



# HERITAGE BIBLE CHURCH

## PASTORAL INTERNSHIP

For Chris Gerber, Summer, 2019

The aim of this internship is to fulfill Paul's words to Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:2: "what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." Handing down the gospel to faithful men was a crucial means of guarding the gospel for its advance to the ends of the earth. In other words, this internship is about doing the age-old thing of raising up preachers and pastors who will, in turn, raise up preachers and pastors. Recognizing this biblical priority, the elders have thoughtfully built into the pastor for preaching and teaching's role a priority on theological development for future pastors. This internship is one attempt at that sacred aim.

This is a non-paid *learning* and *leading* internship. In terms of learning, some things will be "taught," but much of what the man will get will be "caught." That is, there will be conversations along the way about teaching, ministry, meetings, etc., and these are all a part of growing in wisdom and love for the church. Then, in terms of leading, there will be a few opportunities for public leadership of some kind, whether in an elective class, evening prayer, etc.

In its present form, this internship is built for one man for a summer. In the future, this may develop as a track for several men at a time, eight to twelve weeks at a time across a semester. It may also adapt to a core curriculum for internships with more robust ministry assignments (and adapted reading) tied to other staff elders.

We'll plan to meet weekly or twice-monthly, from 4:30–5:30pm before each elders meeting to discuss what you're learning, allow me to answer any questions you're asking about the ministry, reading, etc., and to pray.

# I. LEARNING

School is built to do some things and not others. School is critical for things like the biblical languages, and deep diving in church history, systematic theology, etc. But neither you nor the church should depend on the seminary to equip you in every dimension of pastoral ministry. This summer will be a time of reading, reflection, and observation on the places where our theology touches down on ministry practice. We want to put some good books in your hand, and put you in front of some key people and teams in our church.

## LEARNING FROM BOOKS

Your reading and writing will focus on connecting theology to ministry practice. I'll be putting the kinds of books in your hand whose ideas are foundational to our ministry at Heritage, some of the best books for defining your own ministry ahead. You'll love them. This reading and writing will sharpen you, preparing you to lead, and to engage a church in the course of your own pastoral search.

Each week you will read 100 pages (or one book). If a book is shorter than 100 pages, then that's all you need to read. If the book is longer than 100 pages, then pick 100 pages and read those. Here's the summer reading list with due dates:

- Due, week of June 10. *Christ from Beginning to End: How the Full Story of Scripture Reveals the Full Glory of Christ*, by Trent Hunter and Stephen Wellum.
- Due, week of June 17. *Conversion: How God Creates a People*, by Michael Lawrence.
- Due, week of June 24. *Worship Matters: Leading Others to Encounter the Greatness of God*, by Bob Kauflin.
- Due, week of July 1. *The Trellis and the Vine: The Ministry Mind-Shift That Changes Everything*, by Colin Marshall and Tony Payne.
- Due, week of July 8. *Church Elders: How to Shepherd God's People Like Jesus*, by Justin Rinne.
- Due, week of July 15. *When Everything is Missions*, by Denny Spitters and Matthew Ellison.
- Due, week of July 22. *What Is the Mission of the Church?: Making Sense of Social Justice, Shalom, and the Great Commission*, by Kevin DeYoung and Greg Gilbert.
- Due, week of July 29. *Budgeting for a Healthy Church: Aligning Finances with Biblical Priorities for Ministry*, by Jamie Dunlop.

- Due, week of August 5. *If It's Not Too Much Trouble: The Challenge of the Aged Parent*, by Ann Benton.
- Due, week of August 12. *Pornography: Fighting for Purity*, by Depak Reju.
- Due, week of August 19. *A Conflict of Visions: Ideological Origins of Political Struggles*, by Thomas Sowell.
- Due, week of August 26. *Liberating Ministry from the Success Syndrome*, by Kent Hughes.

When you finish the reading, you'll write 600 words in answer to three questions per book and get that to me each week with 24 hours before we meet. Here are the three questions:

1. What is the book's thesis and basic argument?
2. What was the most provocative idea for you personally, and how have you responded?
3. How will this book serve you in pastoral ministry?

## LEARNING FROM TEAMS

One of the ways you'll grow in this internship is by exposure to other leaders and ministry meetings. The following are opportunities open to you. Let me know which you plan to commit to joining us for and I'll plan on you for those.

### *Elders Meetings*

- Wednesday, 6–8pm (2nd, 4th) in the conference room with the elders and guests.

### *Lord's Day Gatherings*

Sunday morning is that one time of the week when the whole church is in one place. There are nuts and bolts that go into the morning that aren't readily apparent without being there early and knowing whose doing what. So, that's what you'll do.

- Show up at 7:30am and check-in with Brian Burch. He may put you to work. Otherwise, simply watch and learn about the kinds of things Brian is responsible for.
- Observe the 8:10am morning rehearsal led by Steven Brundage.
- Join me for a 9:10am pre-service prep and prayer meeting.

### *Various Staff Meetings (optional).*

- Tuesday, 10–11am, in my office, my meeting with Stephen Brundage.
- Tuesday, 11am–12pm, in the conference room, all-staff meeting.
- Tuesday, 12–1pm (1st, 3rd), leaving from the office for lunch with staff men.
- Tuesday, 1:30–2:30pm, in the conference room with staff elders/directors for prayer.
- Tuesday, 2:30–3:30pm (2nd/4th), in the conference room with staff elders/directors for an admin meeting.

## II. LEADING

Pastoral ministry involves a host of public, small group, and more intimate forms of Word leadership. Robust involvement as a layman in our various ministries is the best channel for growing in your Word leadership. As part of the internship, we'll help you test-drive and develop your public gifts in a few ways.

### LEADING IN THE WORD

In some fashion, you'll provide some Word leadership within our church. For example, as opportunities are available, you could take on an assignment within our youth ministry, men's ministry, elective ministry, etc. You're already paired with Chris Fraley to teach Christianity Explored, so you're good to go. In addition, plan to do two things:

1. At two points during the summer, ask the ministry leader (staff pastor, or class teacher/co-teacher) what you're doing well and what you can do better.
2. At two points during the summer, ask someone under your ministry the same questions.

### LEADING IN PRAYER

You'll lead out for three of our summer Evening Prayer services. Let me know which you're available for.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• June 23</li> <li>• July 14</li> <li>• July 28</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• August 11</li> <li>• August 25</li> </ul> |
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