

OD728

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*Seminar Description and Advance Reading Assignment*

## Ministry in the Postmodern Matrix

Keith Matthews with  
Todd Hunter

November 17-21, 2008



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8 units

### Seminar Description

This integrative course will expose students to new opportunities and challenges in theology, culture, and practice of ministry in the emerging postmodern milieu. This will be accomplished through an in-depth exploration of the nature of postmodernity and a discussion of emerging ministry models seeking to address it.

Participants will gain a broad understanding of the profound shift from modernity to postmodernity and postmodern issues in philosophy, art, pop culture, government, and global economy. They will discuss the ways the church and the gospel relate to culture and practice “cultural exegesis” and “post-critical engagement” with both cultural artifacts and postmodern individuals. The implications of the emerging postmodern reality for ministry will be discussed with emphasis on theology, evangelism, discipleship, mission, worship, and preaching. Participants will critically engage the perspective on post-modern ministry presented by the instructors. The course aims to awaken, stimulate, and equip students to become reflective and engaged participants in the emerging reality.

### Course Format

Learning will take place through a variety of creative and relevant means: simulation, role-play, watching films and viewing visual arts, “ancient-future” practices (lectio divina, meditation, contemplative prayer etc.), listening to music, small group projects, small group dialogue, guest speakers, dialogue and Q & A, interviews, journaling.

## Instructors

### Todd Hunter

Todd Hunter is the Former National Director of the The Alpha Course USA and an adjunct professor at George Fox University, where he received his D. Min. in Leadership in the Emerging Culture. He is the former national director of Vineyard Churches USA. Todd has spent most of his life planting outreach oriented churches and coaching others to do the same. He is known also for his work with Dallas Willard and Richard Foster in the area of kingdom ministry and spiritual formation. He speaks often at emerging church conferences and teaches in the D. Min program at Western Seminary.

### Keith Matthews

Keith Matthews is currently Professor of Spiritual Formation and Contemporary Culture at Azusa Pacific University's Graduate School of Theology. Keith was the former Lead Pastor at Cedar Ridge Community Church in Spencerville, Maryland, and is an ordained Pastor. Keith completed his D.Min. at Fuller with a focus on spirituality and leadership. He has worked with Dallas Willard for over 20 years and designed and co-authored, *Dallas Willard's Study Guide to The Divine Conspiracy*. He is also a writer, teacher, retreat speaker and church consultant.

## Seminar Topics

This Doctor of Ministry course will provide participants with an in-depth exploration of the following content areas.

### **The Postmodern Matrix:**

- A. A Reformation simulation: Participants will create a simulation/role-play addressing the issues of the last epochal transition, from the medieval synthesis to the modernity. We will consider the concept of paradigm shift.
- B. Modernity and Postmodernity: Participants will explore twelve themes of modernity and anticipate postmodern trends.
- C. Gospel and Culture: Participants will consider how the church and gospel relate to culture and context.
- D. High and Pop Culture: Participants will explore postmodern issues in philosophy and art, along with popular music and film.
- E. Key global trends that will influence postmodern development.

### **Ministry in the Emerging Culture:**

- A. Theology: We will consider six "turnings" in theology: Theology, God and Creation, Atonement/Salvation, Eschatology, Scripture and knowledge, Ecclesiology
- B. Evangelism: We will explore what postmodern evangelism and apologetics seek to do, and how they seek to do it, and why they do it as they do.

- C. Spiritual Formation/Discipleship: We will sketch the emerging outlines of new approaches to Christian formation and discipleship.
- D. Mission and Missions: We will consider the church in its global/local contexts.
- E. Worship and Liturgy: We will imagine the convergence of ancient practices and new technologies in innovative worship.
- F. Preaching: We will consider examples and themes of preaching in a postmodern context.

## Expected Outcomes

**Content:** Participants will have read and interacted over key content in the course area, including key texts, literature, films, and popular music.

**Perspectives:** Participants will be exposed to a hopeful and engaging approach to post-modernity through the instructors. They will also read critical responses to this perspective in print and online.

**Skills/Disciplines:** Participants will gain practice in “cultural exegesis” and “post-critical engagement” with both cultural artifacts and postmodern individuals.

**Relationships:** Participants will engage in in-depth conversation and personal interaction, and yielding lasting relationships.

## Pre-Seminar Assignments

**DUE: November 17, 2008**

### Reading

Students must read a minimum of 3,000 pages from the selected reading provided.

**Note:** It is against academic policy to claim credit for the same book in different Doctor of Ministry seminars. If you have previously read any book on the list for credit, substitute another for it.

### Reading Responses

Write a 250-500 word thought response for each required book, (they are each listed with a number in front of them in the preferred order of reading in the Bibliography) interacting with the main points and noting any applications to your life and/or ministry. Specify author, title, and number of pages read. To be turned in on the first day of the seminar to the professor. Please substitute any selection of your choice from the Bibliography if you have already read a book from the required book selection.

## Post-Seminar Assignments

**DUE: April 1, 2009****Practical Ministry Paper:**

Write a 20-page paper, which synthesizes readings and class dialogue to address a specific issue or challenge in your ministry. For example, a senior pastor might write a transition plan for introducing insights about postmodern ministry into a traditional church, or a worship leader might design a new worship service with theological justification for each element, or a church planter might describe the church he or she aims to plant for ministry in the emerging culture. Instructors must approve topics during the week of class.

Post-Seminar projects are due on **April 1, 2009**.

Failure to submit papers by April 1, 2009, will result in a late fee of \$200.00 and a two-month extension will be automatically granted. Projects not turned in by June 1, 2009 will result in a failing grade (F).

Work will be accepted based on the post-mark date. If the due date falls on a Sunday or holiday, please send the material on a previous date. A holiday or Sunday does not constitute the due date being moved to a later date.

Students may not attend another Doctor of Ministry seminar unless all previous coursework is completed and submitted prior to the first day of that seminar.

## Submission Instructions

All Post-Seminar Assignments should be sent directly to:

The Doctor of Ministry Office  
Attn: Student Papers  
Fuller Theological Seminary  
135 N. Oakland Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91182.

Please do not submit papers in a three ring binder or inside a report cover, simply staple or clip the pages together.

Papers are typically not returned to students and are only done so at the discretion of the professor. Please duplicate your paper before sending as a precautionary measure.

If you want this paper returned with professor's comments, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Please be certain to include the appropriate postage for the weight and size.

**Do not mail post-seminar assignments to the professor.**

*Selected Bibliography*

Students must read a minimum of 3,000 pages from the selected reading. Books marked with an asterisk (\*) are required.

- \*(5) Anderson, Ray S. *An Emergent Theology for Emerging Churches*. IVP, 2006. 219 pgs.
- Ashley, Jennifer et.al. *The Relevant Church*. Relevant Books, 2005. 156 pages.
- Barna, George. *Revolution*. Tyndale House Pub. 2005. 141 pages.
- Bell, Rob, *Velvet Elvis: Repainting the Christian Faith*. Zondervan. 2005. 177 pages.
- Bosch, David Jacobus. *Believing in the Future*. Trinity Press Intl, 1995. 80 pages.
- Bowson, James V. et al. *StormFront: The Good News of God*. Eerdmans, 2003. 129 pages.
- Burke, Spencer. *Making Sense of the Church*. Emergent YS Zondervan. 2003. 167 pages.
- Caputo, John D. *What Would Jesus Deconstruct?* Baker Academic. 2007. 138 pages.
- Carson, D. A. *Becoming Conversant with Emergent*. Zondervan. 2005. 234 pages.
- \*(14) Choung, James. *True Story*. IVP, 2008. 222 pages
- Clapp, Rodney. *A Peculiar People*. IVP, 1996. 211 pages.
- Easum, Bill & Dale Travis. *Beyond the Box*. Group Pub.139 pages.
- Erickson, Millard et all. *Reclaiming the Center*. Crossway books. 365 pages.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Postmodernizing the Faith*. Baker Books, 1998. 157 pages.
- Escobar, Samuel. *New Global Mission*. IVP, 2003.
- Fitch, David E. *The Great Givaway*. Baker Books, 2005. 230 pages.
- Franke, John R. & Stanely J. Grenz. *Beyond Foundationalism*. Westminster John Knox Press, 2000. 296 pages.
- Frost, Michael & Alan Hirsch. *The Shaping of Things to Come*. Hendrickson Pub. 2003. 230 pages.
- Frost, Michael. *Exiles: Living Missionally in a Post-Christian Culture*. Hendrickson, 2006. 327 pages.
- Gibbs, Eddie. *Church Next: Quantum Changes in How We Do Ministry*. IVP, 2000. 239 pages.
- Gibbs, Eddie & Ryan K. Bolger. *Emerging Churches*. Baker Academic, 2005. 335 pages.

Grenz, Stanley J. *A Primer on Postmodernism*. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co, 1996. 211 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Renewing the Center*. Baker Academic. 2000. 351 pages.

\*(10) Guder, Darrell L. *The Missional Church*. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co, 1998. 288 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Continuing Conversion of the Church*. Eerdmans Pub. 2000. 208 pages.

Hiebert, Paul G. *Missiological Implications of Epistemological Shifts*. Trinity Press, 1999. 126 pages.

Hiebert, Paulo G. *Anthropological Reflections on Missiological Issues*. Baker Books, 1994. 253 pages.

Hipps, Shane. *The Hidden Power of Electronic Culture*. Zondervan, 2005. 166 pages.

\*(11) Hirsch, Alan. *The Forgotten Ways*. Brazos Press, 2006. 286 pages

Jones, Tony. *Postmodern Youth Ministry*. Zondervan, 2001. 240 pages.

\*(6)\_\_\_\_\_. *The New Christians*. Jossey-Bass, 2008. 235 pages.

Keel, Tim. *Intuitive Leadership*. Baker Books, 2007. 266 pages

\*(1) Kimball, Dan. *The Emerging Church*. 2003. Zondervan. 260 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Emerging Worship*. Zondervan. 272 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *They Like Jesus But Not the Church*. Zondervan, 2007. 272 pages.

\*(9) Kinnamon, David. *UnChristian*. Baker Books, 2007. 246 pages.

McLaren, Brian D. *Church on the Other Side*. Zondervan, 2003. 240 pages.

\*(3)\_\_\_\_\_. *A New Kind of Christian*. Jossey-Bass, 2001. 164 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Finding Faith*. Zondervan, 2000. 304 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *More Ready Than You Realize*. Zondervan, 2002. 192 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *A New Kind of Christian*. Jossey-Bass, 2001. 164 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Story We Find Ourselves In*. Jossey-Bass, 2003. 192 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Last Word and The Word After That*. Jossey-Bass, 2005. 180 pages.

- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Secret Message of Jesus*. Jossey-Bass, 2006. 224 pages.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Everything Must Change*. Thomas Nelson Publ. 2007. 301 pages
- Middleton, Richard J. & Brian J. Walsh. *Truth is Stranger than it Used to Be*. IVP. 195 pages.
- Miller, Donald. *Blue Like Jazz*. Nelson Books, 2003. 256 pages.
- Minatrea, Milfred. *Shaped By God's Heart*. Jossey-Bass, 2004. 184 Pages.
- Newbigin, Lesslie. *The Open Secret*. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1995. 200 pages.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Foolishness to the Greeks*. Eerdmans, 1986. 150 pgs.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Truth and Authority in Modernity*. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. 86 pgs.
- Padgitt, Doug. *Reimagining Spiritual Formation*. EmergentYS Zondervan. 2003. 160 pages.
- \_\_\_\_\_, *Preaching Reimagined*. Zondervan. 248 pages.
- Padgitt, Doug & Tony Jones. *An Emergent Manifesto of Hope*. Baker Boks, 2007. 307 pages.
- Penner, Myron. *Christianity and the Postmodern Turn: Six Views*. Brazos, 2005. 239 pages.
- Pinnock, Clark H. *The Most-Moved Mover*. Baker Book House, 2001. 224 pages.
- Raschke, Carl. *The Next Reformation: Why Evangelicals Must Embrace Postmodernity*. Baker Academic, 2004. 215 pages.
- Rathbun, Russell. *Post-Rapture Radio*. Jossey-Bass, 2005. 176 pages.
- Richardson, Rick. *ReImagining Evangelism*. IVP, 2006. 163 pages.
- Roberts, Bob. *Glocalization*. Zondervan, 2007. 198 pages.
- \*(12) Rollins, Peter, *How (Not) To Speak Of God*. Paraclete, 2006. 137 pages
- Roxburgh, Alan J. *The Missionary Congregation, Leadership, and Liminality*. Trinity Pr Intl, 1997. 64 pages.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *The Sky Is Falling*. ACI Publishing, 2005. 188 pages.
- Roxburgh, Alan J. & Fred Romanuk. *The Missional Leader*. Jossey-Bass, 2006. 206 pages.
- Russinger, Greg, & Alex Field, *Practitioners*. Regal Pub. 2005. 249 pages.
- Shenk, Wilbert R. *The Transfiguration of Mission*. Herald Press, 1993, 237 pages.

Smith Jr., Chuck. *The End of the World as We Know It*. Waterbrook Press, 2001. 256 pages.

\*(13) Smith, James K. A. *Whose Afraid of Postmodernism?* Baker Academic, 2006. 150 pages

\*(8) Smith, R. Scott. *Truth & The New Kind of Christian*. Crossway Books. 2005. 199 pages.

Stetzer, Ed & David Putman. *Breaking the Missional Code*. Broadman & Holman Publ. 2006. 240 pages.

Sweet, Leonard. *Postmodern Pilgrims*. Broadman & Holman Pub., 2000. 160 pages

Sweet, Leonard et al. *A is for Abductive*. Zondervan, 2003. 352 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Carpe Manana*. Zondervan, 2003. 208 pages.

Taylor, Steve. *The Out of Bounds Church?* EmergentYS Zondervan. 2005. 163 pages.

Tomlinson, Dave. *The Post-Evangelical*. EmergentYS Zondervan. 2003. 139 pages.

Van Gelder, Craig. *Confident Witness—Changing World*. Eerdmans, 1999. 313 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Ministry of the Missional Church*. Baker Book House. 2006. 182 pages.

Vanhoozer, Kevin J. *The Cambridge Companion to Postmodern Theology*. Cambridge Univ. Press, 2003. 290 pages.

Ward, Pete. *Liquid Church*. Hendrickson Publ. 2002. 98 pages.

\*(4) Webber, Robert E. *The Younger Evangelicals*. Baker Book House, 2002. 288 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Ancient-Future Faith*. Baker Book House, 1999. 240 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Listening to the Beliefs of Emerging Churches*. Zondervan, 2007. 219 pages.

\*(2) White, Heath. *Postmodernism 101*. Brazos Press. 2006. 165 pages.

Willard, Dallas. *The Divine Conspiracy*. Harper San Fransico, 448 pages.

Wright, N. T. *The Challenge of Jesus*. InterVarsity Press. 1999. 197 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The Last Word*. Harper San Francisco. 2005. 146 pages.

Zahniser, A. H. Mathias. *Symbol and Ceremony*. Missions Advanced Research &, 1997. 236 pages.

**History/Culture/Thought**

Berry, Wendell. *Sex, Community, Freedom, and Economy*. Pantheon Books, 1994. 208 pages.

Diamond, Jared. *Guns, Germs and Steel*. W.W. Norton & Company, 1999. 480 pages.

Friedman, Thomas. *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*. Anchor Books, 2000. 512 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *The World Is Flat*. Farrar, Strauss, and Giroux, 2005. 469 pages

Jenkins, Philip. *The Next Christendom*. Oxford Univ. Press, 2002. 220 pages.

\_\_\_\_\_. *God's Continent*. Oxford Univ. Press, 2007. 289 pages.

**Film**

“The Truman Show”

“The Matrix”

## Finding Books

It is the student's responsibility to locate and read the assigned books before the course. However we would like to offer the following recommendations.

### Fuller Seminary Bookstore

We recommend Fuller Seminary Bookstore as your first step for purchasing books for the course. The Fuller Seminary Bookstore is able to offer a 20% discount on many textbooks. However, students can only receive this discount when securing textbooks for courses in which they plan to enroll. When a discount is available, it is already reflected in the listed price. You can make your orders with the bookstore in three ways:

1. on the web at [www.fullerseminarybookstore.com](http://www.fullerseminarybookstore.com)
2. by phone (626) 584-5350 or 1 (800) 235-2222 x5350
3. by fax (626) 584-1270

Fuller Seminary Bookstore  
509 E. Walnut St.  
Pasadena, CA 91101

### Out of Print Books

Listed below are several ways to locate an out of print book:

1. Use the Interlibrary Loan. (i.e., Ask a local library to secure a book from another library which carries that particular book in stock. Fuller Library stocks many of the titles listed in our reading lists. Fuller Library can also provide copies of articles through the interlibrary loan.) When requesting a book from the Fuller Library, indicate that you are a Fuller student and the normal service charge will be waived.
2. Locate and use a seminary library in your area.
3. Locate a good used bookstore in your area. I.e.: Archives Bookstore in Pasadena, CA (626-797-4756)
4. Contact the following bookstores, which have an excellent selection of used books:

Kregel's Bookstore, 525 Eastern SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 (616-459-9444).

Baker Book House, 2768 East Paris SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503 (616-957-3110)