# Northwestern Theological Seminary And Christian Alliance Ministries Worldwide

"The Branch Seminary Program Prospectus"

#### The Vision

The staff and leadership of Northwestern Theological Seminary recognize our primary goal as educating believers to fulfill their obligation to obey the Great Commission of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to go into all of the world and teach the Gospel and to make disciples of all nations.

The concept of The Branch Seminary program is to provide a Christian Educational Program that can be both affordable and attainable by any student in the world. Utilizing the simplicity of a curriculum entirely based on the 66-books of the Holy Bible as the only textbooks. Because we focus on the Bible only and not denominational doctrine, the Branch Seminary Program concept, as stated, is applicable to be used by any Church, Ministry or Religious Organization regardless of Denominational Affiliation.

## The Beginning

Early in August of 1980, Dr. Howard M. Sarkela, Founder and Presiding Pastor of Christian Alliance Ministries and Northwestern Theological Seminary, developed a learning process called, "The analytical approach to applied education." Dr. Sarkela found that the archaic system of last minute cramming and memorization for examinations resulted in considerable loss of potential knowledge due to the negative consequence of such knowledge being stored in short term memory.

The analytical approach provides for the student a system of relating research and study of specific information with areas of personal experience causing a link between the new information and aspects of the long-term memory of the student.

When we analyze by asking personal questions, we involve personal interest and we then acquire knowledge that is more easily remembered. The key to remembering the answers is to personally relate, which promotes a more effective, personal interest in finding solutions and answers to questions and hypothesis.

## The Program

The Branch Seminary Program was structured as a simple course of study that can be implemented internationally leading to an Associate of Theology in Biblical Studies (A.Th. in Biblical Studies) from Northwestern Theological Seminary.

Utilizing the Bible as the textbook, students obtain a complete overview of every chapter found in the books of the Bible. This is accomplished by answering two questions, which provide for 1. Observation 2. Interpretation 3. Application, and 4. Correlation.

The student will answer two questions that are meant to relate the information from an analytical approach on every chapter:

- 1) What is the Lord teaching me from this chapter of Scripture?
- 2) How may I apply what I have learned to my life and the ministry of helping others?

Through a ONCE per week meeting at a designated location, the student may review with an instructor questions with regards to the chapter assignments and need for clarifications. The structure of the program is one that provides for the individual student to be part of a group of seminary students while at the same time working on individual programs. Duration of the 60 credit degree program will be from 1-2 years, depending on the home study time schedule of each individual student.

A new student would start their course in the New Testament then after finishing the New Testament, begin and complete the Old Testament. Students would then work at their own individual pace. This provides for a unique opportunity, since this allows for open enrollment allowing new students to enroll at any time and to be accepted into the seminary continually throughout each the year.

#### The Branch Director

Branch Directors should be persons who have a broad knowledge and understanding of Scripture. The Director may choose to appoint volunteer leaders to meet with students once per week allowing for the opening of many branches. The Director can also charge a small monthly tuition fee; this will provide a monthly income for the Director's Ministry. Northwestern Theological Seminary Headquarters does not require any payment for this program. This allows for the Director to implement a self-supportive program. The monthly tuitions should provide income well above the cost of operating the program. The branch volunteer leaders meet with students for 2 hours on just one night per week and should not be paid for their volunteer ministry service. Furthermore, there should be no cost for the use of a donated room for one evening per week. The only supplies needed are Bibles, Pencils and Paper, which should be provided by the students. A Director's promotion or appointment to Regional Director is contingent on the number of seminaries and students being trained in your branch seminary network.

## The Degree

The Branch Seminary is authorized to offer just one-degree program, the Associate of Theology in Biblical Studies. This degree is both a State authorized and theologically accredited degree, completion of the degree program allows for enrollment in the Masters Degree Graduate Program with Northwestern Theological Seminary through the Internet.

## **Worldwide Branch Seminary Leadership**

Branch Seminary Leadership will be handled by the qualified leadership of Bishop, Dr. Earl Beckles and Bishop Dr. Carlos F. Molina. Bishop, Dr. Samuel Galloza is the President of Operations for all ministry operation and development.

All communications should be directed to Bishop, Dr. Galloza at this time.

May God bless the reader and the doer...

Presiding Bishop Dr. Howard M. Sarkela
Bishop, Dr. Samuel Galloza
Bishop, Dr. Carlos F. Molina
Dr. Miguel Contreras

Founder CAM / NTS
President CAM / NTS
Vice President NTS
Vice President CAM

## **Seminary Headquarters**

# **Northwestern Theological Seminary**

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