

ML534: VALUE-BASED LEADERSHIP IN THE OLD TESTAMENT (4 units)

J. Robert Clinton, Professor of Leadership:

Online facilitation by Wilmer Villacorta, Adjunct Instructor in Leadership

DESCRIPTION:

Leadership theory over the past 150 years has evolved through five major paradigmatic eras. The present era, the Complexity Era, has a strong focus toward value-based leadership. Early eras concentrated on the “what” of leadership and the “how” of leadership. The Complexity Era continues these, but adds the “why” of leadership. This course utilizes many of these leadership perspectives, most of which are cross-cultural, to test and explore these findings in the Old Testament. What does the Old Testament say about these various leadership perspectives (such as leadership elements, leadership styles, philosophical models, leadership emergence theory, mentoring, change dynamics, etc.) as the framework for studying leadership?

Four of the six leadership eras in the Bible, the four Old Testament eras, are studied: 1) The Patriarchal Leadership Era (leadership roots); 2) The Pre-Kingdom Leadership Era (desert, warfare, tribal); 3) The Kingdom Leadership Era (united, divided, single); 4) The Post-Kingdom Leadership Era (exile, post-exilic, interim). Seven types of studies are done: (1) biographical; (2) historical leadership acts; (3) actual leadership contexts, (4) parabolic leadership literature, (5) indirect passages dealing with Christian character or behavior; (6) Bible books studied as a whole placing them in their context hermeneutically and in terms of leadership eras; (7) studies across books for common themes and lessons on leadership (called macro-lessons). This quarter we will major on two Bible Characters and their books—Nehemiah and Habakkuk.

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

- Ability to analyze any of the seven leadership genres in the Old Testament for leadership findings.
- Recognize the importance of the Bible as a source of leadership information.
- Learn some skills for studying leadership in the Bible.
- Learn some major leadership lessons from the Bible.
- Evaluate present Bible knowledge.
- Commit to an on-going program of personal Bible study so as to improve their Bible knowledge in general and Biblical leadership knowledge in particular with a view toward becoming Bible centered leaders.

COURSE FORMAT:

The class will be conducted on the Internet using a 10-week lesson program aligned with Fuller’s academic calendar. Each week students and the instructor will interact with the material examining key themes and characteristics of modern/postmodern culture through journaling, threaded discussions, and web-based research.

REQUIRED READING:

- Bjoraker, Bill. *Samuel—Last of the Judges and First of the Prophets: A Model Leader for Transitional Times*. Altadena, CA: Barnabas Publishers, 1993.
- Course reader supplied in the course shell (Spiritual Formation Inputs, Content Inputs, E-corebook and Articles).
- Clinton, J. Robert. *Leadership Perspectives—How To Study the Bible for Leadership* (formerly Handbook I). Altadena, CA: Barnabas Publishers, 1993.
- _____. *Clinton Biblical Leadership Commentary—Nehemiah, Focused Living*. Get from Amazon.com (eBook)
- _____. *Clinton Biblical Leadership Commentary—Habakkuk, Hope for Leaders in Troubled Times*. Get from Amazon.com (eBook)
- _____. *Having a Ministry That Lasts*. Altadena, CA: Barnabas Publishers, 1998.

RECOMMENDED READING:

- Clinton, J. Robert & Raab, Laura. *The Joshua Portrait*. Altadena, CA: Barnabas Publishers, 1990.
- _____. *The Bible and Leadership Values—A Book By Book Analysis*. Altadena, CA: Barnabas Publishers, 1993.

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Reading of *Leadership Perspectives* and test on this text.
2. Evaluation of Bible mastery: including present mastery, major Bible test from BMPI given in *Having a Ministry That Lasts*; and Future Plan for Bible Mastery.
3. Practical Use of Equipping Formula including: (A) devotional exercises; (B) A Presence Macro-Lesson (5-7 page paper)
4. One communication event— to be designed and presented to some group—written and submitted.
5. Reading of Leadership Materials including the required texts, the two commentaries and leadership articles.
6. Observation / written exercise using an e-Core book.
7. Final Day Exercise response

PREREQUISITES: None. Courses such as ML530 or ML501, ML520, ML521, and ML523 are helpful.

RELATIONSHIP TO CURRICULUM: Elective. Ministry Focus Studies in MA in Global Leadership.

FINAL EXAMINATION: None

Updated October 2007