

## **04PT6395/1 THEOLOGY AND MISSION OF PRAYER**

Syllabus for Summer 2023

Professors: Karen Ellis, Dr. Carl Ellis, Jr.

Contact Professor Karen Ellis from within Canvas.

Schedule: Monday July 10- Friday July 14, 2023.

Course hours: 9am – 3:12pm

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

Kingdom and Missional Prayer is a course on discipleship and evangelization through the discipline of prayer. It is a study in training yourself and others in gospel-centered, missional prayer. Professors will equip the student with the necessary tools, theology, philosophy and historical understanding to introduce prayer as a foundational ministry tool. The ideal candidate for this course is a pastor, ministry/community leader, or lay person who want to disciple their team/church/communities in prayer in various ministry contexts.

The course will form students to train others to (1) build a culture of prayer (2) to develop praying leaders who in turn, develop praying communities and (3) are able to pray informed by local and global contexts, identifying biblical, historical, and cultural connections between the two.

Kingdom and Missional Prayer features key readings on prayer, questions for personal reflection and group interaction, and prayer points to guide practice. Students are challenged to come back to the practical heart of prayer, the gospel, and the role of prayer in mission, renewal, and revival. Each lesson contains practical tools in developing new or deeper prayer habits, personally and corporately.

Topics include:

- biblical prayer patterns
- prayer lists
- prayer maps
- prayer walking
- identifying prayer needs of your city
- prayer progress evaluations
- missional prayer accountability groups
- fasting and prayer

## **COURSE OUTLINE:**

The first portion of the course will focus on the prayer life of a leader, confronting personal and cultural idols, and understanding their interaction between idols and a life of prayer. There will be several ‘plug and play’ exercises, including evaluation and training, for personal and organizational application.

The second portion of the course will concentrate on how to bring prayer into the artery of a church/mission/community culture. When leaders ‘lead from the knees’ the church will follow. Again, there will be several ‘plug and play’ exercises, including evaluation and training, for personal and organizational application.

The final section of the course will build on the first two, as we demonstrate how praying leaders may lead healthy, sustainable and multiplying prayer movements. Again, there will be several ‘plug and play’ exercises, including evaluation and training, for personal and organizational application.

## **REQUIRED READINGS**

*MAIN TEXT: Prayer Revolution.* Copyright 2020 by John F. Smed Published by Prayer Current Vancouver, BC CANADA (272 pages)

*The Struggle of Prayer.* Copyright 2018 by Donald G. Bloesch published by Helmers and Howard, Colorado Springs. CO. (196 pages)

*Calvin’s Institutes* Book III Chapter 20 “On Prayer – A Perpetual Exercise of Faith” *Any edition.*

*Persistent Prayer: Blessings of the Faith,* Guy Richard. (108 pages)

*Why Do We Pray?* Copyright 2012 by Stanley D. Gale (32 pages)

*The House of Bondage,* Octavia V.R. Albert (161 pages)

*Westminster Shorter Catechism Project*

The Presbyterian Standards by Francis R. Beattie

CHAPTER XXVIII. THE MEANS OF GRACE; PRAYER.

SHORTER CATECHISM, 98-107; LARGER CATECHISM, 178-196; CONFESSION OF FAITH, XXI., 3, 4.

[https://www.shortercatechism.com/resources/beattie/wsc\\_be\\_098-107.html](https://www.shortercatechism.com/resources/beattie/wsc_be_098-107.html)

(769 pages total)

## **REQUIRED CLASSROOM WORKBOOKS:**

Leading Dynamic Prayer. Copyright 2015, Justine Hwang and John Smed. Published by Prayer Current Vancouver, BC CANADA

There will also be a 5-Day prayer handout/guide for the course, which you will receive in class.

## **SUGGESTED READING (not required)**

*Prayer for the City Bootcamp. 2020 edition*, Published by Prayer Current Vancouver, BC CANADA. Helpful to own for further study and discipline, but not required.

## **ASSIGNMENTS:**

Classroom participation 30%

Two, 10-page papers will be assigned each 35% of the final grade.

Choose two from these three topics:

1. Showing familiarity with Calvin's entire treatment of prayer in Book III chapter xx of the *Institutes*, write a 10-page paper on the Lord's Prayer section. Outline his essential points, and apply them to your present context, church, city and nation. Out of these insights, write a two-page version of the Lord's Prayer for today.
2. In *The Struggle for Prayer*, Daniel Bloesch makes a strong distinction between three types of prayer: primitive prayer, mystic prayer, and prophetic prayer. Write a 10-page paper outlining the differences between (and where they agree). Compare and contrast this with the kinds of prayer that are promoted and prevalent in the church and among Christians today.
3. In *Prayer Revolution*, John Smed argues that with every advance of Christ's kingdom, whether church revival or urban renewal, in biblical or present times, the movement is ignited and sustained by earnest and united prayer. In the sequence of mission expansion, prayer is invariably the first stage. Demonstrating a familiarity with Smed's overall thesis that church revival and urban renewal start with prayer, turn the thesis into an exhortation for the church in this city. Add examples and testimony from the present context.

## **GRADE SCALE**

97-100 A	86-87 B-	75-77 D+
94-96 A-	83-85 C+	72-74 D
91-93 B+	80-82 C	70-71 D-
88-90 B	78-79 C	00-70 F

## **ZOOM POLICY**

Your professor may allow you to Zoom into class or watch Zoom recordings for excused absences based on the professor's discretion and subject to the availability of equipment. Students should contact their professor well in advance of the class meeting. For a third absence the Registrar should be consulted. Your professor may require additional interactive assignments to offset the absence of classroom interaction. Sync or Remote Live courses have priority for the limited Zoom equipment.

## **EXTENSION POLICY**

All assignments and exams are to be completed by the deadlines announced in this syllabus or in class.

Extensions for assignments and exams due within the normal duration of the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. Extensions of two weeks or less beyond the date of the last deadline for the course must be approved beforehand by the Professor. A grade penalty may be assessed.

Extensions of greater than two weeks but not more than six weeks beyond the last deadline for the course may be granted in extenuating circumstances (i.e. illness, family emergency). For an extension of more than two weeks the student must request an Extension Request Form from the Registrar's Office. The request must be approved by the Professor and the Academic Dean. A grade penalty may be assessed. (RTS Catalog p. 46 and RTS Atlanta Student Handbook p. 18)

Any incompletes not cleared six weeks after the last published due date for course work will be converted to a failing grade. Professors may have the failing grade changed to a passing grade by request. (RTS Catalog p. 49)

<b><u>MDiv* Student Learning Outcomes</u></b>		<b><u>Rubric</u></b>	
<p><i>In order to measure the success of the Mdiv curriculum, RTS has defined the following as the intended outcomes of the student learning process. Each course contributes to these overall outcomes. This rubric shows the contribution of this course to the MDiv outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>*As the MDiv is the core degree at RTS, the MDiv rubric will be used in this syllabus.</i></p>		<p>Ø Strong</p> <p>Ø Moderate</p> <p>Ø Minimal</p> <p>Ø None</p>	<b><u>Mini-Justification</u></b>
<b>Articulation (oral &amp; written)</b>	Broadly understands and articulates knowledge, both oral and written, of essential biblical, theological, historical, and cultural/global information, including details, concepts, and frameworks. Also includes ability to preach and teach the meaning of Scripture to both heart and mind with clarity and enthusiasm.	STRONG	
<b>Scripture</b>	Significant knowledge of the original meaning of Scripture. Also, the concepts for and skill to research further into the original meaning of Scripture and to apply Scripture to a variety of modern circumstances. (Includes appropriate use of original languages and hermeneutics; and integrates theological, historical, and cultural/global perspectives.)	STRONG	
<b>Reformed Theology</b>	Significant knowledge of Reformed theology and practice, with emphasis on the Westminster Standards.	MINIMAL	
<b>Sanctification</b>	Demonstrates a love for the Triune God that aids the student's sanctification.	STRONG	
<b>Desire for Worldview</b>	Burning desire to conform all of life to the Word of God.	STRONG	
<b>Winsomely Reformed</b>	Embraces a winsomely Reformed ethos. (Includes an appropriate ecumenical spirit with other Christians, especially Evangelicals; a concern to present the	STRONG	

	Gospel in a God-honoring manner to non-Christians; and a truth-in-love attitude in disagreements.)		
<b>Pastoral Ministry</b>	Ability to minister the Word of God to hearts and lives of both church and unchurched, to include preaching, teaching, leading in worship, leading, and shepherding the local congregation, aiding in spiritual maturity, concern for non-Xns.	STRONG	

Course Objectives Related to MDiv\* Student Learning Outcomes  
04PT6395/1 THEOLOGY AND MISSION OF PRAYER  
Professors: Mrs. K.A. Ellis, Dr. Carl Ellis Jr.  
Campus: Atlanta

*Date: 21 March 2023*

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