

Greater Morning Star Apostolic Church Youth Ministry Curriculum

Practical Certificate (1.5 credits)

Message Development and Preparation

Course Description

God's given you a message, but you struggle to sort out the content. This course is for you. In this correspondence class, you will learn how to write and organize your sermons so that your message is concise, coherent, and clear. Students will prepare an outline, a purpose statement, and a short written sermon (one page). This required course is a must for youth ministers who want to have an effective and fluent delivery.

Objectives

At the completion of this course, the student will be able to discern the voice of God, know the difference between interpretation and revelation, recognize and apply spiritual disciplines, organize the subject matter (develop an outline), and learn to use and apply references (Expository Dictionary, Study Bibles, Concordance, etc.)

Recommended Outline

- I. Introduction**
 - a. **Overview of the Purpose of Ministry** (*Your ministry is your service to believers and your mission is your service to unbelievers*)
 - b. **Recognizing God's Voice and Not Your Own Ideas**
(*"My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me"*
– John 10:27)

- II. Interpretation vs. Revelation – God gives both**
 - a. **Interpretation** – to give meaning, an explanation of another's language, book, or dream; to gain understanding over a language or book and apply understanding and meaning to it.
 - i. *As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. (See Daniel 1:17)*
 - b. **Revelation** – to acquire knowledge that was previously unknown; disclosure of information to man by a divine or supernatural agency; manifestation of divine will or truth.
 - i. *Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven. - Daniel 2:19;*
 - ii. *He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him. – Daniel 2:22)*

- iii. *And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. – Matthew 16:17*

III. **Knowing your Subject Matter**

- a. **Researching the history of the topic or writer**
 - i. *Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things. – 2 Timothy 2:7*
 - ii. *Through thy precepts I get understanding – Psalm 119:104*
- b. **Who, What, Where, Why, and How does it apply today?**
 - i. *Wisdom is the principal thing; therefore get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding. – Proverbs 4:7*
- c. **Resources:** Expository Dictionary, Scofield Study Bible, KJV, Concordance, Dictionary and Websites

IV. **Organizing your Topic**

- a. **Brainstorming Techniques**
 - i. Free writing – jotting down every and any thing that comes to mind
 - ii. Listing and Bulleting –grouping aspects of the subject matter in a list
- b. **Defining and Developing an Outline**
 - i. Using headings and subheadings

V. **Spiritual Disciplines**

- a. **Prayer**
(Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice. – Psalm 55:17)
- b. **Fasting**
 - i. *(But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face; That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly. – Matthew 6:17-18)*
 - ii. *(Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the LORD shall be thy reward. -- Isaiah 58:6-8)*
- c. **Consecration**
 - i. *(But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy*

Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly. – Matthew 6:6)

- ii. *(And straightway he constrained his disciples to get into the ship, and to go to the other side before unto Bethsaida, while he sent away the people. And when he had sent them away, he departed into a mountain to pray. – Mark 6:45-46)*

d. **Study** - *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. – 2 Timothy 2:15*