

THE CHRISTIAN MINISTER AND MINISTRY

Course Description

A practical course on the life of the minister (stressing personal, domestic, and ecclesiastical qualifications) and the work of the ministry (stressing the pastor as preacher, teacher, evangelist, visitor, worship leader, manager, and peacemaker).

Course Learning Objectives

1. Be aware of the high calling of the ministry of the Word.
2. Understand the scriptural qualifications for the ministry.
3. Be able to evaluate one's call to the ministry.
4. Develop a biblical theology and overview of the work of preaching.
5. Understand the essential elements of being an able teacher.
6. Develop a theology of evangelism and be equipped to organize a congregation for evangelism.
7. Be equipped to do pastoral visitation and how to organize elders for this work.
8. Develop a biblical theology of worship and be able to plan and lead a worship service.
9. Be able to organize a church for effective ministry.
10. Be able to prioritize and make effective use of time.

Required Reading

John Armstrong, ed., *Reforming Pastoral Ministry*, chaps. 1-3, 7-10, 12-14

Charles Bridges, *The Christian Ministry*, pp. 1-183, 344-383

Samuel Logan, ed., *Preachers and Preaching*, chaps. 1-4, 6, 14, 16-17

Thomas Murphy, *Pastoral Theology* or John MacArthur, Jr., *Rediscovering Pastoral Ministry*

Charles Spurgeon, *Lectures to My Students*, First Series, chaps. 1-3, 11-13

Recommended Reading

Jay Adams, *Shepherding God's Flock*, vol. 1

Richard Baxter, *The Reformed Pastor*

John Brown, ed., *The Christian Pastor's Manual*

John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, Book IV, Chapter III (pp. 1053-1068); Book IV, Chapter X, Sections 27-32 (pp. 1205-1210)

Edmund P. Clowney, *Called to the Ministry*

Patrick Fairbairn, *Pastoral Theology*

John Milton Gregory, *The Seven Laws of Teaching*

Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Preachers and Preaching*, chap. 6

John Mason, *The Student and Pastor*

William G.T. Shedd, *Homiletics and Pastoral Theology*, pp. 279-375

John R. W. Stott, *A Preacher's Portrait*

Peter White, *The Effective Pastor*

Assignments

1. Final exam: Covers lecture and reading material (50%).
2. A ten-page paper on an aspect of pastoral theology (50%). Approve subject with me.

The Christian Minister and Ministry

- (1) 1.04.13 → I. Introduction
 - A. Overall purpose
 - B. Specific goals
 - C. Overall outline
 - 1. The life of the minister
 - 2. The work of the minister

- II. The Life of the Minister
 - A. General introduction
 - 1. Importance of office-bearers
 - a. Appointed by God
 - b. Appointed for the church's well-being
 - i. Conversion
 - ii. Edification and nurture
 - (2) 1.19.50 → iii. Physical well-being
 - c. Necessity of office-bearers
 - d. Dignity of office-bearers
 - i. Object and nature of the work
 - ii. Fellow-laborers with God
 - 2. Importance of office-bearers
 - B. Personal qualifications
 - 1. "Who is sufficient for these things?"
 - 2. The necessity of holiness
 - a. For our own salvation
 - i. Our need for self-examination
 - ii. Our need for habitual acquaintance with God
 - (a) An enlarging acquaintance
 - (b) A varied acquaintance
 - c) An original acquaintance
 - (3) 1.19.56 → b. For our congregation's salvation: Modeling
 - 3. Cultivating a sanctified heart toward God
 - a. Despite numerous discouragements and obstacles
 - b. Through the ordinary means of grace diligently used
 - i. The supernatural grace of the Holy Spirit
 - ii. How to use the spiritual disciplines

- (a) God's Word
 - (i) Reading the Word
 - (ii) Meditating on the Word
 - (iii) Memorizing the Word
 - (iv) Singing the Word

(4) 1.22.20



- (b) Secret prayer
- c) Hearing sermons
- (d) Reading sound, biblical literature
- (e) The sacraments

(5) 1.19.04



- (f) Journaling (diary-keeping)
- (g) Spiritual fellowship (communion of saints)
- (h) Sabbath-keeping
- (i) Using our work
 - (i) Studying
 - (ii) Teaching
 - (iii) Writing
 - (iv) Preaching
 - (v) Evangelizing

(6) 1.18.57



- 4. Within the church
 - a. Morally blameless
 - b. Spiritually mature

(7) 1.23.53



- c. Physically temperate
- d. Patient
- e. Not covetous
- 5. Before the world
 - a. To avoid reproach to the gospel
 - b. To avoid temptation

(8) 1.20.57



- C. Domestic qualifications
 - 1. Managing the household

(9) 1.22.51



- 2. Having children in subjection
- 3. Hospitality

(10) 1.24.40



- D. Ecclesiastical qualifications
 - 1. Able to teach
 - 2. Able to rule
 - 3. Not a novice

- E. Coming full cycle--"Who is sufficient...?": Manner of conformity
 - 1. Comprehensive conformity

2. Imperfect conformity
3. Progressive conformity

(11) 1.17.46

III. The Work of the Minister

A. Titles

1. Pastor, shepherd, bishop
2. Preacher, herald, ambassador
3. Teacher
4. Evangelist
5. Watchman
6. Steward, lord of the household
7. Servant
8. Farmer, builder, soldier

B. Functions

1. Models

- a. The pastor as dictator
- b. The pastor as egalitarian
- c. The pastor as “indispensable”
- d. The pastor as builder

(12) 1.19.33

→ 2. The pastor as preacher

- a. The uniqueness of preaching
 - i. Unique communication
 - ii. Unique authority
 - iii. Unique function
 - iv. Unique power
- b. The manner of preaching
 - i. Diligently
 - ii. Plainly
 - iii. Faithfully
 - iv. Wisely
 - v. Zealously
 - vi. Sincerely
- c. Administering the sacraments

(13) 1.23.01



3. The pastor as teacher

a. Principles of pedagogy

(14) 1.28.29



- i. Gregory's seven laws
- ii. Teaching at proper level

- (15) 1.22.16 → iii. Teaching with direction
iv. Developing a program of education
aa. Adult education
bb. Discipleship
cc. Catechism and Sunday School

4. The pastor as evangelist
a. The importance of evangelism
b. The task of evangelism
c. The message of evangelism
i. Defective evangelism
ii. Essentials of evangelism
d. The method of evangelism
i. Total life
ii. Friendship

- (16) 1.24.55 → iii. Systematic
aa. Fostered by preaching
bb. Guiding the prayer meeting
cc. Facilitating congregational training
dd. Organizing neighborhood evangelism

5. The pastor as pastor
a. The definition and purpose of pastoral visitation
b. The types of pastoral visitation
i. Family visitation
aa. Organization for visits
bb. Getting started
cc. Sytematic
dd. Dignified
ee. Prayerful
ff. Discussion

- (17) 1.22.40 → gg. Conclusion
hh. Addendum: Eldership training
ii. Hospital visitation
aa. Pray and plan
bb. Listen, comfort, and apply

- (18) 1.19.41 → cc. Do's and don'ts

- (19) 1.25.44 → iii. Counseling visitation: Ten practical guidelines

6. The pastor as worship leader

(20) 1.22.12

- a. The theology of worship
 - i. The nature and duty of corporate worship
 - ii. Aspects of corporate worship
 - aa. The object of corporate worship
 - bb. The regulative principle of corporate worship
- (21) 1.23.04 → b. Corporate worship carried out
 - i. Elements of corporate worship
 - ii. Controversial matters in corporate worship
- c. The spiritual character of corporate worship
 - i. Heart worship
 - ii. Simple worship
 - iii. Reverent worship
- d. The corporateness of corporate worship
- e. The participatory character of corporate worship
- f. The purposeful character of corporate worship
- g. The historical character of corporate worship
- h. Planning worship
- (22) 1.18.57 → i. Leading worship
- 7. The pastor as manager
 - a. Purpose and goals
 - b. Structuring the church
 - c. The pastor's self-management

chr=1-40/chr2=outline/chrmin3=41-61/chrmin4=62-86/chrmin5=87-110/chrmin6=111-135/chrmin7=136-159/chrmin8=160-182/chrmin9=183-204