Vanguard School of Supernatural Ministry

REVIVALIST LIFESTYLE HANDBOOK

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# GENERAL INFORMATION

## VANGUARD CHURCH’S VISION, MISSION & CORE VALUES

### OUR VISION

1 city - where His glory rests, His power manifests and His people live victorious lives.

 10 nations – a permanent presence and cultural transformation.

100’s of networked churches - in REVIVAL.

1,000’s of revivalists - anointed leaders deployed both in and out of the church.

10,000 people - in this local congregation in 10 years.

1,000,000’s mobilized in the authentic gospel.

### OUR MISSION

REVIVAL – the personal, regional and global expansion of God’s kingdom through His manifest presence!

### CORE VALUES

1. Our first ministry is to God, therefore we worship with extravagant joy and gratitude. This is our response to His amazing love.
2. Salvation frees us from the power of the devil—sin, lies, sickness and torment.
3. Every believer is a supernatural minister of the gospel of power whom signs and wonders should follow.
	* All ministry flows from the prayer, “Thy kingdom come… on earth as it is in heaven.”
	* We equip and send the church to carry on the works of Jesus.
4. We demonstrate God’s grace, His unconditional love and transforming power, to everyone.
	* We impact every socioeconomic group and cultural realm and believe that mercy and justice would reign because we pastor a city, not just a church.
	* We are a church family—a community of covenant, intimacy and honor.
	* We invest in family, relationships and smaller ministry teams.
	* Because of our mandate, we live as servants, generous and sacrificial with our money, time and gifts.
5. Christ is returning for a glorious overcoming bride—His Church.
	* We are more than “sinners saved by grace,” we are saints—sons and daughters of the King.
	* We expect to successfully fulfill the Great Commission—passing revival from one generation to the next—even if the world grows darker in the last days.
	* We embrace the Biblical government of “apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers.”

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE . . .

* there is only one true God who is the eternal King, Creator and Redeemer of all that is. He is perfectly holy, just, loving and truthful. He has revealed Himself to be eternally self-existent—one being in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
* the Bible to be the inspired, only infallible and authoritative Word of God.
* humankind was created in the image of God to know and enjoy Him yet we willfully rejected the Lordship and glory of God for which we were intended. Because of this, sickness, death and judgment entered the world and now creation experiences the effects and consequences of sin.
* the Lord Jesus Christ, the one and only Son of God, was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin, Mary, and is God’s Anointed One, empowered by the Holy Spirit to inaugurate God’s Kingdom on earth. He was crucified for our sins, died, was buried, resurrected and ascended into heaven, and is now alive today, in the presence of God the Father and in His people. He is "true God" and "true man."
* we are saved by God’s grace, through faith in the person and work of Jesus Christ. Anyone can be restored to fellowship with God through repenting, believing and receiving Jesus as their Savior and Lord. The Holy Spirit convicts, regenerates, justifies, and adopts us as we enter the Kingdom of God as His sons and daughters.
* in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life and minister super-naturally. The baptism of the Holy Spirit according to Acts 1:4-8 and 2:4 is poured out on believers that they might have God’s power to be His witnesses.
* the victorious redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides freedom from the power of the enemy—sin, lies, sickness and torment.
* the Church consists of all who put their faith in Jesus Christ. He gave his church the ordinances of Baptism and Communion. The Church exists to carry on the ministry of Jesus Christ and further advance His kingdom by undoing the works of the enemy, preaching and living the good news of God’s love, discipling the nations, baptizing and teaching them to love and obey God.
* in the ever increasing government of God and in the Blessed Hope, which is the glorious visible return of the Lord Jesus Christ to rule and reign with His overcoming bride—the church.
* Heaven and hell are real places. There will be a resurrection of the saved and the lost, the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting death.

## VSSM CORE VALUES

### God Is Good

* + God describes Himself as gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love. God is good and, by nature, in a good mood. (Psalm 103:8-13, Acts 14:16-17, James 1:17-19, 2 Peter 3:9, Matthew 7:11, Galatians 5:22-23, Psalm 119:68, Zephaniah 3:17, Psalm 104, Exodus 34:5 - 7, Acts 17:22-31)
	+ The message, ministry and sacrifice of Jesus perfectly reveal the nature of God as a Good Father. (John 3:16-17, Hebrews 1:2-3, John 14:6-7, Isaiah 9:6, Colossians 1:19, Colossians 2:9, John 1:1,18, John 8:1 - 11, 19)
	+ God is a good Father, we can trust him regardless of our circumstances. (Romans 8:28-32, James 1:12-18, Hebrews 11:6, Nahum 1:7, Matthew 10:28-31, Acts 16:23 -26)
	+ Enemies come to steal and kill, but Jesus came to destroy demonic works and give us abundant life. (John 10:10-11, 1 John 3:8, Acts 10:38, 1 Peter 5:8-10, Ephesians 6:12, Mark 5: 1-19)
	+ God is generous. As we remember and retell what He has done through testimonies, He’s able and eager to do it again. (James 1:5, Revelation 12:11, Revelation 19:10, I Chronicles 16:23-36, Joshua 4:1-9)

### Salvation Creates Joyful Identity

* + Jesus has won absolute victory! We are forgiven and freed from the enemy's power of sin, sickness, lies and torment, so now we operate in the power of righteousness, healing, truth and joy! (I Corinthians 15:56-57, Hebrews 2:14-15, Romans 8:1-4, Galatians 2:20, 2 Corinthians 5:17, Romans 6:4, Galatians 5:22-24, Revelation 1:12-18)
	+ We are adopted as royalty into God’s family and commanded to help others be reconciled and come home to the Father. (John 1:12, Romans 8:14-17, 2 Corinthians 5:18-21, 1 John 3:1, Luke 15:11-32)
	+ We are simultaneously joyful servants, trusted friends and beloved children of our Lord. (Psalm 16:11, Hebrews 1:9,Hebrews 12:2, Matthew 25:23, psalm 100:2, Galatians 1:10, Matthew 23:11-12, John 15:12-15, John 1:12, 1 John 3:1, Matthew 25:14-30)
	+ We are new creations, not merely sinners saved by grace, but saints who have been given His righteousness so we can cooperate with Father God. (2 Corinthians 5:17-21, 1 Corinthians 1:30,Romans 3:21-26 Romans 8:1,30, Galatians 2:19-20, Acts 26)

### Responsive to Grace

* + We joyfully experience the astounding, undeserved love of God *and* His ongoing power to transform us. His transforming love and power are inseparable from one another. (John 3:16-17, Ephesians 1:4-5, Ephesians 2:8-10, Romans 5:6-11, Mark 5:1-20)
	+ God scandalously loves His lost creation and extends grace to us, empowering believers to love Him and other people at a higher standard than the law. (Romans 5:7-8, 2 Corinthians 5:14-18,Romans 6:11-14,Matthew 5:21-28, Romans 8:2-4, Acts 9:1- 22, 26:1-23)
	+ Deeply experiencing grace is key to overcoming sin and failure. The Father’s love keeps us from focusing on sin or hiding in shame if we fail. Grace teaches us righteousness. (Ephesians 3:14-21, 2 Corinthians 3:17-18, Titus 2:11-13, Colossians 3:1-5, I Timothy 3:13-16, Acts 2:14-41)
	+ Experiencing God’s generosity in grace breaks the mentality that “there won’t be enough” and moves us to be generous with all our resources just like our Father. (Romans 8:31-32, Matthew 7:11, Jeremiah 29:11,2 Corinthians 9:6-11, Acts 2:44-45, Acts 4:32- 35, John 12:1-8)

### Focused on His Presence

* + Our first ministry is to God. As we behold Him, we are moved to worship with joyous passion. (Psalm 27:4, Luke 10:39–42, James 4:8, Psalm 1:1–3, Psalm 23:6, Psalm 26:8, John 4:23, Exodus 19:6, Psalm 22:3, Psalm 86:9, 1 Corinthians 6:19–20)
	+ God delights in us and has always desired to be with us. We focus on His presence because we have discovered He is focused on us. (Ephesians 1:4–5, Zephaniah 3:17, John 6:44, Jeremiah 31:3, Psalm 65:4, 1 John 3:1, Revelation 3:20, I John 4:19)
	+ Purposely cultivating hunger for God’s manifest presence and openness to experiences with the Holy Spirit deepens our friendship with God and the awareness that we carry His presence for the sake of the world. (Psalm 73:28, Psalm 107:9, John 1:16, Matthew 5:6, Isaiah 55:1–2, 1 Corinthians 3:16)
	+ As a lifestyle, we practice recognizing God’s presence while we minister to others and attempt to say what He is saying and do what He is doing. (John 5:19–20, John 5:30, John 12:49–50, John 14:10, 1 John 4:16–17)

### Creating Healthy Family

* + We are adopted into God’s family, so we intentionally create family and community wherever we go. (Ephesians 1:5, Ephesians 2:19, Matthew 12:48-50, Galatians 6:10, Romans 8:15-16, 1 Peter 2:17, Acts 2:41-47)
	+ We think like healthy family members and do what’s best for the whole environment, submitting to one another and not being selfish. (Philippians 2:3, Romans 12:9-21, Ephesians 5:21, Galatians 5:13, 1 Corinthians 13, Ruth 1:16-17)
	+ We purposely grow our capacity to trust and be trusted in covenant relationships as we empower and confront one another to live out who we truly are. (Matthew 18:15,Luke 17:3-4, Ephesians 4:15 & 16, 1 Corinthians 4:14-21, 1 Thessalonians 5:14, 1 Samuel 20)
	+ We are loyal and our loyalty is demonstrated most radically when people fail. We don’t punish and abandon those who fail to save face or convince others we hate sin, but instead, we are committed to helping them be restored. (Galatians 6:1, Matthew 18:15, John 8:1-11, Psalm 141:5, John 21)

### God’s Word Transforms

* + The goal of Scripture is to bring us into a relationship with the Author and transform us into His likeness. (John 5:39-40, 2 Timothy 3:15-17, Matthew 4:4, 2 Corinthians 3:15-18, James 1:22-25, Ephesians 5:25 - 27, Psalm 119:11, Luke 24:13-35)
	+ As God encounters us in Scripture, faith is released into our lives. Studying God’s truth empowers us to believe who He is, who we are, and how He wants us to live. (Romans 10:17, 1 Thessalonians 2:13, John 17:17, Matthew 7:24-28, Colossians 3:15-17, John 8:31-32, Psalm 119:105, Romans 15:4, 1 Corinthians 10:1-13, Acts 8:26-40)
	+ The Bible is the source of infallible truth and authority by which we judge all insight and prophetic revelation. (2 Timothy 3:15- 17, Matthew 22:29, John 8:31-32, 2 Thessalonians 2:13-15, 2 Peter 1:16-21, Proverbs 30:5-6, Psalm 119:160, Matthew 4:1-11)

### God’s Still Speaking

* + God wants to communicate with His family. It is important for us to actively listen for His voice and experience the variety of ways He communicates. (John 10:26-28, John 16:13, Matthew 4:4, Isaiah 50:4-5, 1 John 2:27, Acts 2:17, Numbers 11:29, 1 Kings 19: 9-13)
	+ Scripture calls us to earnestly desire the gift of prophecy, which is speaking on God’s behalf to strengthen, encourage and comfort people. We desire to say what the Father is saying to help people grow in their identity and discover their God-given purpose and value. (1 Corinthians 14:1-4, John 12:49,; 1 Timothy 4:14-16,Acts 2:17,1 Corinthians 14:24-25, Acts 13:1-3)
	+ Prophecy is not one-way communication. It involves two people hearing from God; the one who gives the prophetic word and the one who receives it. With the Holy Spirit, Scripture and our community, we judge the spirit and accuracy of the words we give and receive. Holding on to what is good, we let go of what is not. (1 Thessalonians 5:19-22,1 Corinthians 14:29, Luke 9:55, Acts 21:10-22:24, Acts 27: 10, 22-24)
	+ The Bible is the authoritative revelation unlike any other. Nothing will be added to it. Prophecy should never contradict properly interpreted Scripture. (Galatians 1:6-9, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Thessalonians 2:13-15, Matthew 7:15-20, John 8:31-32, 2 Peter 1:16- 21)

### Jesus Empowers Supernatural Ministry

* + Jesus promised signs would follow believers and they would do even greater works than He. (John 14:12-14, Acts 2:17-18, Luke 9:1-2, Mark 16:15-18, Acts 5:12- 16)
	+ We owe the world an opportunity to experience the power of God and an invitation to salvation because Jesus sent us into the world just as the Father sent Him in the power of the Holy Spirit. (John 20:21-23, John 17:18, Matthew 28:18-19, Matthew 5:14 - 16, Luke 10:1-9)
	+ Nothing is impossible with God. Therefore, no person or situation is beyond His ability to bring complete restoration. (Matthew 17:20, Mark 10:25-27, John 15:7, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Psalm 103:1-7, Luke 1:34-37)
	+ We believe all can be healed because Jesus demonstrated the Father’s will in healing all the sick and demonized He encountered. (Matthew 4:23, Matthew 12:15, Matthew 14:14, Luke 9:11, Acts 10:38, Psalm 103:3-4, Matthew 9:27-38, Matthew 9:28-29, Matthew 14:24-33, Hebrews 11:1, Acts 3:1-10, James 2:14-18, Mark 10:46-52)

### His Kingdom Is Advancing

* + God is big and victorious. The devil is small and defeated. We are in a battle, but the outcome is not in doubt! (1 John 4:4, Colossians 2:13-15, 1 John 2:13, John 5:4-5, Romans 8:31-39, John 12:31, Acts 4:23-31, 1 John 3:8, Hebrews 2:14-15, John 16:33, Mark 5:1-13)
	+ We believe and live the prayer, “Your Kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.” Therefore, we partner with the King in natural and supernatural ways to establish mercy, justice, and righteousness until He comes. (Matthew 6:9-10, Matthew 10:7-8, Is 9:7, Is 33:5-6, Micah 6:8, Matthew 10:42, Matthew 25:40, John 14:12, James 1:27, Matthew 12:22-29)
	+ As believers, we are all in full-time ministry as God advances His Kingdom into every area of society. Our work and efforts both inside and outside the church are sacred and valuable acts of worship to God. (1 Peter 2:9, Romans 12:1, Matthew 5:13-16, Colossians 3:23-24, Daniel 6:3, Proverbs 22:29, Ephesians 6:5-9, Matthew 25:31-46)
	+ Although we will experience resistance and conflict as the Kingdom advances, we expect the culture to be changed as people come to salvation and take their place in God’s purposes for the world. (John 15:19-21, John 16:33, Col 1:13-14, 2 Corinthians 4:8-11, 2 Corinthians 12:10, Nehemiah 2:1-10, Matthew 5:13-16, Acts 19:11-41)

### Free and Responsible

* + Christ died to set us free from sin, death, fear and shame; in order to establish us in freedom, so we can live and love as God’s glorious children. (Romans 8:1-2, 15-21, Galatians 5:1, Romans 6:4, 14-22, 2 Corinthians 3:17, 2 Corinthians 5:17, 1 John 4:17-18, Luke 19:1-10)
	+ Freedom is very personal, but it is not self-centered. We have been given freedom so we may present ourselves to the Lord as a willing sacrifice, surrendered and ready to serve. (Galatians 5:13-14, Romans 12:1-2, Romans 14:7-9, Romans 15:1-7, Matthew 4:1-11)
	+ Freedom and responsibility are inseparable. We experience true freedom as we cooperate with the Holy Spirit to produce the fruit of self-control and use our freedom to bless others. (Galatians 5:13-25, 1 Corinthians 9:19, 2 Peter 1:5-9, 1 Corinthians 8:9- 13, 1 Peter 1:13-16, John 13:12-17)
	+ We are responsible to partner with the Holy Spirit to continually develop the foundation of our character so it can support our growing influence and anointing. (2 Peter 1:5-9, Titus 2:11-12, Ephesians 4:1, Colossians 1:10, 1 Corinthians 6:18-20, Luke 9:54- 56)

### Honor Affirms Value

* + Honor recognizes and affirms how valuable and powerful every person is because we are made in God’s image and He died to restore us to relationship. We are significant. (Genesis 1:26-28, Ephesians 4:23-24, Psalm 139:13-16, Romans 12:10, 1 Corinthians 12:14-26, 1 Peter 2:17, Matthew 26:6-13 (Story woman washing Jesus’ feet)
	+ Honor recognizes and celebrates the best in people, in spite of our differences. We respond to people based on their God-given identity and the honor in our hearts, not their behavior or self-definition. (1 Corinthians 12:14-26, 2 Corinthians 5:16-17, James 2:1-5, Philippians 2:3, 1 Samuel 24:1-10 (Story David and Saul in cave)
	+ Honor is demonstrated through consistent respect in word and action toward those we lead, follow, love and disagree with. While honor avoids controlling others, it does lovingly confront, limit and discipline when necessary. (1 Corinthians 13:1-7, Leviticus 19:15-18, Galatians 6:1-2, Ephesians 4:14-15, Romans 2:4, Matthew 18:15, Hebrews 12:11-14, 2 Timothy 3:16-17, Luke 3:10-14 (Story John Baptist correcting people)
	+ The level of honor we have for a person directly affects our ability to receive from them. (Matthew 10:40-42, Philippians 2:1-4, 1 Corinthians 4:14-20, 2 Kings 4:8-37)

### Hope in a Glorious Church

* + The Church is the bride of Christ and she will successfully fulfill His great commission to make disciples of all nations, which means the nations will experience transformation. (Ephesians 5:25-27, Revelation 22:17, Matthew 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Psalm 2:8, Revelation 11:15, Isaiah 54:3-5, Isaiah 60:1-5, Matthew 28:16-20)
	+ We work to leave a legacy and inheritance for future generations just as previous generations have done for us. While anticipating Christ’s glorious return, we simply do not know when He will come so we have a long-term earthly vision. (Proverbs 13:22, Acts 2:39, 2 Timothy 2:1-2, Titus 2:11-14, Hebrews 11:4-30, James 5:7-8, Isaiah 9:6-7, Matthew 25:1-29)
	+ We are not looking to escape the world but to see Christ’s victory manifested in individuals and nations, even in the face of resistance and conflict. (John 17:15-18, Luke 10:2-3, Matthew 28:18-19, Hebrews 12:1-3, John 16:33, Revelation 11:15, Acts 13:13-52)
	+ The Church is called to overcome in all circumstances; in times of suffering and persecution, and also in times of prosperity and great influence. (John 16:33, Rev 3:5, 21, Philippians 4:11-13, Isaiah 41:10, 1 John 4:4, 1 John 5:4, Romans 8:37-39, 1 Chronicles 28:6-10)

## REVIVALIST LIFESTYLE

When you are in different environments you are often wondering, “What are the rules?” because you need to know them so you’ll know when you’ve scored a goal or when you’ve stepped out-of-bounds. Well, at VSSM our rules are buried beneath the values we are trying to get you to adopt. In other words, we’re more worried about you breaking our values than our rules–but we still have rules. It’s how we corporately respond, if and when they are broken, that is key.

God has called you to VSSM and our mission is to develop the ***revivalist*** in you.

**REVIVALIST:** (n) a ***believer*** who is ***focused*** and ***passionate***, ***willing to pay any price*** to live in ***community, purity*** and ***power*** because they are ***loved by God***, whose manifest presence ***transforms lives*** and ***cultures***.

Over the years, we have learned the important truth that who we are becoming is both expressed and affected by simple choices and behaviors. These choices and behaviors produce a lifestyle. Based on your call to become a revivalist, we have a set of expectations that we want you to adopt as your own.

Ultimately, we want your choices to flow from who you are. However, some things are first learned from the “outside in.” In other words, we adopt them before they feel quite natural or necessary because they help shape our inner world. School is often an “outside in” experience. For example, we didn’t know the English language, but we imitated and adopted a set of behaviors, principles and exercises and eventually learned it.

The following is a practical expression of choices and behaviors that flow from your core mission of becoming a revivalist. We have found them very helpful in creating an atmosphere that advances the Kingdom. Let’s break down the definition of “revivalist” and demonstrate the choices and behaviors we believe naturally flow from it.

**“believer”—** We expect you to grow in the truth, come to love it, deeply enjoy its value to save and transform, and ultimately, to radically live it. So, among other things, being a “believer” is expressed in the following simple behaviors:

* + Spend time learning and understanding the foundational statement of faith, VSSM’s Core Values and the Kingdom Foundation studies. Let them build a strong foundation for your beliefs and transform the way you live out your life.
	+ Do the homework that you have been assigned with faithfulness, knowing that God can use it to transform your mind. Turn assignments in **on time** in order to be ready to discuss and integrate the truth they contain into your life.

**“focused”—** *“You can have anything you want, but you can’t have everything you want.”* Focused people make a “To Do” list and a “Not To Do” list. Students with focus have a “yes” in their spirit so strong they can say “no” to distraction and compromise. Focus is key in accomplishing all that God has called you to become. So, at the very least, *focus* is expressed by the following:

* + Come to class on time and participate. Unlike college, we expect you to be in class. So our leaders and interns will address you if you are not in class.
	+ Quiet down immediately when someone begins to address the class.
	+ Give whoever is speaking the honor of your full attention. Which means not being on Facebook etc. or the web or your phone, or texting during class. Studies have really proven that multi-tasking (splitting your focus) harms your learning. Unplug from the culture of distraction for 5 hours 4 days a week for 9 months and enjoy the growth you’ll experience. We know you will manage yourself, but leaders and interns might help by instructing you to close your computer or devices in order to refocus.
	+ Please get enough rest so you are able to enjoy being in class.
	+ Always turn your chair and/or body to face the speaker.
	+ Turn your cell phone ringer off and don’t answer it in class. Return calls at the break or after school. (This radical revivalist behavior is actually quite refreshing for everyone.)

**“passionate”—** When we are passionate about something, our whole being is engaged. Our mind, emotions, bodies and energy are all directed at the “thing” that has captured us. Obviously, the Lord Himself is the One we encourage you to direct your passion towards. As you love Him with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength, you tap into His passion for His Church, the lost, and yourself. Imagine a “passion continuum” or scale; in other words, you might say, “I’m a 2 on the passion scale of ‘1 to 10.’” Then this year will be a great success if you become a “6” by year’s end. We don’t expect everyone to be a 10— though many will be—but we do expect growth. At the very least, the core value of passion is expressed in the following:

* + Worship with your whole being. Worship is not free time, nor a time for conversation, or necessarily “soaking” time. It is a vital sacrifice we bring to the King every day. It is a step beyond convenience. It does take a purposeful heart to worship every day with joy, but He is so worth it! Allowing yourself to become disconnected or uninvolved is not a healthy option, and leadership will address it if we see this in your life.
	+ Allow your passion to be revealed in excellence. Some of the work you are asked to produce is only viewed by you and God. That should be enough for you! If you find yourself trying to cut corners or “beat the system,” you are missing the whole point of this school.

**“willing to pay any price”—**You are already well aware of what it has cost you to attend VSSM. We recognize and value your sacrifice. Still, there is more. VSSM is not just a “Monday through Thursday” school. Rather it’s an eight-month school and it costs far more than money to attend here. If you’re unwilling to pay the price, we might have to say to you, “Okay, we accept your resignation; pray about coming back next year.” “Willingness to pay any price” looks like the following attitudes and behaviors at a minimum:

* + We don’t want you to miss a day of school, but you are allowed 16 absences. Please don’t treat these absences as something to “spend” to go snowboarding, extend vacation or take a day off. This is exactly what we don’t want you to do! They are for crises and unavoidable situations that often arise. We expect you to manage these 16 absences so you will not require more— no matter what unexpected circumstances arise.
	+ You are responsible for managing these absences. If you come close to your limit, initiate a conversation with your leaders before they talk to you and tell them how you will solve this situation.
	+ Don’t check in and then leave to have a conversation or get a coffee so your “on time” but not present.
	+ It is our expectation that you very seldom have to leave class early. If you must, please let your RGP or interns know.
	+ Attendance at services, outreaches, conferences and other events is a large part of our school experience. So, we expect you to faithfully attend on time.
	+ Don’t schedule an appointment—except for Revival Group Pastors (RGPs)—during class. On rare occasions you can check with your Revival Group Pastors if nothing else can work out.
	+ Leading with “a king’s heart and a servant’s hands” is one of the core values of a revivalist. So, we ask you to serve a whole lot. Be quick to volunteer whether it be helping to setup chairs or serving at a banquet. Your leaders have been setting an example in this area for years. One important lesson they have learned is that “the seat of service often turns into the throne of destiny.”
	+ VSSM is dependent upon your faithful payment of your school tuition. None of our money comes from the church’s general fund. “Paying any price” looks like getting a job, diligently getting support from your home church, or giving up something important or pleasurable (like a latte or a Christmas trip home) in order to keep your school tuition and housing bill current.

**“community”—**Our behavior deeply affects one another. We are not our own, we have been bought with a price and placed in a family. We can help each other soar or knock the joy out of each other. As leaders, the poor choices of fellow leaders or our students are one of the most painful experiences in our lives. Community is one of God’s most powerful tools for changing us into His likeness. Learning to forgive, get along, confront, encourage, take responsibility for each other, and cultivating the desire to seek someone else’s “highest best” above our own is the definition of maturity. So, at a minimum let’s:

* + Realize your Christian freedom is not an end in itself. It is not the goal; rather it is a tool for building something beautiful. Freedom provides the space and opportunity to truly love. Will you love? Will you choose what is best for the beloved or the family? Will you use your freedom to protect our connection and our hearts or for selfishness? “You my brothers were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the sinful nature; rather serve one another in love” (Gal. 5:13). When you yell “freedom” in worship, we hope you understand the true definition and purpose of this freedom.
	+ Confront one another in love. If someone is doing something scary or destructive, then tell them. If they don’t make a change quickly, bring in another believer, and if they still don’t respond tell your RGP. Help each other by speaking the truth in love. You are responsible to confront fellow students making poor choices. If your roommate, small group member, friend or classmate is making poor choices regarding school responsibilities (outreach, attendance, etc.), alcohol or sexuality, confront them. Tell them, “You need to get help from your RGP or I’m going to get help for you.” Turn on the lights! You would be saddened at how many painful things needlessly happen because someone “looked the other way” until it blew up. If someone is making poor choices about drugs or spending time in their bedroom with their girlfriend/boyfriend behind closed doors, love them enough to get involved. Knock on the door. Talk to them about your concerns. When someone confronts you, welcome his or her input. You are not perfect you need this input. They care about you. Our culture of freedom exists because we freely confront and call out the greatness in each other, not because we pretend not to see peoples’ poor choices or sin. Polite society lies and implies it is none of our business but God says we are our brother’s keeper. We have an honor code around here. “I love and honor you too much to let your poor choices go unchallenged by love and holiness.” Here’s how to start, “I am concerned when you

 because so could we agree to . And let’s keep checking in with each other because .”

* + To bring out the best in each other, and recognize that we really are in community, we want you to bring strength and help into your dating life. We recommend talking to leaders in your life before, during and after pursuing a relationship. At a very minimum, we expect you to inform your small group leader and RGP as soon as possible if you begin a relationship. Let’s plan together, as they would love to help you figure out how you are going to honor God in your relationship, who you will be transparent with and who you will draw upon for help and wisdom going forward.

**“purity”—**A good definition of grace is “the underserved love of God and His power to change me and situations.” The Lord gives us grace to walk in purity. Holiness is really wholeness. The Lord asks us to walk in purity because it is life giving! Sin hurts you, other people, and God. Not only that, it makes people crazy. Really, sin makes you crazy. You may hear it a lot when we apply discipline because we believe it so deeply, but your leaders will say something like, “What were you thinking, because you are way too awesome to be behaving that way!” Christians should never take a “break” or “vacation” from our character or the core values of Scripture. Grace gives us the power to change and stay changed. If you find in your heart the thought that you need a break from holiness, it reveals a dangerous condition of your heart that Father is ready and able to heal. **VSSM’s environment of freedom requires a high level of connection to God and community, and self-management.** We are calling out the royalty in one another, not just trying to abstain from sin

At the very least, purity looks like the following:

* + Do your homework well and with the right heart. A while back, we had a student purposely write down wrong answers just to see if someone was reading her work. Our question is, “How’d that work out for you? Do you feel like you’re on the road to becoming a revivalist?!”
	+ Truthfully record your attendance and Bible reading, etc. Don’t mark down that you finished your reading if you haven’t. Who you are becoming (a person of integrity) is far more important than short cuts, looking good, or avoiding conflict over your choices. **Your growing integrity is more important than graduating.**
	+ Deal with your spouse and/or roommates with absolute integrity and service. Live simply for this season so you can pay your bills on time. How you treat the people in your home is deeply important to God and, consequently, to us.
	+ SEXUAL WHOLENESS: Seek to "be imitators of God" with "not even a hint of sexual immorality, or any kind of impurity," living as "children of light" and finding out "what pleases the Lord" (Eph. 5:1-12). This standard governs our private and public life. Let your sexuality be expressed in a way that pleases God. The Father has blessed marriage with the gift of sex and married couples are obviously expected to be faithful in body, heart and mind. All of us who remain unmarried are expected to honor God and one another with our sexuality. Jesus never used another person for His own gratification and called it love. Rather, His sexuality was a blessing to Himself and others around Him. Pornography is not Father’s best for any of His children – those who view and/or engage in it. It objectifies, traps and degrades people. Viewing it diminishes a believer’s confidence and voice and creates a painful “di-vision” in our heart. If the enemy is trying to get a “foothold” and trap you in this temptation, get help and stay connected to friends and your RGP and find some accountability partners.
	+ SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND TABACCO USE: Of course, we expect students to comply with all local laws and regulations of our government regarding substances that are legal and illegal. **Marijuana use is not an acceptable choice for our students.** It may be legal, you may feel it is your right, but as a community we generally do not approve of it. For you, **“willing to pay any price”** mean’s abstaining while a student**.** As for tobacco use, we encourage any Christian in our congregation struggling with an addiction to tobacco to listen to the Spirit about the timing and grace to fight and win this battle. However, for VSSM students, the bar is higher. Those with an addiction to smoking are called to give it up NOW for the glory of God as it limits the effectiveness of your ministry with us. We don’t empower people who smoke habitually to be on the Ministry Team because, at the very least, the smell of the addiction is a distraction to the one receiving prayer as they may wonder, “How can you help break me into freedom when you don’t possess it yourself?” The solution is NOT to give up being on the Ministry Team but rather to give up the cigarettes! There is grace in this house to succeed in this area. Also, be sober-minded concerning frequent, and/or public tobacco use in cigarettes, pipes and cigars. You wouldn’t be the first to fool yourself in this area. You might not be as free as you think you are so check it out with people who love you. You’re not just managing your behavior. Your managing your leadership.
	+ ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION: In the area of alcohol, we don’t make a strict rule concerning its use because Scripture doesn’t— except to never be drunk (Eph. 5:18), and this is our expectation that you will never be drunk (from alcohol!). Our state government does have strict rules. For instance, California law prohibits alcohol use for those less than 21 years of age (no matter your country of origin). There should be no parties with alcohol, as we want our younger brothers and sisters and those recovering from addiction to feel right at home. One is legally considered drunk and may not drive with a .08 or higher blood alcohol content. We obviously expect you to obey these laws but the spirit of the law is more important. From our perspective alcohol is not a necessary key to fun, a party, a mood swing, relaxation, distraction or easing pain. Especially at these times, alcohol is a counterfeit of something the Holy Spirit has for us.

Our freedom is given to us so that we may serve one another in love. Though Scripture has given us freedom to drink alcohol, this choice potentially impacts our church’s influence and your individual influence when you are drinking regularly, publicly or at parties with one another. We don’t want the fear of punishment to control us, but we do want honor, respect and wisdom to moderate our choices in order to protect our influence and insure that it is positive. Carefully weigh how we may be a stumbling

block to other Christians and even unbelievers who may ignore our example to live a supernatural gospel because, of the choice to drink in excess (or even at all). Consider your fellow classmates recovering from alcoholic addictions, leaving a destructive “party” lifestyle, or who are under age - anyone who may be tempted because of our freedom. All this to say that we are asking love, wisdom and honor to be foremost in your heart as you weigh and perhaps moderate the exercise of your liberty in the area of alcohol. Embrace and guard your role as an influencer as seriously as we do.

**NOTE: On mission trips, alcohol use is absolutely prohibited.** There are just too many hazards where we can be hurt or hurt the local Christian community. This is yet another example of laying down our freedom for a higher good.

**“power”—**the Good News without power is not good news. Paul was glad in I Cor. 2 that his preaching wasn’t with persuasive words but demonstrations of power. Throughout the year, you will have lots of opportunities to allow the power of God to be demonstrated through you. One of our goals for you is the same as Christ’s assignment for the Twelve in Luke 9—that every student would know how to drive out demons, heal the sick and preach the Kingdom.

* + Make the most of your opportunities as you serve on the ministry team, children’s ministry, outreach team member or mission trip team member, etc.

**“loved by God”—**all of this we do **because we are loved**, not to earn the love of God. Pastor Kris is fond of saying, “We work *from* love, not *for* love.” Jesus died so that He might have relationship with us; don’t let go of this in the swirl of activity that is VSSM.

* + Let all other motives, be they a desire to change the world, to be a person of vision who’s “great for God,” or the drive to please leaders and classmates, be secondary to your connection with Him.
	+ Life is busy. VSSM is demanding and there’s a danger of losing your connection to God in the midst of all this ministry. Concentrate on maintaining your personal friendship with the Lord this year. This is why journaling, prayer, soaking, and worship are so important. It is a mistake to let go of your primary connection with Him in this season of new friends, new experiences and serving on His behalf.

**“transforms lives and cultures”—** Christ’s mandate to us is that we make disciples of the nations as we are “going.”

All of us should graduate with a humble confidence that we can reproduce ourselves by “teaching them to obey everything Jesus Christ has commanded us” (Matt. 27). Like Paul says, “Follow my example as I follow the example of Christ.” When we bring the Kingdom, we are bringing the righteousness, peace and joy of the Lord wherever we go and the presence of God changes lives. During school, you are learning how to enter into discipling relationships in which you bless and are blessed. When you graduate, we encourage you to continue forming relationships in your sphere of influence whether here or back home, and to continue to disciple as well as be discipled by mothers and fathers in Christ.

**STUDENT DISCIPLINE** *(The section we probably won’t even need)*

The freedom of the VSSM environment requires a high level of self-management. One definition of freedom we like is “I am able to tell myself what to do and make myself do it.” It’s called self-control. We don’t want a “controlling culture” but we expect to partner with you to create a holy and accountable one. We want to pastor you in such a way that the Holy Spirit “fruit” of **self-control** blossoms in your life. If it is normal for you to be externally motivated and controlled, that’s going to have to change ASAP as that style (alone) likely won’t work for you the rest of your life and ministry. You are on a path to being internally governed by the Spirit and the core-values you’ve committed to; you’re on track to perform for an audience of One, to do all unto the glory of God, though our leaders and our teaching will likely highlight areas that you can improve.

Wherever we employ the “honor-system” like going on a prayer walk, we have designed it to do just that—to build your HONOR. This only works if you are absolutely truthful, so build your integrity one “yes”, one report, one check box at a time. Oswald Chambers said, “My worth to God in public is what I am in private.”

If you are struggling to make wise and loving choices, your small group and/or the staff will confront you about any situation or person that needs to be addressed as quickly and directly as possible. This confrontation is designed to help draw out the greatness within you. If these confrontations don’t bring the needed change and help flip-on the internal “control switch” in your heart, you might find yourself in the following situation. (Note: Sinful choices are more destructive than merely poor choices about homework etc., so we handle them a little more proactively.) If, after your small group and/or the staff confront you, you’re still not changing and growing, we have a problem. Pretty soon you are going to run headlong into a “Homework Milestone” or some financial deadline and that’ll bring its own consequences. Or your behavior might sufficiently scare or hurt someone, so we no longer feel like genius’ empowering you or, for the time being, having you around. You might decide to behave your way out of the organization. That would be a bummer, but you are powerful and free to make that choice. We believe that eventually in life you’ll get a vision, more insight, or enough pain to allow the fruit of self-control to ripen!

## REVIVAL GROUP PASTORS, INTERNS & VOLUNTEERS

* + Your Revival Group has a Revival Group Pastor (RGP), who is your primary connection point at VSSM. In addition, the RGPs have interns and volunteers (typically those who have completed two years of VSSM) who are specially selected and trained to assist staff.
	+ Your RGP/intern will meet with you when you have questions or issues. They will also get to know you more personally whether through appointments, Revival Group or special events. Sharing testimonies and areas you are passionate about helps your RGP/interns get to know you better.
	+ The primary role of your RGP is to pastor you. They want to get to know you, and are not there simply for emergencies. You should feel free to pursue them; and they desire to connect with you.
	+ Your Revival Group may be referred to by your RGP’s name such as “Sheri’s Revival Group” or “Ben’s Revival Group.”
	+ In First Year, there are approximately 10 to 15 students in each Revival Group. Each week your Revival Group will meet once as a full group and then will also split weekly into gender specific Small Groups. There will be three to four small groups per Revival Group that will meet monthly for what we call a Core Group. Your RGP will tell you when and where you are meeting.
	+ In Second Year, there are approximately 10 to 15 students in each Revival Group. Each week, Revival Groups will meet once as a large group
	+ Interns and Assistant Revival Group Pastors have been selected by their RGP especially to intern in First or Second Year. They have been recommended by staff and receive on-going training. Although every intern’s gifts and abilities will be different, you can be confident that they are an extension of our ministry to you as a student. Interns have been trained to keep information confidential; however, they may share issues or problems with their RGP/Overseer as we are a team.

**AUDITING**

Occasionally we allow the opportunity to attend sessions with guest speakers. Those manning the visitors’ table will let you know if auditing is available for that particular session. When auditing, a $10.00 audit fee applies (this goes to the speaker as a blessing). Payment by cash/check is preferred, although forms are available for credit/debit card payments.

# MINISTRY TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

## CHURCH SERVICES

Students will be required to attend one service and serve at one service.

## CITY SERVICE

City Service at VSSM is at the core of all we do. We are an Apostolic Equipping Center and we believe in launching our students into practical application of what is learned in class. The type of City Service placement you are a part of is not as significant as what you will learn regarding our goals for each student. Our goals for you include learning to share your own personal testimony and lead someone to Christ, confronting fears in dealing with strangers, learning to pray for the sick and giving an encouraging prophetic word to the downhearted. Love, honor and respect are to be the primary motivations in all we do. Our goal is for every student to be challenged in new ways and to learn tools such as prophetic art, working with children, and treasure hunts. These tools will then be used on Missions Week to change the world! In First Year, our goal is to give you a taste of all types of opportunities regardless of your area of special interest. Keep this in mind as you select your City Service placement. In Second Year, there is an emphasis on leadership development, and students are expected to lead powerfully by activating and empowering their teams.

## CITY PROJECT

City Project is about your revival group serving our city. Each revival group will spend several Friday’s in the year working on practical city projects to beautify the park lands and city landmarks.

## VSSM SMALL GROUPS

Revival groups are also broken down into gender specific small groups. These help facilitate community and connection. Each student will participate in a small group weekly.

## PRAYER

We ask that each student commit to one hour of prayer a week with a specific focus and purpose towards our city and the nations. Please refer to the prayer section of the binder for ideas and places.

# ACADEMIC LIFE

## MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION

This is a brief overview of the standards and minimal requirements of VSSM for graduation:

* + Less than 16 absences over the course of the year
	+ All homework turned in and satisfactory
	+ Attend your assigned weekly church service
	+ Maintain the standards of Godly character (see “Revivalist Lifestyle Handbook”) as well as be financially responsible with tuition (and rent, if applicable) payments.
	+ *Students who do not graduate are not eligible to continue on to the next year of VSSM.*

## ATTENDANCE

VSSM is a school of impartation, instruction and discipleship combined with practical experience, which requires student participation in order to graduate. Minimally, the expectation is that students will be present! This includes attending the larger group sessions, as well as the times in smaller groups, AMTs and City Service. Additionally, assigned weekend service attendance is mandatory and any absences from weekend services will count towards a student’s overall absences. There will be 16 absences allotted for the school year.

Absences are for crises. You should save them and use them only if needed. You have 16 to manage throughout the year for emergencies. You need to have available absences for things like a family crisis near the end of the school year.

If you know you will miss school, e-mail your Revival Group Pastor (RGP) about your absence so we know where you are and that you are safe. Absence notification is NOT an excused absence. We do not have those. It is so we know you are safe.

1. Attendance is taken each day of school and at all church services.
2. You will receive an absence if you are “absent” from all your classes for a day. Please note the other ways absences are accumulated:
	1. You are “absent” if you are more than 30 min late to school or a class.
	2. You will receive a half absence if you are absent for one class but present for another on the same day. Two skipped classes in one day will result in you receiving 1 absence. If you only have 1 class for a day and you are absent you will receive a full absence for the day.
	3. You will receive a “tardy” if you come in after class starts, up until 30 min into the class when you will then receive an absence. Three “tardies” will result in you receiving 1 absence.

## HOMEWORK

In order to remain in school, students must complete every assignment in a timely manner in accordance with the date that is assigned by the instructor or the paperwork received. Revival Group Pastors (RGPs), Assistant RGPs and Interns are empowered to address the character issues that are revealed by late, unsatisfactory or neglected assignments. The goal is that every student would be self-managed in the area of homework. If you can’t manage your freedom, the RGPs will step in.

1. Unlike other schools, VSSM requires that all assignments be done in a satisfactory manner in order to graduate.
2. We don’t want you working on homework during school. It’s rude and doesn’t belong in a culture of honor. We don’t call this multi-tasking but poor planning and a lack of focus. (Teaching people who aren’t listening is nearly unbearable. Why would we put ourselves through that?!)
3. All homework is due according to the date assigned by the instructor or the paperwork you receive. The school schedule is a bit fluid, so please listen carefully for any changes.
4. All reading is to be done by the due date. It is not optional, nor should you “scan” it. It is considered homework. You will need to keep up on your reading to survive, thrive and stay in school. For example, in First Year, you must read at least 12 to 14 pages and one to two chapters of Scripture every day for 240 straight days to complete your homework and graduate.

HOMEWORK MILESTONES

If all your assignments are turned in on time, you will never have to worry about the following policy. Having made clear that homework is due on the date assigned, we have a system in place to ensure that students don’t fall too far behind, called Homework Milestones. They are **not** a monthly due date for assignments; rather they are the date when we are unwilling to allow you to attend school if you are not doing your work in a satisfactory manner.

1. Homework Milestones are deadlines for any late assignments to be turned in. (See your binder for the specific dates). Please be aware that we may not receive homework after the start of school on these days, as our staff needs that day to assess if it is satisfactory.
2. Students who have outstanding homework are responsible to get it done and turn it in. It is not our job to remind you. However, you will receive a courtesy e-mail a couple days prior to the Deadline letting them know which assignments are past due. If you think you have received an e-mail by error, please bring the assignment in question to your Revival Group intern (it may be that the name on the assignment was missing or illegible. If for some reason you do not receive a courtesy e-mail, you are still responsible to meet the deadline.
3. If you have missed the deadline, still attend church on your assigned service (your attendance will still be recorded as usual).
4. If you missed the deadline you will receive an absence the following Monday.
5. You will begin accruing absences on the homework milestone date and each day following until your homework is turned in. At this point we are limiting your options and giving you extra time (time you’d normally be in class) to get caught up. Students will need to see their RGP, Assistant RGP or Intern and be asked to develop a plan for themselves towards the goal of successfully staying in school.
6. If a student exceeds the limit for absences, he or she will not be eligible for graduation with credit (see “Graduation and Academic Credit”) and is now at risk of forfeiting their eligibility to graduate altogether. If the student still fails to take responsibility, they may be asked to leave school.
7. If you feel that the homework load is becoming overwhelming (language barriers, legitimate learning disabilities, etc), we have options available. Please communicate with your RGP before you are overwhelmed. (See “Learning Agreement”)

COMPLETED HOMEWORK RETURN

Every student should receive his or her homework back after it has been assessed and entered into my.VSSM. The student should review the work for any comments and hold on to it, at least through the end of the school year.

1. The student will turn in homework on the expected due date to the designated area.
2. Homework will be assessed as either “Satisfactory” or “Unsatisfactory.” Unsatisfactory assignments will be marked as such and returned to the student to complete the assignment. The assignment must then be turned in again for re-assessment. NOTE: Unsatisfactory assignments are treated as missing assignments and will be subject to procedures outlined in “Homework Milestones”
3. You will find your processed homework in your Revival Group’s homework file box.
4. If you notice that an assignment you turned in was not recorded, please check in with your RGP.
5. Each student will check his or her file folder monthly to empty it of returned homework. This folder will also contain any other communications/paperwork from staff/interns.
6. Students are expected to keep the homework at their residences until the school year ends. Please do not keep it in your student binder as it may get misplaced. The reasons for this are:
	* It may be a resource for you in the coming years.
	* You have proof that you have done it in the unlikely event that we make a mistake in recording it. Homework needs to be done in order to graduate and it would be a bummer to do it over!

## TUITION PAYMENTS

Please be on time with all of your tuition payments. Any payments by cash or check should be dropped off at the VSSM Payment Slot located in the main hallway of the VANGUARD Campus for Second Year students.

A payment drop box is also located upstairs in the hall neat Pastor Justin and Pastor Jessica’s pastoral office. In addition, payments may also be made online through the VSSM web page. (www.vanguard.church/vssm)

Friends and family can support you by:

1. Sending a check to VANGUARD; or 2) donating using a credit card by going to the VSSM webpage. Credit card payments will update immediately on your student account. Once your tuition is paid in full, please direct anyone who wants to support you to give directly to you.

## TRAVEL

One of the privileges in Second Year is the opportunity for students to travel on ministry trips with VANGUARD leadership.

As a general policy, we don’t allow First Year students to travel as part of a ministry team. We wish to provide oversight and covering to students while they’re learning to minister. Therefore, VSSM Missions Week, city service, and ministry team are the students’ primary opportunities to develop their gifts and experience. We feel it takes time to absorb the core values and ministry styles of VANGUARD. We’re not trying to be controlling; we’ve just had previous difficult incidents of being misrepresented through lack of experience in our culture.

We understand that students are sometimes asked to give testimony at their home churches about what God is doing. We simply ask that students refrain from bringing a ministry team of fellow students with them. Any school days and/or assigned weekend services missed will count towards your allotted absences.

Please do not travel on any ministry teams, even if VANGUARD leadership approaches you. These leaders may not be aware of this policy and would need to speak to your Revival Group Pastor (RGP) before approaching you. If you would like to discuss the possibility, feel free to consult your RGP before making any plans whatsoever (including airline tickets, hotels, etc.). At a minimum, students must be released as part of the ministry team and be in good standing (homework, attendance, finances and character) with the school.

## GRADUATION AND ACADEMIC CREDIT

We love graduation! It’s a total joy to graduate together. To the VSSM staff graduation means **“successfully completing the academic, attendance, financial, and spiritual assignments the staff asks of you and doing it with an honoring attitude.”** If you don’t complete all these assignments with honor you won’t graduate and receive a certificate of graduation. We’ll all be disappointed if you don’t graduate *but we’re willing to let you make this choice if you want*. Furthermore, and this is key, if you want to be considered for one of the limited spots in Second Year, you’re certainly going to have to do a great job in First Year. Failure to graduate any year of VSSM makes you ineligible for application to the following year. Students are, however, welcome to repeat their current year.

## WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL

We believe in you and in our school. Most students persevere through some difficulty to be here—it is part of the way God works with us. Students who have enrolled in our school and have started attending school sometimes find that they have a reason to leave school. This may include any number of reasons, such as finances or personal reasons. All students in our school are expected to follow the procedure below if they begin to feel the need to withdraw from school.

* 1. Students who are considering withdrawal from VSSM must first make an appointment with their Revival Group Pastor (RGP) to discuss the possible reasons for leaving the school and whether God is in the decision.
	2. We are all trying to allow other people in our lives and to connect with mothers and fathers. Please go into this meeting looking for help and information. We can’t pastor students if they come in having already made up their mind. Your question should be, “I am considering withdrawing, and I want your feedback about it” rather than, “I’m leaving school.” We know this is new for some of you, but the RGP is looking to wisely counsel students, not just keep them in school. Therefore, a student should see his or her RGP early on if he or she starts thinking along these lines.
	3. No student should leave without giving us his or her honest feedback and without an attempt with the RGP to resolve any possible issues.
	4. The administrative staff will follow up with the student.
	5. **Refund Policy:** Students who withdraw from school before Christmas break and have previously paid their tuition in full may receive a refund of up to 50%. This refunded amount is based upon a pro-rated monthly portion of paid tuition. After January 1st, tuition is non-refundable. This policy is in effect because those who leave early have, in effect, displaced another applicant.

## COURSE SYLLABUS

A course syllabus for the core instruction at VSSM can be found on the following pages. This core curriculum includes:

* Bible Exegesis, Interpretation and Application
* Prophetic Ministry in the Life of the Church
* Spiritual Formation
* The Supernatural Nature of the Gospel
* Foundational Theology and Church History
* Outreach / Evangelism Practicum
* Kingdom Theology and Identity