

MIN 3310

Marriage and Family

Spring 2010

Instructor: Larry Hall

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**Bible, Marriage and Family
Instructor: Larry Hall**

**Thursdays
1:00 – 4:00 PM**

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**Available by appointment at AGST on Thursdays
(in Belton Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays)**

I. Course Goals

Through the successful completion of this course, the student will demonstrate familiarity with and a basic understanding of a) the general biblical narrative on Marriage and Family, and b) the key passages about Marriage and Family. Thus, the student will display a working knowledge and appreciation of the theological and practical foundations for healthy and God-glorifying marriages and families. The student will show insight and skill in applying this knowledge to teaching and counseling others as well as to the student's own family relationships. This awareness will be gained through lectures and other presentations, reading and reviewing assignments, group discussions, quizzes, exams, exercises and the drafting of a Statement on Family.

II. Course Objectives

1. The student will be able to clearly articulate and effectively assess his/her understanding of marriage and family and how this understanding impacts and clarifies his/her own commitment to, fitness for and interaction within his/her own family.
2. The student will demonstrate awareness of specific Biblical teachings as well as an overarching theology and narrative on marriage and family.
3. The student will define his/her plan for specific means of sharing these insights with others.
4. The student will show a working knowledge of basic listening and coaching skills with families, along with the ability to assess more critical needs and make referrals.

III. Means of Assessment

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| 1. Meaningful participation in Class Discussion | 15% of grade |
| 2. Coaching Skills Demonstration | 10% o.g. |
| 3. Performance on Quiz | 10% o.g. |
| 4. Performance on two major Exams | 15% ea. o.g. |
| 5. Completion of two Book Reviews | 10% ea. o.g. |
| 6. Completion of a written Statement on Family (see Special Instructions for the Reviews and Statement) | 15% o.g. |

IV. Class Schedule

Chapter readings from The Family (F) are to be completed before each week's class.

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| 1/22 | God of the Family, the Family of God: Introduction and Theological Foundation | |
| 1/29 | Working the System: Family Systems and Attachments | (F 1, 2) |
| 2/5 | The First Society: Marriage and Family in the Old Testament, I Quiz | (OT Readings) |
| 2/12 | Generations: Marriage and Family in the Old Testament, II | (OT Readings) |
| 2/19 | You have Heard: Marriage and Family in the New Testament, I | (NT Readings) |
| 2/26 | In Jesus' Name: Marriage and Family in the New Testament, II Book Reviews | (NT Readings) |
| 3/5 | Men are from Adam, Women are from Eve: Human Sexuality | (F 10, 11) |
| 3/12 | Better than the Fairy Tales: Marriage | Exam (F 3, 4, 5) |
| 3/19 | SPRING BREAK | |
| 3/26 | Alphabet Soup: Personalities in Relationship (TA, Type, etc.) | (Handouts) |
| 4/2 | Parent Power: Parenting | (F 6, 7, 8, 9) |
| 4/9 | Say What? Communication and Conflict | (F 12, 13) |
| 4/16 | So What Is "Functional?" Growing Healthy Families | Book Reviews (F 14) |
| 4/23 | Now What? Families in Crisis | (F15, 16) |
| 4/30 | How can We be of Help? Ministering to and with Families | (F, 17, 18) |
| 5/7 | Our Turn: Coaching Demonstrations. Statements, Final Review | |
| 5/14 | FINAL | |

V. Bibliography

A. Required Text

- Balswick, Jack O. and Balswick, Judith K.
1999 *The Family: A Christian Perspective on the Contemporary Home.*
Grand Rapids: Baker Book House

B. Recommended Reading

- Allen, Dr. Roger and Rose, Ron
1993 *Common Sense Discipline: Raising Reliable, Resourceful, Responsible Kids.*
Illinois: David C. Cook Publishing
- Barshinger, Ph.D., Clark E., and LaRowe, Ph.D., Lojan E., and Tapia, Andres T.
1995 *Haunted Marriage: Overcoming the Ghosts of you Spouse's Childhood Abuse.*
Illinois: InterVarsity Press
- Berry, Dr. Richard L.
2001 *Angry Kids.*
Grand Rapids: Flemin H. Revell
- Brewer, David Instone-
2003 *Divorce and Remarriage in the Church: Biblical Solutions for Pastoral Realities.*
Illinois: IVP Book
- Campbell, M.D., Ross, and Chapman, Gary
1999 *Parenting your Adult Child: How you can help them achieve their full potential.*
Chicago: Northfield Publishing
- Canter, Lee and Canter, Marlene
1982 *Assertive Discipline for Parents.*
Santa Monica: Harper and Row
- Chapman, Gary
1995 *The Five Love Language: How to Express Heartfelt Commitment to Your Mate.*
Chicago: Northfield Publishing
- Clarke, Dr. David
2002 *What to Do When Your Spouse Says, I Don't Love You Anymore: An Action Plan to Regain Confidence, Power, and Control.*
Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers
- Clinton, Dr. Tim and Sibcy, Dr. Gary
2006 *Why You Do the Things You Do; The Secret to Healthy Relationships.*
Nashville: Integrity Publishers
- Comer, Jim
2004 *Parenting Your Parents; What to Do When It's Your Turn.*
Austin: Historical Publications, Inc.

- Crabb, Dr. Larry
1991 *Men And Women: Enjoying the Difference.*
Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House
- Crabb, Dr. Larry
1992 *The Marriage Builder.*
Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House
- Davidson, Joyce D. and Doka, Kenneth J. (Editors)
1999 *Living With Grief: At Work, At School, At Worship*
Levittown: Brunner/Mazel
- Deal, Ron L.
2002 *The Smart Step-Family: Seven Steps To a Healthy Family.*
Minneapolis: Bethany House
- Gottman, Dr. John M. and Silver, Nan
1999 *The Seven Principles For Making Marriage Work; A Practical Guide from the Country's Foremost Relationship Expert.*
New York: Three Rivers Press
- Gottman, Dr. John
1995 *Why Marriages Succeed or Fail...and How You Can Make Yours Last.*
New York: Simon and Schuster
- Gregston, Mark
2007 *When Your Teen is Struggling: Real Hope and Practical Help for Parents Today.*
Eugene: Harvest House Publishers
- Gungor, Mark
2008 *Laugh Your Way To a Better Marriage*
New York: Atria Books
- Harley Jr., Willard F.
2002 *His Needs Her Needs: Building an Affair-Proof Marriage.*
Grand Rapids: Fleming H. Revell
- Hemfelt, Dr. Robert, Minirth, Dr. Frank, and Meier, Dr. Paul
1989 *Love Is A Choice: The Groundbreaking Book on Recovery for Codependent Relationships.*
Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers
- Jones, Stanton L. and Yarhouse, Mark A.
2007 *Ex-gays? A Longitudinal Study of Religiously Mediated Change in Sexual Orientation.*
Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press
- Kearney, Dr. R. Timothy
2001 *Caring For Sexually Abused Children: A Handbook for Families and Churches.*
Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press
- Kniskern, Joseph Warren
1993 *When The Vow Breaks: A Survival and Recovery Guide for Christians Facing Divorce.*
Nashville: Broadman and Holman Publishers

- Langberg, Dr. Diane Mandt
 1999 *On the Threshold of Hope: Opening the Door to Healing for Survivors of Sexual Abuse.*
 Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers
- Mains, Karen
 1997 *Comforting One Another In Life's Sorrows.*
 Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers
- Minirth, Dr. Frank, Meier, Dr. Paul, and Arterburn, Dr. Stephen
 1995 *The Complete Life Encyclopedia.*
 Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers
- Nicolosi, Dr. Joseph, and Nicolosi, Linda Ames
 2002 *A Parent's Guide to Preventing Homosexuality.*
 Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press
- Penner, Clifford and Penner, Joyce
 1981 *The Gift of Sex: A Christian Guide to Sexual Fulfillment.*
 Waco: Word Books Publisher
- Powell, Douglas H.
 1998 *The Nine Myths of Aging: Maximizing the Quality of Later Life.*
 New York: W. H. Freeman and Company
- Rozelle, Ron
 2000 *Into that Good Night.*
 Huntsville: Texas Review Press
- Schmidt, Thomas E.
 1995 *Straight & Narrow? Compassion and Clarity in the Homosexual Debate.*
 Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press
- Spring, Dr. Janis Abrams, and Spring, Michael
 1996 *After the Affair: Healing the Pain and Rebuilding the Trust When a Partner Has Been Unfaithful.*
 New York: Harper Perennial
- Smalley, Gary, and Trent, Dr. John
 1986 *The Blessing.*
 Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers
- Stoop, Dr. David
 1998 *Understanding Your Child's Personality.*
 Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.
- Tournier, Paul
 1977 *To Understand Each Other.*
 Atlanta: John Knox Press (extra credit only)
- Townsend, Dr. John
 2006 *Boundaries with Teens: When to Say Yes, How to Say No.*
 Grand Rapids: Zondervan
- Wallerstein, Judith S., Lewis, Julia M., and Blakeslee, Sandra
 2000 *The Unexpected Legacy of Divorce: a 25 Year Landmark Study.*
 New York: Hyperion

- Wright, Dr. Norman H.
2002 *How to Counsel a Couple in 6 Sessions or Less*.
Ventura: Regal
- Wright, Dr. Norman H.
2002 *The Marriage Checkup*.
Ventura: Regal
- Yarhouse, Mark A., and Burkett, Lori A.
2003 *Sexual Identity: A Guide to Living in the Time Between the Times*.
Lanham: University Press of America
- Yates, Susan Alexander
2001 *And Then I Had Teenagers: Encouragement for Parents of Teens and Preteens*.
Grand Rapids: Baker Books

VI. Special Instructions for Book Reviews & Statement on Family

All written works must use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, etc. They must be between two and four pages long, double-spaced twelve-point type with one-inch margins, clear and thorough enough to be useful to classmates. Students will provide the instructor with electronic and hard copies as well as hard copies to all classmates. Papers will also be read and discussed in class.

Book Reviews will address these kinds of questions: What is the author's thesis and main supporting points? How well and convincingly are the points made; how could they have been better presented? Where do you agree and where do you disagree with the author; why? What issues does the author fail to address? What is the best sentence or paragraph in the book; why? For what kind of readership would you recommend this book; in what ways could it be used? The review must contain the book's name, author(s), date and place of publication, publisher and number of pages. The student's name should also appear at the beginning of the paper.

The Statement on Family will clearly and thoughtfully articulate the student's overall philosophy and theology of family, addressing these kinds of questions: What is *family*? Why is family important? What are the priorities for the family? What is your personal vision for your own family? How does your past experience speak to that vision? What is the place of the family in society? How are home and culture to interact? What is your understanding of the interaction of the church and the family as covenant communities ordained by God? The Statement will reflect an ability to interact with the material covered in the class. The Statement will begin with a title of the student's creation, then the subtitle, *A Statement on Family*, followed by the student's name.

