



Syllabus

Caring for People (M-04)

Text for this course:
The Dynamics of Pastoral Care
By David W Wiersbe

Course Requirements:

- Class attendance and participation. (No more than one absence without make-up.)
- Read the textbook.
- Writing a case study drawn from an experience with an individual or family member from their own life and/or ministry. (Change names, places, etc. to protect those directly involved.) Class time in sessions two-six will be set aside, at the instructor's discretion, for presentation and discussion. Some elements to be involved in a case study:
 - Persons involved (name, age, etc.)
 - Setting/situation
 - Presenting problem or dynamic
 - Ministry provided—possible ministry if dynamic has not been addressed
- Payment of all fees.
- Complete any additional assignments as given by the instructor.

Course Description and Purpose:

The Pastoral Ministry is a high and holy calling. It is also a demanding vocation. The call to serve as a pastor is shaped by the truth of Scripture and the experience of the church. The text "The Dynamics of Pastoral Care" and the course are about those activities engaged in on a regular basis by ministers to introduce people to Jesus Christ and nurture their relationships with Him. That means working with God's people who need protection and nourishment, encouragement and wisdom and guidance and support. As pastors practice the biblical principles for care of the congregation, God's power will, in time, make those efforts productive. How does the pastor care for the flock in a biblical way? The purpose of this course is to help you explore the possibilities. You will also be encouraged to share your own experiences in the various aspects of caring ministry and to learn from each other, from the instructor and the text on how to care for those who have been placed in your charge.

Suggested Course Schedule:

- Week One:** Chapter 1 Clarifying the Call (pages 17-24)
Chapter 2 Shepherding the Flock (pages 25-34)
- Week Two:** Chapter 3 Building Relationships (pages 35-41)
Chapter 4 Earning Trust (pages 42-54)
- Week Three:** Chapter 5 Serving (pages 55-63)
Chapter 6 Listening (pages 64-69)
- Week Four:** Chapter 7 Loving (pages 70-83)
Chapter 8 Visiting (pages 84-97)
- Week Five:** Chapter 9 Comforting (pages 98-106)
Chapter 10 Leading Worship (pages 107-117)
- Week Six:** Chapter 11 Celebrating (pages 118-129)
Chapter 12 Interceding (pages 130-152)

Note: Because of individual and group differences from site to site, the group is encouraged to do at least one lesson each week and more as time permits. The other lessons assigned for the week need to be done sometime during the week - individually or with a group. Most important for class time is the discussion and encouragement, which may reflect the previous week's lessons, as well as the topics listed under Course Requirements and Suggested Course Schedule.