



**MARANATHA**  
BAPTIST SEMINARY

**MARANATHA BAPTIST SEMINARY**  
**DOCTOR OF MINISTRY**  
**DPA 804 – Evangelism and Church Planting**  
**Class Syllabus**  
**Dr. Bruce McAllister**  
**September 20-24, 2021**

### **COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

A study of the work of the gospel in the New Testament, with instruction and examples of preaching and teaching the gospel, growing local churches, challenging churches to discover where the needs are greatest around them, and planting new churches in areas of greatest need.

This course will focus largely upon the process of planting churches with a heart to effectively evangelize the lost and disciple believers.

### **COURSE TEXTBOOKS:**

#### **Required:**

Clifton, Clint. *Church Planting Thresholds*. New City Network, 2016. Purchase the book. It is also available as an audio book. 229 pages

McNamara, Roger N. and Ken Davis. *The YBH Handbook of Church Planting: A Practical Guide to Church Planting*. Cleveland: Baptist Mid-Missions, 2005. Xulon Press. 656 pages. (Considered the best book today by the professor on church planting).

McAllister, M. Bruce. *Church Planting*. Greenville, SC: Bob Jones University, 1995, 2004. This text will be sent electronically to students who have enrolled in this course. Property of Bruce McAllister. This will form the core of the course notes. 206 pages.

**Optional:** Privett, Michael R., *Why On Earth Are There Churches? The Biblical Mission of the Local Church*. Bloomington, IN: WestBowPress, 2012. 164 pages. This book can count toward the 800 pages of outside reading and can typically be found on Amazon. [www.michaelprivett.com](http://www.michaelprivett.com)

**DOCTOR OF MINISTRY OUTCOMES:** By the time a student finishes the Doctor of Ministry degree, he should be able to demonstrate clearly and biblically the following outcomes. This course will focus on the third outcome.

1. **Written Communication.** Students will write correctly and cohesively with compelling argumentation.
2. **Oral Communication.** Students will articulate ideas clearly and dynamically in public speaking.
3. **Critical Analysis.** Students will evaluate concepts from a biblical worldview with logical reasoning and intellectual honesty.
4. **Biblical Interpretation.** Students will interpret Scripture using the historical-grammatical method with careful attention to the immediate and broad biblical context.
5. **Servant Leadership.** Students will apply the principles of biblical servant leadership.

#### **COURSE OBJECTIVES:**

1. This course will prepare the student to personally plant a church, to lead an established church to plant a church, and to teach others how to plant a church.
2. This course will provide the student with a thorough understanding of church planting and development through the first five years.
3. This course will offer in-depth reading resources and a forum for in-depth discussion about the process of church planting with the teacher, students, and guest church planters.
4. This course will require the student to write a dynamic project related to the advancement of the gospel through church planting and development.

#### **CLASS SCHEDULE and ASSIGNMENTS:**

##### **A Summary of Course Requirements**

1. Reading:
  - a. Read 2000 pages on church planting. Approximately 1100 pages come from the three course textbooks.
    - i. Please identify five or more key ideas from each chapter that you believe are very important to church planting. In addition, please identify any questions or concerns you have about what you are reading. We will discuss these in our class. Please be prepared to submit these in electronic form. Your class participation is important. Five Key Ideas Due September 18, 2021.
    - ii. Please write a one-page single-spaced evaluation of each of the required course textbooks. These summaries are due September 18, 2021.

- b. Read through the book of Acts twice in preparation for writing a biblical theology of church planting from Acts and the epistles. You may count this as 50 pages for each time you read Acts. Be looking for how the apostles and others carried out the Great Commission through evangelism, discipleship, and church planting. These 100 pages of reading will count toward your 2000 pages of required reading. Please record these pages on the Final Reading Report. This reading is due November 12, 2021.
- c. Read an additional 800 pages of material in books, journals, or online that is relevant to church planting, church ministry, and church administration. You may include reading on evangelism and discipleship. You do not necessarily have to read full books; partially reading a relevant book or section of a book is fine. Please list each written resource from which you read and write a one-paragraph summary of what you read including how helpful the reading was to you. The point of this reading is to build the tools in your church ministry and church planting toolbox. Please put all the summary paragraphs in one document. Please list the pages read on the Final Reading Report. The summary paragraphs and the pages read are due November 12, 2021.
  - i. Carefully estimate the equivalent of a page of reading online that would equal a page of reading in one of our three required textbooks. Provide a one paragraph summary of your online reading from each website you read from and the estimated number of pages you read.
  - ii. Please include in your reading a variety of articles, books, or e-books available at the following websites: (Take your time browsing these websites.)
  - iii. <http://bmmschoolofchurchplanting.org/church-planting-resources> Baptist Mid-Missions School of Church Planting (these are the same people who produced the *Y-B-H Handbook of Church Planting*, one of our textbooks). These resources reflect a fundamental Baptist perspective overall and are well done.
  - iv. <https://store.christianlaw.org/bookstore> Christian Law Association. Dr. David Gibbs, Jr. Note the resources for church planting and legal issues.

This organization focuses upon serving fundamental Baptist church and ministries.

- v. <https://store.churchlawandtax.com/> Church Law and Tax Store. This reputable church legal and financial agency serves the broader church in the USA. Become familiar with these exceptional resources.
  - vi. You may also read from various church planting training and church planting networks websites. Please read with much discernment.
2. Prepare a major course project on church planting drawing upon the course textbooks, class discussions, websites, and interviews. See below. Due December 3, 2021. A student may want to review other projects early in the posting process to help improve weak areas of their own project. A student may not plagiarize another student's work but may benefit from areas of excellence that are reflected in another student's Church Planting Portfolio.
  3. Make final adjustments or improvements to the Church Planting Course project and upload the updated project updated Project Due by December 13<sup>th</sup>.
  4. Post your Course project on the Discussion Forum for students in the class to evaluate. Each student must evaluate at least two projects and reply by December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

### **Church Planting Course Project**

Prepare a highly professional, single-spaced prospectus for the planting and development of a new church. Use 12-point font. The length of this project should be 20-25 pages. The project should be visually attractive for presenting to a mother church, a church planting agency, and prospective donors. Writing style should be crisp, clear, and compelling. Write in active voice. Demonstrate that you have assimilated much from the required course reading and classroom instruction and discussion. Design your pagination to keep each major item to one to two pages. Start each new item with a bold heading at the top of a new page. You do not need to include footnotes. Refer to resources sparingly unless you directly quote. When directly quoting, providing a reference in parenthesis to the author and page number is sufficient (e.g., McNamara, p. 238). This project will be graded using the grading scale on the Church Planting Course Project Rubric which is project specific.

Include the following in your project:

1. **A biblical theology for planting local church** from Acts and the epistles including biblical support for evangelism and discipleship. Convince the reader that church planting is essential to fulfilling the Great Commission.
2. **Your mission and vision statement** for the new church in no more than one page. Describe the essence of biblical local church ministry in clear and understandable terms. This should be derived from your biblical theology of a what a local church is to be. But it is not meant to be a overflowing with Bible verse references.
3. **Description of the town, city, suburb, or rural area and why you believe a church should be started there.** (2 pages is acceptable) Include demographic information and an analysis of the other types of churches and denominations already present in the community. You may use or adapt the city map profile as a basis for this section.
4. **Personal profile of yourself and your wife** and children (if you wish) explaining your gifts, interests, and burden for this area. (1-2 pages) Describe how the Lord has prepared you for this effort. If you do not view yourself as the lead church planter/pastor, then describe how you all can serve as part of the church planting team. This section could be similar to a resume and biographical profile combined. See <https://gfamissionsjobs.org/blog/1098/writing-a-ministry-resume-and-biographical-profile>
5. **Church planting model or combination of models** that you will use in your church plant. Include discussion of your financial support plan for your family and any possible team members. Provide a simple budget for the full-time church planter's family. Discuss your pre-planting fundraising plans. Explain how other members of the team will be supported or support themselves.
6. **Timetable for the first three years** of church planting. Give the order and approximate timeframe that you have in mind for accomplishing the major goals.
7. **Church budget and business procedures.** Describe how you will collect offerings, count offerings, who will handle both receipts, disbursements, and bookkeeping. Describe your internal controls and what software you may use with your church finances. Provide a simple church budget for the first year (rental, salary, etc.).
8. **Church constitution and government.** Summarize your church's doctrinal statement, church covenant, church polity, key officers, and other aspects to be covered in your constitution. There is no need to develop or include an actual church constitution. If there is a church constitution that you plan to use or adapt you may note the name of the church and city/state of its origin. Explain how church decisions will be made during the first year of operation.
9. **Plan for community evangelism and church discipleship.** Set forth your plan to make the community aware of your new church. Explain your short term and long-term plans for community outreach, relationship development, personal evangelism and discipleship methods, and biblical counseling. Note what type of literature you will use and how technology plays into your strategy. Describe how you will follow up on those visiting your church services.
10. **Worship Services.** Describe your approach to and goals for your Sunday morning service and other services or small group fellowship meetings you plan to have each week. Provide a simple order of service for Sunday morning and the type of music you will use

including instrumentation. Include how a sample time schedule of Sunday morning activities from the time of arrival through leaving the building. If you are starting with a limited number of services, then explain how you plan to expand the number of services over time. Include your church educational program and nursery plans.

11. **Preaching approach and plan.** Explain your method(s) and style of preaching and teaching in the services of the new church. List the books of the Bible and topics that you envision preaching on in the first year of church planting. Briefly describe why you are choosing this approach and plan.
12. **Your personal weekly schedule** as a church planter. Lay out your weekly schedule of seven twenty-four-hour days. This schedule should reflect the early months of church planting ministry as you seek to reach out to the community, prepare to lead services and preach and teach, engage in personal ministry and fellowship with people who are attending the new church, serve your wife and children, and find sufficient rest and exercise for productive life and ministry. Total the number of hours in each category for the week. Comment upon your plans for vacations or brief getaways during the first year of ministry.
13. **Application of this project and church planting course to your current ministry.** Write a two-page summary of how the things you have learned by doing this project and taking this course can immediately apply to your current ministry. Note areas of additional understanding and expertise you would like to personally pursue through exposure to concepts or resources from this course.
14. **One-page summary of your vision for planting this new church.** Since you have now written the details of your church planting plans you should now summarize your plans in one-page for use in mailings or as a handout. The wording could be the basis on a three-to-five minute verbal summary in churches or in conversation. Be clear and convincing about the need and potential for this church plant and how you believe that God has called, gifted and prepared you and your wife to plant this church.
15. **One-page summary of how you would teach someone else to plant a church.** Describe how you as an experienced church planter and pastor would transfer your church planting vision to others. What resources would you direct them toward? How would you envision instructing them? What experiences would you direct them toward? What would convince you that they are ready to plant their own church?

#### **COURSE CALENDAR:**

Read required textbooks as pre-course work	August 23-September 19
Textbook Reading Summaries	Due Sept. 18, 2021
Textbook Five Key Ideas per Chapter	Due September 18, 2021
Reading- Acts 2x, 800 pages	Due November 12, 2021
800-page reading paragraph summaries in one document	Due November 12, 2021
Initial Church Planting Project & Post	Due December 3, 2021
Final Church Planting Project	Due December 13, 2021

Church Planting Project Evaluations	Due December 17, 2021
Final Reading Report form with ALL reading pages listed	Due December 17, 2021

**GRADING:**

Reading (2000+ pages) (800 pg. Paragraph Summaries)	15%
Textbook Reports and Summaries	10%
Class Participation	5%
Initial Church Planting Project	25%
Final Church Planting Project	40%
Post-Class CP Project Evaluations	5%

GRADING SCALE	
94-100	A
92-93	A-
90-91	B+
85-89	B
83-84	B-
81-82	C+
75-80	C
73-74	C-
64-72	D
0-63	F

**ADA POLICY:**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, the law requires that all students with disabilities be given a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact the Academic Success Program Director, in the Library, (ph. 920/206-2340) or email [academicsuccess@mbu.edu](mailto:academicsuccess@mbu.edu) .

## **ACADEMIC SUCCESS CENTER:**

One source for academic help in any course is the Academic Success Center. If you require specific targeted academic help for any reason contact the Academic Success Center located in the Cedarholm Library. If you would like more information regarding targeted academic help, please contact the Academic Success Center director at [academicsuccess@mbu.edu](mailto:academicsuccess@mbu.edu).

### **CONTACTS:**

#### **PROFESSOR:**

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Email: [online@mbu.edu](mailto:online@mbu.edu)

#### **IT SUPPORT**

920-206-2322

There is a link on [my.mbu.edu](http://my.mbu.edu) to email IT Support ([support@mbu.edu](mailto:support@mbu.edu))

## **TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS:**

Please see the [SPECS page \(https://www.mbu.edu/specs/\)](https://www.mbu.edu/specs/) for computer information. Most newer computers will work for taking classes in the Seminary. Please make sure that if you are a virtual student you have both a working microphone and camera in or with your computer. Please also have a good set of headphones to use while in class. This helps eliminate feedback.



## BIBLIOGRAPHY

Please see *Church Planting Bibliography* in Appendix A for Dr. Ken Davis's recommended titles (used by permission).

Also see <https://gfamissionsjobs.org/churches> 15 articles by Dr. McAllister can be found under the link "Helps" or "Helps for Churches and Candidates."

Also see [Candidates · GFA Church Staffing \(gfamissionsjobs.org\)](#) and look for the "Resources" category for books and websites. Students can read up to 100 pages from these resources for credit toward the 800 additional pages of reading. Church planters, pastors, and church leadership often overlook the importance of envisioning the day when pastoral leadership could change. These valuable resources are designed to help churches and candidates during transitions.

## Appendix A - Used by Permission

# CHURCH PLANTING BIBLIOGRAPHY

RECOMMENDED TITLES—UPDATED APRIL 2021

Compiled by Dr. Ken Davis

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❖ Top North American Texts

☞ Top Overseas/ Cross Cultural Texts

▣ Best Parenting Daughter Church Resources

Addison, Steve. *Movements That Change the World*. Smyrna, DE: Missional Press, 2009.

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Downers Grove, IL: IVP Books, 2015

Allen, Roland. *Missionary Methods: St. Paul's or Ours?* Grand Rapids, Eerdmans, 1962 [=1927].

Andrews, Brett & Dale Spaulding. *Launch Strong: A Planning Guide for Becoming a Multiplying Church*. Exponential, 2016.

Arment, Ben. *Church in the Making: What Makes or Breaks a New Church Before it Starts*. Nashville, TN: B & H Publishing, 2010.

❖ Becker, Paul, Jim Carpentar & Mark Williams. *The New Dynamic Church Planting Handbook*.  
Vista, CA: Dynamic Church Planting International, 1992. (Order online at  
[www.dcp.org](http://www.dcp.org) or call 800.355.0431)

▣ Becker, Paul and Mark Williams. *The Dynamic Daughter Church Planting Handbook*.  
Escondido, CA: DCPI, 1999. (Call 800.355.0431 or order at [www.dcp.org](http://www.dcp.org) )

Benesh: Sean. *Metrospiritual: The Geography of Church Planting*. Resource Publications, 2011.

❖ Bennardo, Tom. *The Honest Guide to Church Planting: What No One Ever Tells You About Planting and Leading a New Church*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Reflective, 2019.

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Focus, 2011.

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Bergquist, Linda and Michael D. Crane. *City Shaped Churches: Planting Churches in the Global Era*. Skyforest, CA: Urban Loft Publishers, 2018.

❖ Bloye, Brian and Amy. *It's Personal: Surviving and Thriving on the Journey of Church Planting*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2012.

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❖ Christopherson, Jeff. *Kingdom First: Starting Churches That Shape Movements*. Nashville, TN: B & H Publishing, 2015.

❖ Clifton, Clint. *Church Planting Thresholds: A Gospel-Centered Guide*. Lulu Publishing Services/ New City Network, 2016. [www.newcityplanting.org](http://www.newcityplanting.org) (highly recommended)

\_\_\_\_\_. *Church Planting Primer. Why New Churches are Needed and How They are Started*. New City Network, 2017. [www.newcityplanting.org](http://www.newcityplanting.org)

Clifton, Mark. *Reclaiming Glory: Revitalizing Dying Churches*. Nashville, TN; B&H, 2016.

Cole, Neil. *Organic Church: Growing Faith Where Life Happens*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2005.

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❖ Cooper, Michael T. *Ephesiology: A Study of the Ephesian Movement*. Littleton, CO: William Carey Publishing, 2020.

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