PT7054: Biblical Stewardship & Christian Generosity
(2 or 3 credits)

Visiting Professor: Gary G. Hoag, Ph.D.
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Class Schedule: June 22-24, 29-30 – 9:00am to 5:00pm. June 25, July 1 – 9am-2:30pm.
Office Hours: Lunch Hours on June 22-24 and 29-30

I. Course 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.

II. Course Objective
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.

III. Textbooks
Required Books (for 2 Credit Students)
Nouwen, Henri. Spirituality of Fundraising. New York: Henri Nouwen Society, 2004. (Free PDF will be made available to all students who enroll)

Required Books (for 3 Credit Students)
Nouwen, Henri. Spirituality of Fundraising. New York: Henri Nouwen Society, 2004. (Free PDF will be made available to all students who enroll)

Other Recommended Books

**IV. Course Requirements & Grading**

Students are required to read four books and write two papers in addition to attending class and engaging in discussion. The assignments will be graded as follows (100 points = 100 percent):

1. Attend all seven days of class and participate in discussions: 20 points/20% of final grade.
2. Read all four books before class starts on June 22: 30 points/30% of final grade.
3. Write a *Philosophy of Biblical Stewardship* Paper (6-8 pages for 3 credit students and 4-6 pages for 2 credit students): 25 points/25% of final grade.
4. Design a *Resource Development Plan* (6-8 pages for 3 credit students and 4-6 pages for 2 credit students): 25 points/25% 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:

97-100 = A (4.0) 94-below 97 = A- (3.7) 90-below 94 = B+ (3.3) 87-below 90 = B (3.0)
84-below 87 = B- (2.7) 80-below 84 = C+ (2.3) 77-below 80 = C (2.0) 74-below 77 = C- (1.7)
70-below 74 = D+ (1.3) 65-below 70 = D (1.0) 60-below 65 = D- (0.7) Below 60 = F (0.0)
Reading is due before class begins on June 22. Your papers (Projects #1 and #2 below) must be uploaded on turnitin.com by the dates listed below. Late papers will lose two points per day.

**Project #1 – Philosophy of Biblical Stewardship Paper** – Due on June 28
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 in the rest of the New Testament, 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. You must cite Scriptures and saints through the century whose thinking has shaped yours.

This paper should be 6-8 pages in length for 3 credit students and 4-6 pages in length for 2 credit students. The paper should be double spaced with Times New Roman size 11 font. All papers must include a one-page stewardship summary that could be adopted by your church or parachurch organization as a corporate stewardship statement. A sample paper will be shared in the classroom discussion time regarding this assignment.

**Project #2 – Resource Development Plan** – Due on July 8
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 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 paper should be 6-8 pages in length for 3 credit students and 4-6 pages in length for 2 credit students. The paper should be double spaced with Times New Roman size 11 font. 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.

- **Attendance**
  In order for the student to get credit, he/she has to attend more than 3/4 of the classes. Otherwise, the student will get an F.
  - Absences for the following reasons may be regarded exceptional with handing in the Report of Absence to the teaching professor (the form needs a seal from the office before it goes to the professor). However, if the total number of absences including the following cases is 1/3 of the classes or more, the student will receive an F.
    1. Death of Grandparents, parents, spouse or parents-in-law, siblings, or children
    2. Call up for military service
    3. When the student participates in TTGU’s special event with the approval of the Dean of Academic Programs – for the number of days the Dean of Academic Programs approves
    4. Natural disaster
    5. Traffic Accident / Hospitalization
Minimum Passing Grade
- D- (60 or over) is the minimum passing grade for M.Div./M.T.S. students
- C- (74 or over) for M.A./M.Ed./Th.M. students
- B (87 or over) for Ph.D. students
- P for P/NP courses

V. Daily Schedule & Assignments
June 21 – Students must have read all four required books before classes begin. Please note the required books are different for 2 and 3 credit students.
June 23 – Lecture and Discussion: The Teachings of Jesus on Money and Possessions in the Synoptic Gospels
June 24 – Lecture and Discussion: Stewardship Exhortations and Examples in the Early Church
June 28 – Project #1 due and uploaded on turnitin.com
June 29 – Lecture and Discussion: Encouraging Christian Generosity: Different Visions, Roles and Responsibilities, Transforming Stewards in the Church Context
June 30 – Lecture and Discussion: Increasing Participation in your Parachurch Ministry, Seven Deadly Sins of Christian Fundraising
July 1 – Lecture and Discussion: Historical Lessons and Best Practices for Church and Parachurch Settings, Panel of Practitioners Lunch Forum: “More than Raising Money: Encouraging Stewards to be Rich toward God”, Project #2 – Preparation and Discussion
July 8 – Project #2 due and uploaded on turnitin.com

Academic Integrity Policy

The faculty and administration of Torch Trinity take academic integrity very seriously and will not tolerate cheating (on exams and quizzes) or plagiarism. All cases of cheating or plagiarism must be reported to the Dean of Chapel and Student Life and informed to the Dean of Academic Programs, and if necessary, further investigated. The Student Life & Scholarship Committee determines guilt or innocence according to a rigorous procedure. The following are the administrative actions prescribed by the faculty for those caught cheating or plagiarizing:

1. Administrative Actions for Cheating
   A. For the first offense of cheating during the student's enrollment at Torch Trinity, the following procedures are applied:
      1) An automatic "F" letter grade for the class.
      2) The student offender will meet with the Dean of Chapel and Student Life and sign an Acknowledgement of Integrity Infraction form.
      3) The guilty student may not be considered for merit scholarships and TSMS scholarships from the following semester.
   B. For the second offense of cheating during the student's enrollment at Torch Trinity, the student will be permanently dismissed from the school.
2. Administrative Actions for Plagiarism

A. **For the first offense of plagiarism** during the student's enrollment at Torch Trinity, the following procedures are applied:

1) An automatic "F" letter grade for the paper. Rewriting is not permitted.
2) Student should re-read the article (Chang, Steven S. H. “The Problem of Plagiarism: A guide for Students and Educators of Theology” TTJ 8, no. 1 (Nov. 2005): 201-218 [downloadable from TTGU website], and write a paper on “Plagiarism and Christian Ministry” of about 750 words or 3 pages double-spaced.

B. **For the second offense of plagiarism** during the student's enrollment at Torch Trinity, the following procedures are applied:

1) A permanent “F” letter grade for the entire course. Retaking the course will not replace the “F” grade. The failed course and the retaken course grades will both be calculated in the student’s cumulative grade point average.
2) The guilty student may not be considered for merit scholarships and TSMS scholarships from the following semester.

[* PhD program: B. **For the second offense of plagiarism** during the student's enrollment at Torch Trinity, the offending student is permanently dismissed from the school.*]

C. **For the third offense of plagiarism** during the student's enrollment at Torch Trinity, the offending student is permanently dismissed from the school.

* For each offence mentioned above, a copy of the Acknowledgement of Integrity Infraction form signed by the offender will be placed in the student's permanent file and the record should be kept at the Office of Chapel and Student Life.
* The student guilty of first-time cheating or second-time plagiarism may not be eligible for recognition of merit at graduation.
* The student offender will be automatically removed from any official position, such as student council leadership, chapel worship team, etc. for at least one semester.

Note: The faculty and administration have decided to require that all student papers be submitted to www.turnitin.com as of Fall 2007.

“I acknowledge that I have read and accept the TTGU Academic Integrity Covenant and will abide by the provisions and penalties therein.”