PT 6000: BIBLICAL STEWARDSHIP & CHRISTIAN GENEROSITY

Summer Term Course 2014. 2 Semester Hours.
Class Schedule: Two Weekends. Fridays: 2:00pm – 9pm. Saturdays: 8:30am – 3:15pm
Visiting Professor: Gary G. Hoag, Ph.D. – EFCA, Generosity Monk

Office Hour: By Appointment Only.
Phone: 303-888-6052. Email: gary.hoag@generosymonk.com

The contents of this syllabus are subject to change until the first day of class.

Catalog Description
This course helps leaders understand biblical stewardship principles as a basis for encouraging Christian generosity. Students will explore the Scriptures alongside theological and professional writings to develop a personal philosophy of stewardship and a resource development plan for an organization or church.

Course Objectives
At the end of this course:
• Learners will be able to articulate stewardship themes from the Scriptures and discuss the implications of those themes for their lives and ministry.
• Learners will exhibit an extensive grasp of biblical stewardship principles by writing a philosophy of biblical stewardship paper.
• Learners will be positioned to encourage Christian generosity in the church context or other ministry organizational settings, locally, nationally or globally.
• Learners will complete a resource development project that demonstrates their ability to use a variety of resources and strategies to help people grow in the grace of giving.

Required Texts

Course Format
Sessions will be conducted in lecture with break out times for small group discussion, one-on-one interaction, or journaling in response to formational questions. Video clips are also integrated into the curriculum. In addition, students will also be exposed to a variety of resources found in the bibliography as those materials are referenced or speak to the material being delivered in the course.
Course Schedule

Friday #1
Course Overview
Biblical Stewardship and Christian Generosity from Global Perspective
Possessions in the Old Testament
Stuff in the Synoptic Gospels
Stewardship Exhortations and Examples in the Early Church

Saturday #1
Stewardship and Generosity in Church History
Stewardship and Generosity in the Church Today
Panel of Givers Lunch Forum:
“Understanding Biblical Stewardship & Practicing Christian Generosity”
Project #1 – Preparation and Discussion

Friday #2
Encouraging Christian Generosity: Different Visions, Roles and Responsibilities
Transforming Stewards in the Church Context
Increasing Participation in your Parachurch Ministry
Seven Deadly Sins of Christian Fundraising

Saturday #2
Historical Lessons and Best Practices for Church and Parachurch Settings
Integrity in Christian Fundraising, Course Evaluations, Panel and Pizza Lunch Forum
Panel of Practitioners Lunch Forum:
“More than Raising Money: Encouraging Stewards to be Rich toward God”
Project #2 – Preparation and Discussion

Course Expectations
All students must complete these requirements (100 points = 100 percent):
1. Attend all four days of class and participate in discussions: 20 points/20% of final grade.
2. Complete the reading on time: 30 points/30% of final grade.
Show up, speak up, do your reading and demonstrate thoughtful interaction with the Scriptures and the reading material, you will succeed! Grading will follow these ranges:

100-94 = A
93-90 = A-
89-87 = B+
86-84 = B
83-80 = B-
(same distribution in 70’s and 60’s for C’s and D’s. All grades below 60 = F)

Assignments
Reading is due before class begins on these dates. Papers must be emailed to the professor at gary.hoag@generositymonk.com on the dates below. Late papers will lose five points per day.
Due before Friday #1 of class – Read: Neither Poverty Nor Riches
Due before Saturday #1 of class – Read: Treasure Principle
Due by the Wednesday before Friday #2 – Email: Philosophy of Biblical Stewardship Paper
Due before Friday #2 of class – Read: The Sower and Spirituality of Fundraising
Due before Saturday #2 of class – Read: Revolution in Generosity (any five chapters)
Due ten days after the last day of class – Email: Resource Development Paper
Due ten days after the last day of class – Email: Report of Reading done on schedule
Project #1
Philosophy of Biblical Stewardship Paper
In this paper, you must articulate your philosophy of biblical stewardship that serves as a basis for the practice of Christian generosity. Essentially your job is to demonstrate a grasp of the biblical themes that emerge in the OT, Gospels and Early Church, and describe they relate to your life personally and your practice professionally. As these areas have been largely formed by your family, your church tradition, and more broadly by the culture, the goal here is to explore the Scriptures and declare what you believe. This will shape the rest of your life and leadership.

This paper should be 8-10 pages in length citing Scriptures and saints through the century whose thinking has shaped your own. Additionally, all papers must include a one-page stewardship summary that could be adopted by your church or parachurch organization as a corporate stewardship statement.

Project #2
Resource Development Plan
For this project, you must craft a resource development plan for your actual or a hypothetical church or parachurch ministry setting. Your plan must include the spiritual and strategic work required of leaders who want to do move beyond raising up gifts to raising up givers to be rich toward God. In addition to citing relevant Scriptures, you must cite insights gained from your reading and best practice research as well as pitfalls to avoid in your chosen ministry context.

This project should be 8-10 pages in length. Your plan must include background information, current ministry focus, as well as strategic initiatives, goals and objectives to be implemented. As an alternative to presenting it in paper form, students may create a web-based project, but they will also be required to submit a paper which explains the thinking behind the its development and the plan for implementation, again, explaining the rationale behind it.

Other Resources on Biblical Stewardship and Christian Generosity:

Blomberg, Craig L. Preaching the Parables: From Responsible Interpretation to Powerful


Link, E.G. "Jay".  Spiritual Thoughts on Material Things: 30 Days of Food for Thought.  2009.


NIV Stewardship Study Bible: Discovering God's Design for Life, the Environment, Finances,


**Website Resources**

10K Wizard SEC Filings – [www.10kwizard.com](http://www.10kwizard.com)
Acton Institute – [www.acton.org](http://www.acton.org)
Alban Institute – [www.alban.org](http://www.alban.org)
American Association of Fundraising Counsel (Giving U.S.A.) – [www.aafrc.org](http://www.aafrc.org)
Association of Fundraising Professionals – [www.nsfre.org](http://www.nsfre.org)
Association of Prospect Researchers for Advancement – [www.aprahome.org](http://www.aprahome.org)
Barna Research – [www.barna.org](http://www.barna.org)
Benevon – [www.benevon.com](http://www.benevon.com)
Boardsource – [www.boardsource.org](http://www.boardsource.org)
Christian Leadership Alliance – [www.christianleadershipalliance.com](http://www.christianleadershipalliance.com)
Ecumenical Stewardship Center – [www.stewardshipresources.org](http://www.stewardshipresources.org)
Eternal Perspective Ministries – [www.epm.org](http://www.epm.org)
Foundations On-line – [wwwFOUNDATIONS.ORG](http://www.foundations.org)
Generous Giving – [www.generousgiving.org](http://www.generousgiving.org)
Good Sense Ministry – [www.goodsenseministry.com](http://www.goodsenseministry.com)
Guidestar (The National Database of Nonprofit Organizations) – [www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org)
Maximum Generosity – [www.kluth.org](http://www.kluth.org)
Money for Ministry – [www.moneyforministry.com](http://www.moneyforministry.com)
National Committee on Planned Giving – [www.ncpg.org](http://www.ncpg.org)
Ronald Blue & Co., LLC – [www.ronblue.com](http://www.ronblue.com)
The Foundation Center – [www.fdncenter.org](http://www.fdncenter.org)
The Fundraising School – [www.philanthropy.iupui.edu](http://www.philanthropy.iupui.edu)
The NonProfit Times – [www.nptimes.com](http://www.nptimes.com)

Related Websites:
[www.StewardshipMinistries.org](http://www.StewardshipMinistries.org)
[www.IssacharInitiative.org](http://www.IssacharInitiative.org)
Other Resources from Gary Hoag, Generosity Monk
Visit www.generositymonk.com to subscribe to my daily email Meditations and to download resources such as my stewardship and resource development bibliography, articles that encourage Christian generosity and other materials.