

Dayspring Bible College & Seminary

Ministerial Ethics

Instructor: Dr. Ron Cole

I. Course Description

Examine the various ethical views and gain an understanding of how ethical decisions are formulated. Demonstrate the importance of ethics in all professions, especially ministry. Discuss the changing ethical expectations as defined by society. Explore the timeless ethical truths that are mandated in scripture. Understand the bible to be the only source from which to base all ethical decisions. Demonstrate practical application of ministry ethics.

II. Course Objectives

As a result of taking this class, the student should be able:

- To demonstrate a general knowledge of how people regard ethics and make ethical decisions.
- To appropriate the truth of scripture and make ethical decisions.
- To understand that true wisdom is ethical living.
- To realize the impact and importance of their speech.
- To handle money and finances both personally and in the ministry.
- To understand the importance and ethics of working hard and yet maintaining proper balance in life.
- To counsel struggling members and families with biblical counsel and professional courtesy.
- To deal with church problems graciously and maintain a good testimony in the community.
- To make ethical decisions when it comes to “gray” areas.
- To understand the boundaries that must be set in order to avoid sexual sin and failure.
- To lead ministries and people with compassion and respect.
- To understand that true success in ministry can only be achieved by applying ministerial ethics.

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III. Course Requirements

A. Required Reading

- a. Deut 8, Ps 24, James 3, Book of Proverbs, Rom 14-15, Judges 13-16, Gen 37-50, 1 Sam 25

B. Class work (POSSIBLE SUGGESTIONS FOR HOMEWORK)

- a. Discuss the ethical dilemma of Rahab the Harlot.
- b. Bible doesn't say "Thou shalt not have an abortion" but we believe it to be wrong. Develop a scriptural response for a young Christian that is trying to decide for themselves.
- c. Based upon what the bible says about money, why is it wrong for Christians to gamble? Support with Scripture
- d. Prepare an ethical outline of Pro 6:16-19

C. Bible Memorization

- a. JN 17:15-19, PS 15, PS 24:3-6

IV. Tests & Grading

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| Lesson 1-3 | Test 1 |
| Lesson 4-7 | Test 2 |
| Lesson 8-9 | Test 3 |
| Lesson 10-12 | Test 4 |
| Lesson 13-15 | Test 5 |