



CHMN656  
**HOLISTIC SMALL GROUPS**  
*April 15-18, 2013*

*Donald C James*  
InMinistry Center Intensive  
MA in Pastoral Ministry

# Andrews University

## CHMN 656 HOLISTIC SMALL GROUPS SPRING INTENSIVE 2013

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### GENERAL CLASS INFORMATION

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Class acronym: CHMN 656  
Class name: Holistic Small Groups  
Semester & year: Spring, 2013  
Class location: Southwestern Adventist University  
Keene, Texas  
Class time/day: 9.00 am – 5.30 pm, Monday-Thursday  
Credits offered: 3  
NADEI Resource Center: 269-471-8303

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### INSTRUCTOR CONTACT DETAILS

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Instructor: Don James DMin  
Telephone: 269-471-8311 (O); 269-471-4663 (H); 269-208-2675 (C)  
Email: [groups@nadei.org](mailto:groups@nadei.org) & donjames777@gmail.com  
Office location: Seminary; NADEI, S310  
Office hours: 1:00-5:00 Tuesday & 11:30-12:00 Wednesday

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### BULLETIN CLASS DESCRIPTION

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CHMN656 (2-3) Holistic Small Groups: A thorough examination of Affinity Groups/Free Market Groups showing their effectiveness and purposes in church ministry. Also explores the key principles of Holistic Small Groups, a major factor of Natural Church Development, as well as the importance of developing an effective equipping system to grow disciples into disciple-makers.

The student will go beyond the practical skills and knowledge of small group ministries to discover the strategy, implications, and the theological/historical aspects of HSG. The student will discover how HSG

disciple new believers for ministry, work oikos evangelism, use an effective equipping track supplemented with weekend training events, and thus will develop the ministry of all believers.

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## CLASS OBJECTIVES

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### **Primary objectives of this class is for the student to:**

#### **BE:**

Comfortable in fulfilling their role as equipping ministers  
Understanding the importance of different gifts and personalities while serving one another  
Prayer Warriors while executing ministry  
Coaches of those taking leadership roles in the church

#### **KNOW:**

How to exercise the different spiritual disciplines for personal growth and ministry  
The importance and practice of building and developing deep relationship among others  
The importance of growing disciples through a systematic equipping system of ministry  
And understand how to organize the people into effective small groups

#### **DO:**

Unto others as they would like to be treated in grace, acceptance, and forgiveness  
Relational ministry and community building in everyday life  
Equipping: train, mentor, & multiply disciples for spiritual maturity and leadership of a group  
The writing of effective relational inductive small group lessons  
Ministry among the people living in community, discipling others, and active in evangelism

### **Secondary objectives include for the student to:**

#### **BE:**

Reflective of the Scriptures daily in application and not just head knowledge

#### **KNOW:**

The Gospel Presentation in its simplicity and richness to share with others  
What it means to be a servant leader

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## HOW MUCH TOTAL TIME INVESTMENT FOR THIS CLASS?

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Advanced theological education is no ‘cake-walk’, nor is it intended to ‘wear out the saints’. Designed to immerse the learner in deep theological study and introspective reflection, seminary course expectation is to challenge the student by examining his/her own premises against the study, research and inspiration of biblical scholarship.

This will take intentionality and time on your part. Course load is guided by the expectation that students will spend a total of 45 hours of course exposure to earn 1 hour of academic credit. That translates into 90 hours invested for a 2-credit class, and 135 hours for a 3-credit course. Students are advised to spend their time accordingly to meet course requirement and deadlines.

Following is a rule of thumb to help guide your reading, research, and writing for seminary courses:

- Average reading speed            15-20 pages/hr.
- Average writing speed            3 hrs./page
- Exam preparation                4-8 hours

Based on these averages, requirements for this class will take the average student the following:

- Required Reading                60 hrs.
  - Practicum Assignment            30 hrs.
  - Essay Paper                      15 hrs.
  - Class Attendance                30 hrs.
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- Total Hours for class            135 hrs.

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## TEXTBOOKS, RECOMMENDED READINGS AND CLASS BIBLIOGRAPHY

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### **Pre-intensive Required Reading (see “Pre-intensive...requirements, pages 7-8):**

1. James, Don, *Holistic Small Groups Intensive I & II*, Berrien Springs, MI: LithoTech, 2004. (Read selected chapters: See “Pre-intensive... Requirements” page 7-8)
2. Neighbor, Ralph, *Mentoring Another Christian*, Houston, TX: TOUCH Publications, 2001. (50).
3. James, Don, *Orientation to Discipleship Groups*, Berrien Springs, MI: LithoTech, 2010. (90).

### **During Class Required Reading (see “During class requirements, page 8):**

1. James, Don & Ruth, *Jesus Our Savior*, Berrien Springs, MI: LithoTech, 2011. (84).
2. James, Don & Ruth, *Jesus Our Lord*, Berrien Springs, MI: LithoTech, 2011. (168).

### **Post-intensive Required Reading (see “Post-intensive... requirements, pages 8-9):**

1. M. Scott Boren, *How Do We Get THERE From Here?*, Houston, TX: TOUCH Publications, 1995. (240).
2. Choose three books from the selected bibliography: books selected are to be from at least two of the three focus areas.

## SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Holistic Small Group Books (Focus Area 1)

- William A Beckham, *Redefining Revival*, Houston: TOUCH Publications, 2000. (220).
- M. Scott Boren, *The Relational Way*, Houston: TOUCH Publications, 2007. (266).
- David Yonggi Cho, *Successful Home Cell Groups*, Orlando, Florida: Bridge-Logos. 1981. (172).
- Joel Comiskey, *Cell Church Solutions*, Moreno Valley, CA, CCS Publishing, 2005. (175).
- Joel Comiskey, *From 12 to 3*, Houston: TOUCH Publications, 2002, (162).
- Joel Comiskey, *Groups of 12*, Houston: TOUCH Publications, 1999. (158).
- Joel Comiskey, *Home Cell Group Explosion*, Houston: TOUCH Publications, 1998. (130).
- Joel Comiskey, *How To Lead A Great Cell Group Meeting*, Houston: Cell Group Resources, 2001. (130).
- Joel Comiskey, *Passion and Persistence*, Cell Group Resources, 2006. (150).
- Rick Diefenderfer, *Creating Christian Communities*, Godley, TX:InstantPublishers, 2007. (161).
- Jim Egli and Dwight Marable, *Big Impact*, ChurchSmart Resources, 2011. (105).
- David Finnell, *Life In His Body*, Houston: TOUCH Publications, 1995. (148).
- Randy Frazee, *The Connecting Church*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001. (245).
- D. Michael Henderson, *A Model for Making Disciples*, Nappanee, IN: Francis Asbury Press, 1997. (160)
- Karen Hurston, *Breakthrough Cell Groups*, Houston: TOUCH Publications, 2001. (161).
- Dennis McCallum-Jessica Lowery, *Organic Disciplemaking*, Houston: TOUCH Publications, 2007. (178).
- Donahue-Robinson, *Building a Church of Small Groups*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2001. (209).
- Joel C. Rosenberg-T.E.Koshy, *The Invested Life: Making Disciples of All Nations*: Tyndale, 2012. ( )
- James H. Rutz, *The Open Church*, Beaumont, TX: The SeedSowers, 1992. (159)

### **Affinity Group Books (Focus Area 2)**

- Jeffrey Arnold, *The Big Book on Small Groups*, Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsityPress, 2004. (229).
- Cindy Bunch, *Small Group Idea Book*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1996. (186).
- Henry Cloud & John Townsend, *Making Small Groups Work*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2003. (280).
- Neil Cole, *Cultivating a Life for God*, St. Charles, IL: Church Smart Resources, 1999. (122).
- David Cox, *Think Big Think Small Groups*, South England Conference of SDA, England: 1998. (110).
- Bill Donahue, *Leading Life-changing Small Groups*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2002. (193).
- Bill Donahue, *Walking the Small Group Tightrope*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2003. (158).
- Dave Earley, *8 Habits of Effective Small Group Leaders*, Houston, TX: Cell Group Resources, 2001. (124).
- Julie A. Gorman, *Community that is Christian*, Grand Rapids, MI: Baker books, 2002. (244).
- Kurt W. Johnson, *Successful Small Groups*, Hagerstown, MD: Review and Herald Pub. Assoc., 2011. (191).
- Neal F. McBride, *How to Have Great Small-Group Meetings*, Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1997. (127).
- Neal F. McBride, *How to Lead Small Groups*, Colorado Springs, CO: NavPress, 1990. (139).
- Garry Poole, *Seeker Small Groups*, Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2003. (277).
- Nelson Searcy & Kerrick Thomas, *Activate*, Ventura, CA: Regal, 2008. (223).

### **House Church Books (Focus Area 3)**

- Peter Bunton, *Cell Groups and House Churches*, Ephrata, PA: House to House Pub., 2001. (95).
- Neil Cole, *Organic Church*, San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass, 2005. (450).
- Alan Hirsch, *The Forgotten Ways*, Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2006. (271).
- Alan Hirsch, *The Forgotten Ways – Handbook...developing missional churches*, Brazos Press, 2009. (200).
- J.D. Payne, *Missional House Churches*, Colorado Springs, CO: Paternoster Publishing, 2008. (148).
- Wolfgang Simson, *Houses That Change The World*, Authentic, 2001. (299).

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**GRADING CRITERIA AND COURSE ASSESSMENT ITEMS**

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**Criteria for Grades**

The final grade will be based on the following:

Attendance	200 points
Equipping and Ministry time	100 points
Pre-reading and Worksheets	300 points
Post-reading and Reports	400 points
Essay	200 points
Post course project	300 points
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1500 points</b>

Grades are calculated on the following scale:

A 96-100%	A- 92-95%	
B+ 88-91%	B 84-87%	B- 79-83%
C+ 75-78%	C 71-74%	C- 67-70%

D & F are unacceptable grade levels for any graduate credits.

**Assessment Submission (papers, projects & reports)**

Submit all assignments to [groups@nadei.com](mailto:groups@nadei.com) except for those handed in during class periods.

**Late Submission**

The following penalties will be applied for late assignments:

Assessments received by due date:	(possible A grade)
Delay up to 60 days:	(no better than an A- grade)
Delay up to 90 days:	(no better than a B+ grade)
Delay up to 120 days:	(no better than a B grade)
Delay up to 150 days:	(no better than a C grade)

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**PRE-INTENSIVE REQUIRED READING AND ASSIGNMENTS:**

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1. *Holistic Small Groups Intensives I & II* manuals. These manuals must be purchased from the NADEI Book Store: call 269-471-8303. The following chapters from the manual are to be read ahead of time and the furnished worksheets filled out except for those questions for group discussion. Download assigned chapter worksheets, Word document called "Worksheet Forms".

Scriptural/Historical Basis for Community	Intensive I, p.31-42
God's Values and HSG Churches	Intensive I, p.51-56



Edification in the Group	Intensive I, p.69-82
Whole Group Evangelism	Intensive I, p. 91-94
Transitioning Members & Transition Flow Chart	Intensive I, p. 95-98 & 109-120
Prayer is the Key	Intensive II, p. 3-8
An Effective Equipping System	Intensive II, p. 9-18
Mentoring Others	Intensive II, p. 111-114
Affinity/Free Market/Interest Groups	Intensive II, p. 121-134
Creating Community	Intensive II, p. 177-184
The Worship Experience	Intensive II, p. 165-176

2. *Mentoring Another Christian*\* is to be read before coming to the intensive class. Download copy of the furnished required book report, fill it out and turn in the first class period on **April 15**.
3. *Orientation to Discipleship Groups*\* is to be read before coming to the intensive class. This booklet has six devotional readings for each week for six weeks or a total of 36 devotionals (lessons). The purpose of this equipping booklet is to mentor another person in understanding the concept of Discipleship Groups and how they function. At the end of each week's reading there are discussion questions. These questions will be used with your ministry partner(s) during class on Monday. \*To purchase these & all listed books: NADEI Resource Center: 269-471-8303.

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**DURING CLASS REQUIRED READING AND ASSIGNMENTS:**

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1. On Monday, first day of class, students will be assigned a partner(s) that will meet together during class time to discuss the inductive questions on *Orientation to Discipleship Groups*. Time spent will include accountability, encouragement and prayer for one another,
2. During the week of the intensive, the student will read the two other equipping booklets, *Jesus Our Savior*\* and *Jesus Our Lord*.\* outside of class time. *Jesus Our Savior* is to be read on Monday (April 15), the first half of *Jesus Our Lord* on Tuesday (April 16), and the last half of *Jesus Our Lord* on Wednesday (April 17). Again, at the end of each week's worth of reading there are inductive questions that will be for discussion purposes when meeting with your ministry partner during class time.
3. During the week of the intensive, students will be assigned to groups to discuss and interact with one another concerning the assigned topics in the Intensive manuals using the completed worksheets assigned before coming to the intensive. Worksheets are to be downloaded off the internet from InMinistry Center of Andrews University.
4. During the week of the intensive, the student will be using the DISC profile designed for small groups, and will be introduced to the Blessing List. These materials are included with the purchasing of the Intensive manuals. Be sure you bring all required materials to the intensive. \*To purchase these & all listed books: NADEI Resource Center: 269-471-8303.

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**POST-INTENSIVE REQUIRED READING AND ASSIGNMENTS:**

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1. M. Scott Boren, *How Do We Get THERE From Here?*\*, Houston, TX: TOUCH Publications, 1995. (240). [This is the primary book for this class that is to be read and a book report is to be filled out and turned in.]

2. Choose three books\* from the Selected Bibliography (pages 5-6): books you choose are to be from at least two of the three focus areas.

Book reports are required on the above four books read. Make a copy of the furnished required reading form for each book and submit to [groups@nadei.org](mailto:groups@nadei.org). . **Due date for the above four books: July 2013.**

3. Extra credit of 60 points will be given for each book read (from the Selected Bibliography) beyond the requirements. Maximum of two extra credit books. Extra credit books must be over 100 pages each. Book reports are required for any extra credit reading. Use furnished book report form for each book and write on it “for extra credit.” **Due date is July 2013.**

\*To purchase these & all listed books: NADEI Resource Center: 269-471-8303.

4. Practicum Assignment. Choose one of the following three practicums:
  - a. Begin a prototype group of 8 to 12 individuals and meet weekly for at least 13 weeks. The group will practice the five values of a Holistic Small Group. Lessons used may be one of the five sets published by Open Home Ministries. Individuals in the group will use *Orientation to Holistic Small Groups* via ministry partners, which is to be done outside group time. At the end of the 13 weeks you will evaluate their experience and decide if they would like to continue as a group or multiply into two groups to continue their experience. The 1000-word assigned essay below, that is **due in July 2013**, will reflect how this “Practicum Assignment” was processed and what the results were.
  - b. Write a series of thirteen inductive small group lessons. This can be on a book in the Bible or a series on a chosen topic. The lessons are to be written on the same topic that is preached each week in your church if possible. The format must follow that which was taught in class. Each lesson is to be typed on one side of a half sheet of paper. Lessons are to be used in a small group setting for at least 13 weeks. The 1000-word assigned essay below, that is **due in July 2013**, will reflect how this “Practicum Assignment” was processed and what the results were.
  - c. Begin an equipping process as presented in class with your church or develop one that fulfills the growth process as described in 1 John 2. This is to include 8 -12 individuals that will be equipped in an area that you feel is needed in growth of those involved in the equipping. This may be done without being involved in group life. However, it must include at least two equipping station modules of six weeks each or a total of 12-13 equipping sessions. The 1000-word assigned essay below, that is **due in July 2013**, will reflect how this “Practicum Assignment” was processed and what the results were.

5. Essay:

A 1000-word essay will be due July 2013. This is to be written after all required work is completed as a culmination of what you have been learning. This essay is to report the factual

experience and results of the practicum assignment you chose to accomplish. It is to also **trace your personal journey through the concept of Holistic Small Groups** and answer questions: “Why would you personally choose to do (or not do), the HSG church model? What attracts you personally (or doesn’t) about this way of doing church?” This part of the essay is subjective, and not factual. It should reflect your own feelings and attitudes. \*\*\***This is to be typed and emailed to: [groups@nadei.org](mailto:groups@nadei.org) no later than the first of July 2013.**

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**RECAP OF MATERIALS NEEDED FOR THIS CLASS:**

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Summary of Materials to be purchased for this class:

(The following four items come as a package from the NADEI Book Store)

*Holistic Small Groups Intensive 1 Manual* by Don James (worksheets)

*Holistic Small Groups Intensive 2 Manual* by Don James (worksheets)

*The Keys for Positive Relationships* DISC Workbook for Relationship-Building for Small Groups

*Group Blessing List* Poster

(The following five to ten items needed are also available from the NADEI Book Store)

*Mentoring Another Christian* by Ralph Neighbor (Book Report)

*Orientation to Discipleship Groups* by Don James (Ministry Partner Report)

*Jesus Our Savior* by Don and Ruth James (Ministry Partner Report)

*Jesus Our Lord* by Don and Ruth James (2-Ministry Partner Reports)

*How Do We Get THERE From Here?* by M. Scott Boren (Book Report)

Three required books from selected bibliography (Book Report)

Optional: Two extra credit books from selected bibliography (Book Reports: write “For Extra Credit”)

Summary of items to be downloaded from internet:

1. Chapter Worksheets for use with Intensive Manuals 1 & 2 (11 total)
2. Ministry Partner Report Sheets for Equipping Time spent together
3. Book Report forms (4-6 needed)

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## CLASS POLICIES

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### **Classroom Seating**

To facilitate the instructor in learning of each student, please sit in the same place during the week we are together.

### **Disability Accommodations**

If you qualify for accommodations under the American Disabilities Act, please see me as soon as possible for referral and assistance in arranging such accommodations.

### **Late Submission of Assessment**

The following penalties will be applied for late submission of assessment items:

Assessments received by due date:	(possible A grade)
Delay up to 60 days:	(no better than an A- grade)
Delay up to 90 days:	(no better than a B+ grade)
Delay up to 120 days:	(no better than a B grade)
Delay up to 150 days:	(no better than a C grade)

### **Other Policies**

Computer use in class is for taking notes. The professor reserves the right to discontinue the use of computers during class lectures if inappropriate use is noted.

Food is not allowed in the classroom by Seminary policy.

### **Class Attendance**

“Regular attendance at all classes, laboratories and other academic appointments is required for each student. Faculty members are expected to keep regular attendance records. Whenever the number of absences exceeds 10% of the total course appointments, the teacher may give a failing grade. Merely being absent from campus does not exempt the student from this policy. Absences recorded because of late registration, suspension, and early/late vacation leaves are not excused. The class work missed may be made up only if the teacher allows. Three tardies are equal to one absence.”

*Andrews University Bulletin 2010, page 29-30*

### **Excused Absence**

“Excuses for absences due to illness are granted by the teacher. Proof of illness is required from physician or residence-hall nurse. Excuses for absences not due to illness are issued directly to the dean’s office. Excused absences do not remove the student’s responsibility to complete all requirements of a course. Class work is made up by permission of the teacher.”

*Andrews University Bulletin 2010, page 30*

### **Academic Integrity**

Andrews University takes seriously all acts of academic dishonesty. Academic dishonesty includes (but is not limited to) falsifying official documents; plagiarizing; misusing copyrighted material; violating licensing agreements; using media from any source to mislead, deceive or defraud; presenting another’s work as one’s own; using materials during a quiz or examination other than those specifically allowed; stealing, accepting or studying from stolen examination materials; copying from another student; or falsifying attendance records. For more details see the Andrews University Bulletin 2010, page 30.

“Consequences may include denial of admission, revocation of admission, warning from a teacher with or without formal documentation, warning from a chair or academic dean with formal documentation, receipt of a reduced or failing grade with or without notation of the reason on the transcript, suspension or dismissal from the course, suspension or dismissal from the program, expulsion from the university or degree cancellation. Disciplinary action may be retroactive if academic dishonesty becomes apparent after the student leaves the course, program or university.”

*Andrews University Bulletin 2010, page 30*

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**OUTLINE OF TOPICS AND ASSIGNMENTS**

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**HOLISTIC SMALL GROUPS CLASS**

Daily Class Schedule: M-Th 9:00 AM-5:30 PM MA InMinistry Training

Spring, 2013

<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Instruction</b>	<b>Subjects</b>	<b>Materials Location</b>
April 15	9-10am	Video	The Business of Paradigms	p. 6
Monday	10-11am	Instructor	Overview of Course, Requirements, Partners/Groups of 4	Syllabus
<b>Intensive 1</b>		Instructor	Introduction to Affinity Groups & Discipleship Groups	
	11-12pm	Instructor	Blueprint of a Holistic Small Group	p. 43-50
	1-2 pm	Students	Scriptura/Historical Basis for Community	p. 31-42 (worksheet)
		Students	God's Values and HSG Churches	p. 51-56 (worksheet)
		Students	Edification in the Group	p. 69-82 (worksheet)
	2-3pm	Instructor	A Church Built on HSG	p. 23-30
	3-3:30	Instructor	Implementing change: Research, Bell Curve, Disc	handouts
	3:30-4:30	DVD	Against Great Odds	DVD
	4:30-5:30	Students	Orientation to Discipleship Groups (Equipping)	Book (Ministry Partner Report)
April 16	9-9:30	DVD	Cell Church	DVD
Tuesday	9:30-10:30	Instructor	How HSG Raise NCD Characteristics	p. 7-22
	10:30-11	DVD	Dust	DVD
	11-12	Instructor	Growing a Disciple (Equipping Chart)	p. 83-90 (handout)

	1-2	Students	Whole Group Evangelism	p. 91-94 (worksheet)
		Students	Transitioning Members & Transition Flow Chart	p. 95-98; 109-120 (worksheet)
<b>Intensive II</b>		Students	Prayer is the Key	p.3-8 (worksheet)
	2-3-pm	Instructor	Group Health and Growth (Research of Success)	
	3-4	Instructor	Spiritual Foundations	p. 35-82
	4-4:30	Instructor	Midweek Review	Handout
	4:30-5:30	Students	<i>Jesus Our Savior</i> (Equipping	Book (Ministry Partner Report)
April 17	9-10	DVD's	Luggage & Encountering God	DVD's
Wednesday	10-11	Instructor	Freedom in Jesus (Equipping Chart)	Handouts
	11-12	Instructor	Sharing Jesus (Equipping Chart)	p. 115-120 (handout)
	1-2	Students	An Effective Equipping System	p. 9-18 (worksheet)
		Students	Mentoring Others	p. 111-114 (worksheet)
	2-3	DVD-Instructor	The Harvest, Church Wide Harvest Events	p. 161-164
	3-4	Instructor	Leadership (Equipping Chart)	p. 135-160
	4-4:30	Instructor	Final Review	Handout
	4:30-5:30	Students	<i>Jesus Our Lord</i> – Wks 1-6 (Equipping)	Book (Ministry Partner Report)
April 18	9-10	Instructor	Disc	Handout
Thursday	10-12	Instructor	Small Group Word Time	p. 185-194
	1-2	Students	Affinity/Free Market/Interest Groups	p. 121-134 (worksheet)

		Students	Creating Community	p. 177-184 (worksheet)
		Students	The Worship Experience	p.165-176 (worksheet)
	2-3	Instructor	Upward, Inward, Outward, Forward	Handout
	3-4	Video	Becoming a Paradigm Pioneer	Video
	4-4:30	Students	Evaluation	Handout
		Instructor	Wrap Up	
	4:30-5:30	Students	Jesus Our Lord – Wks 7-12 (Equipping)	Book (Ministry Partner Report)



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## INSTRUCTOR PROFILE

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### Don James

After ten years of Civil Engineering, six months as a literature evangelist, and then graduating from Pacific Union College with a Theology major, I entered the full time ministry in the Oregon Conference of Seventh-day Adventists in 1972. During the next eighteen years as a pastor, I was fully immersed in giving Bible studies, felt need seminars, public evangelism, and for the last three years focused on small groups which resulted in doubling church attendance and retaining 98% of the new converts.



In 1990 I accepted a call to the North American Division Evangelism Institute to share my experience and teach the concepts of successful small groups in Adventism to pastors for the Theological Seminary at Andrews University. During the following years I received my Doctor of Ministry Degree, and today teach in the areas of Small Groups, Affinity Groups, Holistic Small Groups, Cell Groups, Discipleship Groups, House Churches, Evangelism, and Advanced Church Planting Techniques. I have had the privilege of traveling to fifteen countries (some multiple times) and around the U.S. to teach Discipleship Small Groups.

I have written and continue to develop materials for an Adventist Equipping System, Bible study lessons [\*Jesus Our Savior\*](#) and [\*Jesus Our Lord\*](#) and several sets of small group lessons on different books of the Bible. As a certified coach, I coach several church plants and churches using small groups as well as coaching [\*The Passage\*](#), a Discipleship Group model church training center on the campus of Andrews University, which is for developing experience, confidence, and expertise for those going into the field to implement Discipleship Group Churches.

My wife, Ruth, and I, enjoy working together as a ministry team. We have two incredible sons, one beautiful daughter, and five really outstanding grandchildren. I really love and enjoy my family. We also have many surrogate sons and daughters.

To keep balanced in my life I love gardening, yard work, working with wood, and visiting lighthouses. I had the privilege of designing our own home, and was the general contractor as well as doing a lot of the building and finishing work myself.