Money Matters in Church" by Malphers & Stroope • VIDEO: "Financial Wellbeing" by Vineyard USA • ASSIGNMENT: Review 3 year plan 	11/20/16
10	<p>Quarter Closes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sun. Nov. 20th, 2016 - All assignments must be completed. 	N/A

Course Book List & Resources:

Course books are the student's responsibility to purchase. All other curriculum, reading, and assessments are provided in the Vineyard Institute Online course through MyVineyardinstitute.org.

Planting Missional Churches: Your Guide to Starting Churches that Multiply, 2nd Edition

May 1, 2016

by Ed Stetzer and Daniel Im

<https://www.amazon.com/Planting-Missional-Churches-Starting-Multiply/dp/1433692163>

Advanced Strategic Planning: A 21st-Century Model for Church and Ministry Leaders, 3rd Edition

June 15, 2013

by Aubrey Malphurs

https://www.amazon.com/Advanced-Strategic-Planning-21st-Century-Ministry/dp/0801014557?ie=UTF8&ref=asap_bc

Money Matters in Church: A Practical Guide for Leaders Paperback

July 1, 2007

by Aubrey Malphurs & Steve Stroope

https://www.amazon.com/Money-Matters-Church-Practical-Leaders/dp/0801066271?ie=UTF8&ref=asap_bc

Preventing Ministry Failure: A ShepherdCare Guide for Pastors, Ministers and Other Caregivers

October 11, 2007

by Michael Todd Wilson, Brad Hoffmann

<http://www.amazon.com/Preventing-Ministry-Failure-ShepherdCare-Caregivers/dp/0830834443>

Course Assessment/Grading:

Students will be expected to complete 5 reflection journal assignments throughout this course. Reflection journals are for the purpose of creating deeper engagement with the material. Students will be expected to complete one reflection journal prior to meeting with their local pastor and cohort each session. Online submissions will be accepted at the provided dates above and online. All journal entries will be submitted online. Students are given direction for the content of their reflection journals via the rubric below. Reflection journals should connect the reading and assignments to spiritual formation and development as a leader.

Reflection Journal Expectations:

1. Students will complete one reflection journal prior to each session with their local pastor.
2. All reflection journals should be a minimum of 1000 words in length and should not exceed 1500 words in length.
3. Reflection journals should connect to assignments, readings, the work that they are doing in the Residency+ Program, and their involvement in the local church.
4. Students should use pertinent quotations from readings and cite those in their reflection journals. In text citations should include author and page number. Example: (Barton, 47).
5. Reflection journals must be submitted in Word (.docx), Pages (.pages), or PDF (.pdf) formats.
6. All Journal entries must include the following:
 1. Student Name: (Ex. Your Name)
 2. Facilitating Pastor's Name: (Ex. Your Vineyard Pastor)

3. Local Church Name and City: (Ex. Your Vineyard Church - Your Town, USA)
4. Date of Submission: (Ex. November 1st, 2015)
5. Number of Reflection Journal: (Ex. Residency+ Reflection Journal #1)

Reflection Journal Assessment:

Reflection journals will be assessed based on the student’s ability to communicate the concepts in assigned readings and how they are impacting their own spiritual growth and leadership development. Below is the rubric that articulates how reflection journals will be assessed.

Dimensions:	Beginning (1)	Developing (2)	Competent (3)
<p>Knowing: <i>Reflection shows specific knowledge of content being presented in course assignments</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection misrepresents the authors’ arguments, evidence, and/or conclusions. • No quotations from assigned readings. • Length of reflection is less than 1000 words and/or significant grammatical errors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection minimally grasps key concepts of the authors arguments, evidence, and/or conclusions. • Few or unrelated quotations from assigned readings. • Reflection has minimal attention to traditional rules of grammar. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection grasps key concepts that the authors arguments, evidence, and/or conclusions. • Appropriate use of multiple quotations that show comprehension of reading material. • Reflection is clear, readable, and with minimal errors.
<p>Being: <i>Reflection shows specific experience of how course and church involvement is impacting spiritual life with Christ</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection minimally identifies how relationship with Christ is impacted by course materials. • Reflection does not show how course content is impacting student’s identity. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection identifies how relationship with Christ is impacted with vague or impersonal language. • Reflection shows how course content is producing more self awareness and identify development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection identifies how relationship with Christ is impacted with specific personal examples. • Reflection shows how course content is producing more self awareness and identify development with specific examples.
<p>Doing: <i>Reflection shows specific actions, practices, and habits where student is engaging in and developing as a leader</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection does not comment on how actions, practices, and habits are being formed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection comments on how actions, practices, and habits are being formed with moderate depth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reflection comments on how actions, practices, and habits are being formed with depth and connection to leadership development.

Grading:

Student reflection journals will be graded using the above rubric on a 0-9 scale. Students receiving grades of 6-9 will be considered as passing. Students must pass all of the 5 reflection assignments for the course to receive a passing grade for the course. Students will complete one reflection journal prior to each session with their local pastor. Submissions will be accepted online until the dates above in the course structure. Submissions after the indicated dates will not be accepted. Students will be graded on a Pass/Fail basis for all Residency+ courses. Credit will then be transferred to VI without a numerical GPA.

Course Policies:

Student Communication

We desire to communicate clearly with you. We also want to provide an opportunity for you to connect with other students. Here are our communication methods:

Course Announcements/Email: Course announcements will be posted by Multiply Vineyard and Vineyard Institute staff on my.vineyardinstitute.org and will be sent to student's email.

Course Forum:

This forum will be our space to wrestle with the content that we are working through in our local churches together with pastors and church planters across the USA who are joining in the program. Our hope is that each student will be able to provide 1 substantive post and 1-2 responses to other's posts each week as they go through the course. This will help to create a dialogue for all of our students. These posts are in addition to student reflection journals, however, content from reflection journals could be posted in the forum as well for others in the program to see.

Forum posts can consist of:

- Quotes, questions, and analysis from the reading assignments.
- Questions about leadership and church planting for the whole program.
- Stories of how Jesus is working in your local context.
- Examples of how you are putting this learning into practice in your local church.

Technical Support/Communication:

For technical support for the on-line classroom, please use the Help tab, and click "Contact Staff" to fill out a ticket. This will ensure that your question is routed to the correct person to answer your question in the most efficient manner.

Application Fee

New Students will be charged a \$50.00 one-time non-refundable application fee. This fee is separate from the tuition amount and your application will not be processed without it.

Tuition Fee

Tuition for each Residency+ Course is \$200 per quarter. During enrollment, course registration and fees are due. Choose "Registration" from the "Courses" menu to register, select course(s) and pay tuition online (VISA or MasterCard accepted). Note: Students are not considered to be enrolled in courses until tuition is paid.

Other Fees

Books are not included in the cost of tuition. These costs will vary each quarter.

Refund Policy

If you withdraw from VI within the first seven days of the start of the quarter, you will receive a full refund of your tuition. After seven days there is no refund.

Course Withdraw Policy

Students can opt to withdraw from the course if they chose to do so prior to the end of the quarter close date. Students who withdraw from the course will receive a “W” on their VI transcript which does not impact their VI GPA. Students will not receive a refund for the course after the Add/Drop date during the first week of each quarter.

Residency+ Program Overview

This Residency+ Program courses must be taken in order as our curriculum builds on itself throughout the year. Please make sure you are registering for each course prior to the start of the new quarter. Below is an overview of the program courses.

Course 1	Course 2	Course 3	Course 4
<i>Formation of the Inner Life</i>	<i>Discovering Vision & Values</i>	<i>Reaching, Connecting, and Building People</i>	<i>The Practical Concerns of Doing Church</i>