



MINISTRY
LEADERSHIP
CERTIFICATE

2023-2024



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In partnership with:



Program Overview

“And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.” Ephesians 4:11-12

The Ministry Leadership Certificate program is designed to help pastors and churches prepare their saints for the work of ministry for the building up of the body of Christ.

1. Bible Overview

In the first semester, the reading and video courses will provide you with a clear understanding of the scope and structure of the whole Bible. The goal is that every student has a better grasp of the genres, themes, and historical development of the Bible.

2. Bible Study Methods

Also in the first semester, there will be an emphasis on learning the basic steps required in a responsible study of passage of scripture, including word studies, contextual analysis, literary analysis, and application.

3. Theological Formation

During the second semester, the video courses and the reading will focus on understanding the core doctrines of the Christian faith. The goal is that students will understand the theological themes found in the Bible.

4. Sharing the Word

Finally, students will learn to create Bible study lessons or sermons. They will apply their understanding of the overview of scripture, their Bible study methods, and their theological knowledge to develop lesson plans that can be used to help communicate the word of God to others.

Western Seminary Credit

Students who complete the MLC and alter enroll in Western Seminary graduate certificate or degree program will receive up to two elective credits applied toward their selected program.



We are delighted to offer the Ministry Leadership Certificate (MLC), which is a set of high-impact courses offered through Western Seminary's Center for Leadership Development. This unique program is curated by the leaders of VCN with a specific view toward “equipping the saints for the work of ministry” (Ephesians 4:12).

Together with our partners of VCN, we pray that this course of study proves to be a catalyst and resource for spiritual transformation in your life personally, and through your life, as you love others and extend the good news of Jesus Christ in both word and action.

Charles J. Conniry, Jr.

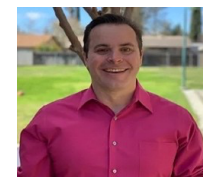
President Western Seminary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Charles J. Conniry, Jr.'.



There is power in the Word of God! As a pastor my desire is to be faithful to the biblical charge to equip the saints for the work of ministry. The Ministry Leadership Program is an amazing tool that helps pastors train their people for the work of ministry. Over the years I have sent several people from my church through this program and I have seen how it helps to deepen their knowledge of God's word and strengthen their confidence in sharing God's truth. am thrilled to be leading this program!

Andy Flowers
Director of Leadership
Education



Technology Help

How to Login:

1. Visit <http://cldwestern.pathwright.com>
2. Click "Sign In" in the top corner
3. Enter the username and password that you created when you set up your account using the registration link provided
4. To get to your courses, hover over "Menu" in the top left corner and select "path." All courses you are enrolled in will show up there. (Note: if you have completed a course, it will be removed from your active dashboard). In the "Path" screen, to find completed courses, select the dropdown that says "In Progress" and select "Completed"

Need Assistance?

If you do experience issues that you are not able to resolve, please contact the CLD team for assistance at cld@westernseminary.edu.

Program Coursework

1. **Online Classes** - Each semester you will watch about 40 hours of class, instruction; 31 hours in core classes and 9 hours of elective classes. A viewing log will be handed out during the orientation.
2. **Reading** - You will be responsible for reading the assigned textbooks each semester. A reading log will be handed out during the orientation.
3. **Written Assignments** - Each semester there will be two written assignments due. These assignments will be an application of the reading and the classes.
4. **Mentor** - Because this is largely a self-guided course of study, you are asked to select a mentor. Your mentor should be someone on the pastoral staff or in a ministry leadership role at your church. Online classes, reading and written assignments are all good, but the best ministry training comes from those who are currently serving in ministry.

What Else Do I Need to Know?

- **Cost** - \$325 plus the cost of books
- **Start Date** - August 19, 2023
- **Orientation Meeting** - August 19, 2023
9:00 a.m-1 p.m. at Campus Bible Church 4710 N. Maple Ave
- **Register Online** -
<https://www.campusbiblechurch.com/mlc>
- Questions contact Rob Lyness
rlyness@sbcglobal.net
- 559 367-6047

First Semester

August 28 – November 19, 2023

Courses	Instructor	Hours	Format
CVN MLC Orientation	Andy Flowers	5	Live
Whole Bible Overview	Bert Downs	5	Online
Intro to Biblical Theology	Todd Miles	2.5	Online
Old Testament Survey	Carl Laney	10	Online
New Testament Overview	Todd Chipman	6	Online
How to Study Your Bible	Todd Miles	4	Online
VCN Seminar	TBD	5	Live

Courses	Instructor	Hours	Format
Please pick 1 Track			

Staff Track

Training Future Leaders	John Johnson	9	Online
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Women's Track

Women in Leadership	Beverly Hislop	7	Online
Shepherding Women in Pain	Beverly Hislop	2	Online

Lay Leader Track

Theology of Work	Gerry Breshears	4	Online
Implementing a Theology of Work	Kent Humphries	5	Online

Books	Author
30 Days to Understand the Bible	Max Anders
Journey Into God's Word	Duvall & Hays

Projects

First Assignment- Using the information from the classes and the book "30 Days to Understand the Bible," explain how you would describe the big picture and broad themes of the Bible to someone who was unfamiliar with scripture. Feel free to use drawings, bullet points, pictures, or anything else that will help make it memorable. Due date: 10/20

Second Assignment- Select a passage of scripture from the New Testament and apply the Bible study steps found "Journey into God's Word." Make sure to use study tools and commentaries and cite your sources. Due date: 11/30

Second Semester

January 8 – Jun 7, 2024

Courses	Instructor	Hours	Format
VCN MLC	Andy Flowers	5	Live
What is the Gospel?	Gerry Breshears	5	Online
Spiritual Formation	Gary Thomas	5	Online
Systematic Theology	Gerry Breshears	15	Online
VCN Seminar	TBD	5	Live

Courses	Instructor	Hours	Format
Please pick 1 Track			

Staff Track

Ministering for Maturity	Bert Downs	5	Online
Developing a Leadership Culture	Mark Olmos	1.5	Online
12 Marks of a Healthy Board	Panel Discussion	1.5	Online

Women's Track

Shepherding a Woman's Heart	Beverly Hislop	3.5	Online
Transitions: Lessons from Naomi	Beverly Hislop	3	Online
Shepherding Women Seminar	Beverly Hislop	1.5	Online

Lay Leaders Track

Job Shadowing Daniel	Larry Peabody	6	Online
Marketplace Mentoring	Panel Discussion	2	Online

Books	Author
Why Believe	Neil Shenvi
Do You Believe?	Paul David Tripp
30 Days to Understanding the Bible	Max Andre

Projects

First Assignment- Using the book "Why Believe" as a guide, select one area of apologetics to write about. Supplement your research with at least 3 other sources (Online articles, books, journal articles, etc.) Due date: 4/12

Second Assignment- Using the book "Do You Believe" as a guide, select one doctrinal issue and create a four-week lesson plan or sermon series. The lesson plans can be in bullet point or outline format, they don't have to be full manuscripts. Make sure that your lessons clearly explain the doctrinal issue and that they connect to the gospel message. Use at least 3 other sources in addition to the textbook. Due date: 6/7