

The Theology Program

Step by Step Implementation Plan

The Theology Program has become a standard part of the education program of many churches. Join the hundreds of local churches already using the TTP curriculum to impact their community by impacting minds.

By becoming an official TTP extension you will have a listing on the TTP site for people searching for TTP in your area.

The Vision of The Theology Program is to help other like minded people successfully launch this program in their own churches all over the world. For this very reason, the designers of The Theology Program (TTP) created all the material with the theological education of the local church in mind. Whether you are seasoned in the discipline of theology or have no experience in this area, we can help you implement this program in your church.

Whether with a home study, small group, or a large group, facilitating TTP is an incredible and easy way to join us in impacting the culture. You simply bring your group together, watch the videos, and then go through the discussion questions at the end of each session. The facilitator will be responsible for leading discussion, overseeing/grading assignments, and submitting grades to RMM for certificates.

We are available to help you at every step. We truly want this program to make a difference. With your help, this is possible.

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Implementation Plan

The following is a three-phase process to implement The Theology Program (TTP) in your local venue. The suggestions that follow are just that— suggestions. The staff and advisory board of The Theology Program are aware that programs will differ according to the purpose, culture, and audience of each church. This is why we allow some freedom in the implementation of this program in your local setting. You may or may not decide to follow the suggestions exactly. What we are confident of is the fact that people with the Spirit of God in them thirst for a deeper element of discovery that is difficult, if not impossible, to provide in the modern church setting of biblical education. Although a program like this requires much time and commitment, we know God will be faithful to your endeavor. We at TTP are committed to helping you in whatever way we can.

Phase 1

Understand the program. The first step necessary to implementing TTP is to become familiar with the mission, purpose, and values of the program. A firm grasp of where this type of program fits into your education program at your church or small group is imperative. Please review the PowerPoint presentation of the program provided in your kit.

For lay-people wishing to implement the program: Meet with your church leaders and request that TTP become part of their Christian education program. Use the PowerPoint presentation or video below to explain the program. Often, there are many questions that you may not be able to answer. The staff of TTP is willing to be a part of this meeting through a conference call or by traveling to your area.

Determine your audience. You will also have to decide if you are going to open enrollment up to other churches in your community and the unchurched. TTP is a wonderful way to reach out to the community. What you will find is that many people who would never step foot in a church to attend regular services will be open to coming to a class on theology. At Stonebriar Community Church's TTP (our flagship church) we have 20-30 percent of our students come from the community.

Determine your start date. We strongly suggest that you run your semesters concurrently with the on-line program so that your people can benefit from the weekly on-line discussions that take place with TTP students all over the world.

Contact us to inform of your intentions.

Purchase material for leaders.

Leaders needs

Required: PowerPoint Presentation, course workbook, course textbooks, course DVD sets to view (if facilitating) and to loan for students who miss sessions. Purchase from the Reclaiming the Mind Store: <http://store.reclaimingthemind.org>.

Suggested: Honors reading material and "essential" reading material (listed in syllabus).

Phase 2

This phase involves the administrative side of the program.

Three months prior to class:

Reserve the rooms (if at a church). Hopefully, your church has access to a PowerPoint projector for the DVDs. If you do not one, it is suggested that you do your best to get them. If you cannot, you can use a traditional DVD player and TV.

Two months prior to class:

Create brochures. You can use the official TTP church material that we have provided in this kit.

List the ministry and schedule on your website with relevant enrollment information. Please create a link to Reclaiming the Mind page on your website.

Seven weeks before class:

Distribute TTP brochures. Give a brochure to everyone in the church. Include them in the Sunday worship folders.

Promote the program. Promote the classes from the pulpit. Explain to the congregation that your church is committed to this program. This will give people time to see if they can set aside ten weeks to begin the program. You do not have to sell them on the entire program before they take the first class. You must understand that this may be something new and fearful to the people. It will take enough persuasion to get them into the first class, much less sell them on the *entire* program. The people will become committed to the program during the first class.

Six weeks before class:

Begin the enrollment process. Make sure that you have a database or other record keeping system that will support all the personal information that is needed, record the grades, and support the program with e-mails. Microsoft Excel works well as a database tool to collect and record the needed information.

(Reclaiming the Mind Ministries will require a database of your students).

Set the cost. Churches typically charge \$100 per course. This cost may or may not cover the Student Workbook and course textbook. While some may want to offer the courses free of charge, we do not suggest you do so. We have found that where there is no cost, there is no commitment. For example, we have seen scholarship programs offered and found that the recipients of the scholarships have a very high drop-out rate.

Purchase the material for students from the RMM store. If you do not have the budget to purchase the textbooks up front, purchase them the first week of class. You may find that the majority of the people do not sign up until a week or two before classes begin.

Students needs

Required: Course workbooks and textbooks from our store.

Suggested: Honors reading books

One week before class:

Print name tags for each student. This will help you and the students to get to know each other.

Test your A/V equipment. This will help to make sure that things go smoothly on opening night.

Pray. Because you are starting this program out of a desire to teach people about the wonder and greatness of our God, it may be superfluous to tell you to be in constant prayer for the program, but I will remind you anyway—PRAY. Pray for the presence of God with the program.

Please send Reclaiming the Mind Ministries your class roster along (make sure email addresses are included).

May God bless your studies.