

**PH.D. IN EVANGELISM AND CHURCH GROWTH**

**Field Essay Study Guide**

Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth

1. Thoroughly define “evangelism” and “church growth.” Include in your response an historical overview of the changing understandings of these terms in the Church Growth Movement of the latter twentieth century, being as specific as possible in your definitions.
2. Discuss and evaluate the Homogeneous Unit Principle and the Principle of Receptivity in light of their theological integrity and practical application. Indicate how each principle might be utilized when doing confrontational evangelism.
3. Discuss the relationship between evangelism and spiritual awakening in historical perspective, including a comparison of the philosophies of Jonathan Edwards and Charles Finney with regard to spiritual awakenings. Critique both philosophies from an historical church growth perspective.
4. Based upon Rainer’s research of evangelistically growing churches, discuss the relationship between theology and church growth. In the course of this response, compare exclusivism to inclusivism, and pluralism.
5. Discuss relational evangelism, servant evangelism, ministry evangelism, confrontational evangelism, E-0 evangelism, and 3-P evangelism. Indicate the advantages and disadvantages of each approach.
6. Discuss how evangelism might be done effectively among postmodern persons.

## PH.D. IN EVANGELISM AND CHURCH GROWTH

### Field Essay Reading List

Billy Graham School of Missions, Evangelism and Church Growth

- Carson, D. A. *Divine Sovereignty and Human Responsibility: Biblical Perspectives in Tension*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981.
- Coleman, Robert E. *The Master Plan of Evangelism*. Westwood, NJ: Fleming H. Revell, 1978.
- Demarest, Bruce. *The Cross & Salvation: The Doctrine of Salvation*. Wheaton: Crossway, 1997.
- Drummond, Lewis A. *The Word of the Cross: A Contemporary Theology of Evangelism*. Nashville: Broadman, 1992.
- Fackre, Gabriel J. *What about Those Who Have Never Heard? Three Views on the Destiny of the Unevangelized*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1995.
- Green, Michael. *Evangelism in the Early Church*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1970.
- Guinness, Os. *Dining with the Devil: The Megachurch Flirts with Modernity*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1993.
- Kelley, Dean M. *Why Conservative Churches are Growing*. Reprint ed. Macon, GA: Mercer University Press, 1986.
- MacArthur, John F., Jr. *Ashamed of the Gospel: When the Church Becomes Like the World*. Wheaton: Crossway, 1993.
- MacMullen, Ramsay. *Christianizing the Roman Empire (A.D. 100-400)*. New Haven, CT: Yale University Press, 1984.
- McCloskey, Mark. *Tell It Often--Tell It Well: Making the Most of Witnessing Opportunities*. Orlando: Here's Life, 1985.
- McDow, Malcolm, and Alvin Reid. *Firefall: How God Has Shaped History through Revivals*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1997.
- McGavran, Donald. *The Bridges of God: A Study in the Strategy of Missions*. New York: Friendship Press, 1981.
- \_\_\_\_\_. *Understanding Church Growth*. 3<sup>rd</sup> ed., revised by C. Peter Wagner. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990.
- McIntosh, Gary. *Biblical Church Growth*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2004.

McLoughlin, William G., Jr. *Revivals, Awakenings and Reform*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1978.

Metzger, Will. *Tell the Truth: The Whole Gospel to the Whole Person by Whole People*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2002.

Nash, Ronald. *Is Jesus the Only Savior?* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994.

Packer, J.I. *Evangelism and the Sovereignty of God*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1961.

Rainer, Thom S. *The Book of Church Growth: History, Theology, and Principles*. Nashville: Broadman, 1993.

\_\_\_\_\_. *Effective Evangelistic Churches*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1996.

\_\_\_\_\_. *High Expectations*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1999.

Roozen, David A. and C. Kirk Hadaway, eds. *Church and Denominational Growth*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1993.

Salter, Darius. *American Evangelism: Its Theology and Practice*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1996.

Spurgeon, Charles H. *The Soul Winner*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1963.

Terry, John Mark. *Evangelism: A Concise History*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994.

Wagner, C. Peter. *Church Growth and the Whole Gospel: A Biblical Mandate*. San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1981.

Warren, Rick. *The Purpose Driven Church*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995.