

Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary -- Spring 2008  
Syllabus - RE 327 Group Counseling

**Instructor:** Ronnie Johnson  
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**Office Hours:** As posted on office door.

**Textbook:**

McBride, Neal F. *How to Lead Small Groups*. Colorado Springs:  
Navpress. 1990. ISBN: 978-0891093039

McBride, Neal F. *How to Build a Small Groups Ministry*. Colorado Springs:  
Navpress. 1995. ISBN: 978-0891097693

**Course Description:**

This course provides experience in interpersonal relationships through the group counseling process. Theory and procedures of group counseling and group leadership are explored. Applications of the small group process to the ministry of the local church are examined.

**Course Objectives:**

Upon completion of this course you should be able:

1. to describe the Biblical basis for small groups.
2. to identify stages in the development of a group.
3. to discuss the role and responsibilities of group leader.
4. to demonstrate interpersonal and group leadership skills.
5. to plan a small groups ministry for a local church.

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<b>Course Assignments:</b>	<b>% of grade</b>
Attendance and participation in class activities. (Because of the nature of this class, attendance is an integral element.)	20
Reading  Read textbooks plus at least 500 pages related to small groups. (Journals or books)	20
Exam	20
Planning Worksheets You will be provided with copies of the worksheets that appear in <i>How to Build A Small Groups Ministry</i> . Fill them out as if you were the person responsible for planning a small groups ministry in your church. Be prepared for class discussion and evaluation.	20
Group Journal Keep a journal of your thoughts, feelings, and actions about each day the class meets as a group. <b>This assignment will be your final exam.</b>	20

The content of this syllabus is subject to revision as announced in regular class sessions.

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- Borthwick, Paul, *New Directions for Small-Group Ministry*. Loveland, Colo. : Group Publishing, 1999.
- Brown, Carolyn C. *Youth Ministries: Thinking Big With Small Groups*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1984.
- Cho, Yong-gi. *Successful Home Cell Groups*. Plainfield, N.J. 1981.
- Davis, Deena, compiler. *Discipleship Journal's 101 Best Small-Group Ideas*. Colorado Springs: Nav Press, 1996.
- Drakeford, John W. *People to People Therapy*. San Francisco: Harper and Row, 1978.
- Denning, Dennis. *We Are One in the Lord: Developing Caring Groups in the Church*. Nashville: Abingdon Press 1982.
- Donahue, Bill.; Robinson, Russ. *The seven deadly sins of small group ministry: a troubleshooting guide for church leaders*. Grand Rapids : Zondervan, 2002.
- Fraze, Randy. *The Connecting Church: Beyond Small Groups to Authentic Community*. Grand Rapids : Zondervan : Willow Creek Resources, 2001.
- Griffin, Emory A. *Getting Together: A Guide for Good Groups*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1982.
- Hestenes, Roberta. *Using the Bible in Groups*. Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1984.
- Johnson, Abigail (Acker). *Reflecting with God : connecting faith and daily life in small groups*. Herndon, Va. : Alban Institute, 2004.
- Kemp, Charles F. *Prayer-Based Growth Groups*. Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1974.
- Kirkpatrick, Thomas G. *Small Groups in the Church : a handbook for creating community*. Trinity Church : N.Y., 1995.
- Knowles, Malcolm S. *Introduction to Group Dynamics*. New York: Association Press, 1972.
- McKinley, John. *Group Development Through Participation Training: A Trainers Resource for Teambuilding*. New York: Paulist, 1980.
- Peace, Richard. *Small Group Evangelism: A Training Program for Reaching Out with the Gospel*. Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1985.