Course: **Biblical Leadership**

Alpha Omega International College

July 2020

Richard Lamb, MA

DESCRIPTION: This course is designed to give a general introduction the topic of leadership, in general and Christian leadership in particular, making wide use of Scriptural case studies and didactic teaching from both Old and New Testaments. The course will model the use of scripture in leadership development, specifically in skills and character training and discipleship, and in ministry vision, equipping and empowerment.

LEARNING OUTCOMES: The course seeks the following goals for each student: (1) *Cognitive:* theoretical knowledge relating to leadership, teaching, training, coaching and mentoring; (2) A*ffective:* deepened appreciation for the power of relational influence and servant leadership; (3) *Skills*: capacity to use scripture to engage young leaders in training in their own development, and to use and develop training materials that are built on scripture but press for practical application through engaging, well-formed case studies.

COURSE FORMAT: The course will meet for ten 3 hour sessions, with work prepared before and after the class time. Much of the class time will be spent in scripture study led by the professor, but students will receive opportunities to lead their own adapted case study discussions in class. They will then shape and adapt one or more training modules to present it in a church setting within one month of class, with detailed self-evaluations of both.

REQUIRED READING: 300 pp. of required reading.

Robert Greenleaf, *Servant Leadership: A Journey into the Nature of Legitimate Power and Greatness*. New York: Paulist Press, 1977. P7-30

Dr Paul Hersey, *The Situational Leader*. New York: Warner Books, 1984. Pp27-39, 43-71.

Lamb, Richard, *The Pursuit of God in the Company of Friends.* Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2003. Especially the assigned reading: P107-200.

Walter Wright, Relational Leadership: A Biblical Model of Influence and Service. Cumbria, UK: Paternoster Press, 2000. Pp 1-61

Gene Edwards, *A Tale of Three Kings: A Study in Brokenness*. Wheaton, Illinois: Tyndale House, 1980. P1-53.

For Further Reading:

Dr. J. Robert Clinton, *The Making of a Leader*. Colorado Springs, Colorado: NavPress, 1992. Pp57-75, 99-124.

Or another similar title to be announced.

ASSIGNMENTS AND ASSESSMENT:

1. **Book Report:** Students will write a three-page report on the readings for the course. Summarize the main points of each author briefly. Then, comment on what you found most helpful, what resonated with your context in Malaysia and what did not, areas of disagreement with the readings, etc. Share two things you will try to do differently as a result of doing this reading. (20%).
2. **Case Study In-Class Presentation:** Students will prepare a written case study that succinctly describes a familiar or typical scenario to illustrate one of the Leadership modules covered in the course. Include questions for discussion and lead the discussion. Follow the model presented in class for good case study development. Students will prepare and teach one case study discussion in class, and, based upon feedback received, will improve and adapt that case study and present it in a congregational training setting within one month of the course. The final case study (1/2 page), and a 1 page self evaluation and reflection will be turned in after the presentation. (20%)
3. **Master level students only | Ministry Assessment:** Students will do a 2 page assessment of their own church or ministry context setting, identifying strengths and weaknesses of the current leadership recruitment/development process, using terms and concepts covered in the readings and the class presentations and discussions. Identify potential suggestions to strengthen the development of current and future leaders. (20%)
4. **Master level students only | Congregational or Organizational Use of a Sketch of Leadership:** Students will prepare one leadership training module from the Sketches of Leadership resources used in class for use in a congregational or organizational training setting, using their own case study instead of or in addition to the case study/exercise provided. A one page self evaluation will be submitted after the presentation. (10%)
5. **Leadership Development Self-Reflection and Growth Plan:** Students will reflect on their own process of leadership development, identifying at least (1) one person who has shaped them and (2) one passage of scripture that has been key in their development. (3 pages) What issues were addressed, and in what way? What roles did the person play (coach, mentor, trainer, teacher, etc)? What would you like to replicate and what might you want to change? Based on the course content and discussions, what is your growth plan for your leadership in the coming year? (20%)
6. Attendance at all class sessions is mandatory, as is enthusiastic participation in class discussions and exercises. Grade will be reduced for unexcused absences. (10%)

ASSIGNMENT DUE DATES:

* Book report on readings due the fifth day of class, July 28.
* Original Case study due the seventh day of class for use in class, July 21.
* Ministry Assessment due the final day of class, July 28.
* Remaining assignments due the last week of term.

**Course Schedule:**

* **July 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21, 27, 28 (Mondays and Tuesdays 7:00 – 10:00PM)**
* **July 11 and 25 (Saturdays, 9:30AM – 12:30PM)**

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| **Day** | **TOPIC** | **Sketches** | **Sketch Topics, Passages; Other Handouts. Relevant Course Reading Material** |
| 1  7/6 | **Introduction**  **Leader as Shepherd**  Caring for the Flock | 1 | God as Shepherd; Ps 23, John 10. To be a shepherd you must have a shepherd. |
| 2 | The Call of a Shepherd; John 21:15-19, Ezekiel 34 |
| Book | Wright, *Relational Leadership* |
| 2  7/7 | **Leader as Servant**  Building Trust | 3 | The Leader Leads by Serving; Mark 1:40-44, Mark 5:24-32 |
| 4 | The Leader Serves by Leading; John 13:1-17. |
| 5 | The Leader Serves by Leading; Mark 10:41-45 |
| Book | Greenleaf, *Servant Leadership* |
| 3  7/11 | **Leader as Patient**  God serves and heals us even as he calls us into ministry | 11 | Relationship with God; Psalm 50:1-7, Isaiah 64:4, Luke 12:35-38; Acts 17:22-25 |
| 12 | Motivation for Discipleship; Mark 8:34-38, Mark 10:29-31, Mark 10:41-45 |
| 13 | Why Did Jesus go to the Cross? Mark 10:41-45, Hebrews 12:1-2, Philippians 2:5-11 |
| 4  7/13 | **Leader as Sage**  God offers wisdom to  those who lead | 34 | Good Question Asking; Mark passages: Jesus asks questions. Listening skills. |
| 35 | Wisdom and Leadership; 1 Kings 3:5-28; James 1:5-8. Gentle Influence. |
| Book | Lamb, *The Pursuit of God in the Company of Friends*, especially pp 105-143. |
| **Writing Case Studies** |  | Case Study Workshop: Why and How to design case studies.  Handouts: Case Studies for Leadership Training, 5 Dysfunctions of a Team |
| 5  7/14 | **Leader as Steward**  Delegation & Execution | 22 | Standing in the Gap with Prayer and Planning; Nehemiah 1:1-2:8 |
| **Situational Leadership**  Choosing the right  leadership style | 10 | Leadership Styles; Mark 1:17-19, 35-38; Mark 4:10-13, 24-25; Mark 6:6-13, 30; Matt 28:18-20. Situational Leadership Insights from the ministry of Jesus. |
| Book | Hersey, *Situational Leadership* |
| 6  7/20 | **Leader as Visionary**  Seeing the ministry  clearly and calling out  hope and commitment | 21 | The Leadership of King David; 1 Chronicles 29:1-14 |
| 23 | Leading with Vision; Haggai 1:1-15 |
| 26 | Preparing for Growth; 2 Kings 4:1-7 |
| 7  7/21 | **The Character of a Leader**  Ambition and Humility; burnout and its antidote; learning through failure. | 15 | Ambition and the Kingdom of God; Matthew 6:31-33, Mark 10:41-45, Luke 14:7-11; 1 Tim 3:1; James 3:13-16. |
| 18 | The Leader and Burnout; 1 Kings 19:1-18 |
| 48 | Successful Failure; Matthew 14:22-33. |
| Book | Clinton, *The Making of a Leader* |
| 8  7/25 | **Student Case Study Presentations and Discussion** |  | We will use student versions of assignment #2 for in-class presentations and discussions. Each student will, in small groups, lead discussion of their prepared case study and elicit responses from group members, and then present a brief summary of the discussion to the class. |
| 9  7/27 | **Models of Leadership**  Aaron vs Moses;  Multiplicative Ministry; Coach, Pastor, Manager | 16 | The Leadership of Aaron and Moses; Ex 32:1-29 |
| 47 | Leadership and Modeling; Acts 20:18-35, John 13:12-17 |
|  | Handouts: Multiple Potential Roles of a Supervisor; Training on Training |
| 10  7/28 | **Leader as Sentinel**  Addressing sin well so  people will change and  thank you. | 8 | Leader as Sentinel; Ezekiel 33:1-9; Hebrews 3:12-14 |
| 9 | The Sentinel in Conflict; 1 Samuel 25 |