

# Practical Theology (CM3)

\*Thursdays, 1-3 PM, August 14-October 2, 2014

\*Required Text: The 33 Laws of Stewardship:  
Principles for a Life of True Fulfillment,  
Dave Sutherland & Kirk Nowry - \$355 pesos

**Ross Arnold, Summer 2014**  
**Lakeside institute of Theology**

# **Policies and Requirements**

1. Classes are free, but all students seeking a certificate or degree must purchase books (paper, not electronic), which will be made available by the Institute.
2. Students in certificate or degree tracks may miss no more than one class per course, without arrangements made in advance with the teacher to make up missed work (at the discretion of the teacher).
3. Students in certificate or degree tracks will be required to take a pass/fail final exam in each course, based on study guidelines provided by the teacher.
4. Students in certificate or degree tracks must make a passing grade (based on "pass/fail") in each course in order to receive credit towards a certificate or degree.
5. Candidates for degrees (Master of Theology and Master of Theology & Ministry) must be approved by the Institute Director before final admission into a degree program.

# **Policies and Requirements for making up classes, or taking classes online** (as of April 3, 2014):

- I. All make-up classes must be completed before the beginning of the following term, unless you make special arrangements with the professor.
- II. All classes made up online must be reported via email to [rda@rossarnold.net](mailto:rda@rossarnold.net), as follows:
  - A. Each class must be reported in a separate email as soon after watching as possible.
  - B. Each email must contain the following information:
    1. Course title and/or code (NT4, OT3, TH2, etc.).
    2. The date of the original lecture you missed.
    3. The title of the lecture.
    4. A clear statement that you watched all of the lecture video, reviewed the materials and completed the required readings.
- III. Courses taken entirely online require prior approval, and apply only to audit or Certificate (not degree) requirements.

# Practical Theology (CM3)

Aug. 14 – Intro to Practical Theology & Stewardship

Aug. 21 – Stewardship of Call & Vision

Aug. 28 – Stewardship of Faith & Commitment

Sept. 4 – ***No Class***

Sept. 11 – Stewardship of Time & Opportunities

Sept. 18 – Stewardship of Resources

Sept. 25 – Stewardship of Influence

Oct. 2 – Call to Action; Final Exam

# What is “Practical Theology?”

- **The discipline that is concerned with understanding and applying religious beliefs and practices to our daily lives.**
- **Practical Theology seeks to find practical answers to the question, “How do we apply our beliefs to our daily lives?”**
- **Practical Theology has several related sub-fields:**
  - ❖ **Pastoral theology**
  - ❖ **Missions and evangelism**
  - ❖ **Church growth and church administration**
  - ❖ **Spiritual direction**
  - ❖ **Theologies of justice, peace and liberation**
  - ❖ **Homiletics**
  - ❖ **Spiritual formation and discipleship**

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# What is “Spiritual formation?”

The growth and development of the whole person by an intentional focus on one’s:

- Spiritual and interior life
- Spiritual practices – such as prayer, study of Scripture, fasting, worship, solitude, confession, simplicity, etc.
- Interactions with others in ordinary life

*“Spiritual formation... refers to all attempts, means, instruction and disciplines intended towards deepening of faith and furtherance of spiritual growth.”*      *Gerald G. May*

# What is “Spiritual formation?”

*“Spiritual formation is a process that happens to everyone... Terrorists as well as saints are the product of spiritual formation. Their spirits or hearts have been formed.” Dallas Willard*

In Christian spiritual formation the focus is on Jesus. It is a lifelong process as a believer desires to become a disciple of Christ and become more like him.

*“Spiritual formation for the Christian basically refers to the Spirit-driven process of forming the inner world of the human self in such a way that it become like the inner being of Christ himself.”*

*Dallas Willard*



# What is “Stewardship?”

*“The conducting, supervising, or managing of something; especially, the careful and responsible management of something entrusted to one’s care.”*

A steward is someone who cares for something that belongs to someone else.

As Christians, we know that all things are made by God and still belong to Him, and we are called to be stewards of everything God places (or entrusts) into our lives

# 1. God Owns Everything.

*“The Law of Rightful Ownership” – Nothing truly belongs to us; everything actually belongs to God. (Sutherland & Nowery)*

*Yours, Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours.*  
1 Chronicles 29:11

*The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; <sup>2</sup> for he founded it on the seas and established it on the waters.*  
Psalm 24:1-2

*Although the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup> you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’*  
Exodus 19:5-6

*I have no need of a bull from your stall or of goats from your pens, <sup>10</sup> for every animal of the forest is mine, and the cattle on a thousand hills.*  
Psalm 50:9-10

*‘The silver is mine and the gold is mine,’ declares the Lord Almighty.*  
Haggai 2:8-9

*“You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.”*  
Revelation 4:11

# Stewardship – All We Have Has Been Entrusted to Us

*Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand.* 1 Chronicles 29:14

*For all these things the nations of the world eagerly seek; but your Father knows that you need these things. <sup>31</sup> But seek His kingdom, and these things will be added to you.* Luke 12:30-32 NAS

*What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?* 1 Corinthians 4:7

*Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. <sup>2</sup> In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy.* 1 Corinthians 4:1-3 NAS

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms.* 1 Peter 4:10-11

*Of this church I was made a minister according to the stewardship from God bestowed on me for your benefit, so that I might fully carry out the preaching of the word of God* Colossians 1:25 NAS

# Stewardship – How should we then live?

- Everything is created by God.
  - In addition to being the Creator, God has also paid a great price in Jesus to redeem the world from its own sin.
  - Everything therefore belongs to God.
  - Anything we have or will ever have is given to us for our use and our stewardship, but nothing ever really belongs to us.
  - Therefore, if we are to be good stewards, the question we must ask of everything in our lives is: “What does God want us to do with His stuff?”
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