



Bachelor of Practical Theology

The Bachelor of Practical Theology is designed to provide the educational background needed by those preparing for pastoral or preaching ministry. A “typical” undergraduate degree serves the foundation for scholarly pursuits and other advance degrees.

Specific Program Objectives:

- Comprehensive development in character, skills, and knowledge for effective ministry.
- Life development and lifelong learning orientation.
- Recognition of and participation in the centrality of the local church in the plan of God.
- Master Scripture relevance to church and leadership development at an initial level, particularly through study of the biblical theology of Acts and the Pauline Epistles.
- Reflect on contributions of leading scholars regarding church and leadership development.
- Address basic issues related to church and leadership development and analyze Scripture and other contributions related to those issues.
- Formulate conclusions and personal applications regarding those basic issues.

The Bachelor of Practical Theology degree program is offered by distance education to existing and emerging leaders rooted in local churches, church networks, and other ministry organizations in order to help them be trained and recognized as part of a ministry leadership team that is one-minded in ministry vision and philosophy. Out of this team would come those who commit themselves long term to local church leadership or those who desire to train to be part of a missionary team involved in planting or establishing churches in other areas.

Bachelor of Practical Theology (BPT)

The Bachelor of Practical Theology (BPT) is a 120 semester credit hour program (30 plus the Diploma of Ministry) that is granted for demonstration of basic competencies associated with doing ministry according to the way of Christ and His Apostles. The program builds on the Diploma of Ministry's foundational courses.

First 30 Courses & Ministry Practicums from Diploma of Ministry Program

Additional 10 Courses & Ministry Practicum:

RS 401 – Understanding Culture & Social Engagement I (3 Credits) – With a firm foundation in biblical theology, apologetics, and worldview, Christians have something vital to say about every significant issue of our day. The depth and creativity of Christian thought on today's events should inspire tremendous confidence in communicating biblical truth to friends, loved ones, and associates. In John 8:32, Jesus said we can "know the truth, and the truth will set [us] free." Entire nations are in bondage to bad ideas, but believers can proclaim truth – boldly, intelligently, and practically – that can set people free. This course is designed to help the student do and apply theology in culture.

RS 403 – Understanding Culture & Social Engagement II (3 Credits) – this course continues to build on the principles introduced in Understanding Culture & Social Engagement I.

RS 405 – Interpretation of the Scriptures (3 Credits) – Since one's doctrine stems from one's interpretation of the Bible and all interpretation is guided by various rules, it seems that the Christian community should be focusing its attention more on the field of hermeneutics - the science of interpreting Scripture. It is this need that provides the basis for this course. This course assumes that a working knowledge of hermeneutics coupled with an illuminating unction of the Holy Spirit will enable those who interpret Scripture to come to a harmonious knowledge of the truth.

RS 407 - Principles and Practice of Pastoral Ministry I (3 Credits) – This course will introduce the student to a thorough treatment of the basis for pastoral ministry and all ministry accomplished by the church. The course will focus on Pastoral theology as well as church administration. The key to success in any organization, including churches, is the quality of leadership. This course will detail how to be a good leader and what it takes to transfer that standard within the church. What will be introduced are not untested theories, but rather tried and true structures and methods that have been embraced by church leaders in many countries.

RS 409 - Principles and Practice of Pastoral Ministry II (3 Credits) – This course will build on the principles introduced in Principles and Practice of Pastoral Ministry I. The focus will be moving from a theology of ministry to the application of administrative implementation.

RS 411 – Christ Centered Preaching (3 Credits) – This course focused on Biblical preaching will balance the practical how to with sound homiletical theory. Sermon preparation stages surface that are content-orientated and follow the process of sermon making from start to finish. Focusing on a high view of Scripture, the student will learn to preach from a historical-grammatical context. Learning perspective on the aims and methods of expository preaching, the students will be shown the redemptive aim of all of Scripture while they learn the expository method.

BS 401 – A Biblical Theology of the Old Testament (3 Credits) – In this course the student will explore the central theme of the Bible. Given the diversity of authorship, genre, and content of the Bible's various books, is it even possible to answer such a question? Or in trying to do so, is an external grid being unnaturally superimposed on the biblical texts? These are difficult questions that the discipline of biblical theology has struggled to answer. This course proposes that there is indeed a unifying center to the theology and message of the Bible that is indicated and affirmed by Scripture itself. The center is the promise of God. It is one all-encompassing promise of life through the Messiah that winds itself throughout salvation history in both the Old and New Testaments, giving cohesiveness and unity to the various parts of Scripture. This course focus on the books of the Old Testament, demonstrating how each book relates to the promise, and how God's plan to fulfill the promise progressively unfolds.

BS 403 – A Biblical Theology of the New Testament (3 Credits) – This course builds on the Biblical Theology of the Old Testament as a foundation and proposes that there is indeed a unifying center to the theology and message of the Bible that is indicated and affirmed by Scripture itself. The center is the promise of God. It is one all-encompassing promise of life through the Messiah that winds itself throughout salvation history in both the Old and New Testaments, giving cohesiveness and unity to the various parts of Scripture. This course focus on the books of the New Testament, demonstrating how each book relates to the promise, and how God's plan to fulfill the promise progressively unfolds.

CE 401 – Philosophy of Christian Education (3 Credits) – Christian education must be grounded in and governed by the Word of God. In this course the student will learn how to establish Christ-centered education in a humanistic educational world. Today's educators seem largely ignorant of the divine standards for education. Our present-day secular schools and colleges have become almost entirely humanistic in curricula and methodology. Unfortunately, this is also true of many religious schools. In this course you will learn to develop a thoroughly Biblical approach to education in the world today.

CC 401 – Christian Counseling and Discipleship (3 Credits) – This course equips the student to embed biblical counseling and discipleship across the life of the church, then to train others to do the same. In alignment with MBCIU's mission "to train a network of leaders to further disciple others from neighborhoods to nations" (MBCIU, 2023), students will develop a theology of in-church soul care, acquire counseling and mentorship skills, and design systems for multiplication. The course emphasizes Scripture's sufficiency for heart change and models how the local church bears responsibility for "instructing one another" (Rom. 15:14) and equipping the saints (Eph. 4:11-12). Students will learn to maintain pastoral oversight and ethical boundaries while knowing when to

recommend medical help. By course's end every student will be prepared not only to counsel and disciple, but to train others to do likewise – multiplying counselors and disciple-makers locally and globally.

MP401 Ministry Practicum IV (1 Credit) – Contracted learning ministry including written description of preliminary plan and learning goals, report of actual experience, and evaluation and reflection of learning accomplished.

Financial Information:

Bachelor of Practical Theology – 30 Semester Credit Hours + Diploma of Ministry:

- Registration Fee: \$75.00 (to be submitted with application)
- Tuition Fee: \$100/Credit Hour (30 credits) = \$3,000.00
- Graduation Fee: \$ 165.00
- **TOTAL:** **\$3,240.00**

The total tuition and Fees will be payable through a schedule of payments for 24 months.
For example: \$3,240.00 / 24 months = \$135/month

Ready to Enroll?

MASTER BUILDER CHRISTIAN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

TRAINING LEADERS FROM NEIGHBORHOODS TO NATIONS

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