

Equip Biblical Institute

Church Planting * Team Leadership * Pastors Institute

2100 Greenfield Drive, El Cajon, CA 92019



History of the Early Church

Professor:

Training Center City:

Semester and Year:

Course Description

This course focuses on how to apply and teach the history of the church from the early church to the dawn of the Reformation. Topics include overview of church history, sketches from church history, lessons from church history, and applications from church history. Students will create visual projects and applications for transformational discipleship and leadership.

Course Design

This 14-week course is designed to equip pastors, church planters, and next-generation leaders with Bible knowledge, Christian character, servant leadership, and disciple-making skills with the goal of life-change. It addresses the learning styles of adults through active discussion, charts, visuals, Internet resources, team-building, and presentations. To ensure transfer of credit, changes to this course syllabus must be approved by both Equip Biblical Institute and Southern California Seminary. Over 1,200 leaders have completed EBI courses. Suggestions for improving course design are appreciated.

Required Textbooks

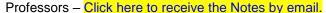
- 1. *Jeremiah Study Bible*. Annotated by Dr. David Jeremiah. Worthy Publishing, 2013. CBD or 9781936034895
- Dr. Justo L. Gonzalez. The Story of Christianity, Volume 1: The Early Church to the Dawn of the Reformation. 2nd ed. HarperOne, 2010. CBD 9780061855887
- Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary. Edited by Charles Draper. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2003. <u>CBD</u> or <u>9780805428360</u>

Additional Books for Pastors, Leaders, and Advanced Students

- 4. Dr. Max E. Anders, *30 Days to Understanding Church History*, 2nd ed. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1998. 9781561210848 [out of print]
- Mark A. Noll. Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2012. CBD 9780801039966
- Christian History Made Easy DVD http://www.rose-publishing.com/Assets/ClientPages/email1057_157.aspx
- 7. Dr. Earle E. Cairns. *Christianity through the Centuries*, 3rd edition. Zondervan, 1996. <u>CBD</u> 9780310208129

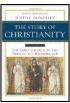
Internet Resources

<u>4truth.net</u> * <u>bible.org</u> * <u>blueletterbible.org</u> * <u>carm.org/apologetics</u> * <u>gotquestions.org</u> * <u>helpmewithbiblestudy.org</u> * <u>jeremiahstudybible.com</u> * leestrobel.com



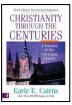
The intent of this course is to equip you with the Word of God, to strengthen your character and integrity, and to develop your relational and servant-leadership skills for the glory of God.

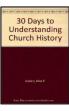












Learning Outcomes

The student who successfully completes this course will be able to implement 2 Timothy 2:2:

- 1. Apply and disciple others with the key lessons from the first century expansion and persecution.
- 2. Apply and teach the key lessons from the second century persecution and apologists.
- 3. Apply and teach the key lessons from the third century persecution and expansion.
- 4. Apply and teach the key lessons from the key leaders of the imperial church.
- 5. Apply and teach the key lessons from the medieval church and the Islamic attack.
- 6. Apply and teach the key lessons from the attempts to reform the medieval church.
- 7. Apply and teach the key lessons from the Renaissance and Humanism.
- 8. Apply and teach the key lessons from the beginnings of Spanish Christianity in the New World.
- 9. Participate in a group or individual presentation, mini-sermon, project, PowerPoint, mind-map, visuals, webpage, or YouTube video on a chapter in one of the textbooks.
- 10. Type a 10- to 15-page term paper titled "Applications from Early Church History for Leadership and Character Development."
- 11. Coach other leaders to develop Christian character through our identity in Christ, gratitude for the Gospel, the spiritual disciplines, personal revival, the fruit of the Spirit, and the seven virtues with the goal of transformational discipleship.

Methods of Instruction

Instruction emphasizes active learning, problem-based learning, project-based learning, presentation-based learning, team-based learning, reflection, discussion, interactive lecture, collaboration, visuals, term papers, and exams, with the goal of long-term and real-world learning that results in life-change and leadership skills. The major pedagogical premise of this course is that students should be treated like the servant-leaders they are becoming.

Dr. Gary C. Woods has served as the Bible Department Chairman and Registrar at Southern California Seminary. Dr. Woods has taught for Liberty University, Luther Rice Seminary, San Diego Christian College, and Southern California Seminary. He has a Doctor of Education in Technology and Learning from Alliant International University, a Master of Divinity in Missions from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, and a Bachelor of Science in Cross-Cultural and Pastoral Ministry from Liberty University. He has served as a pastor and church planter with the North American Mission Board, and as an elected governing board member of GUHSD with over 20,000 high school students.

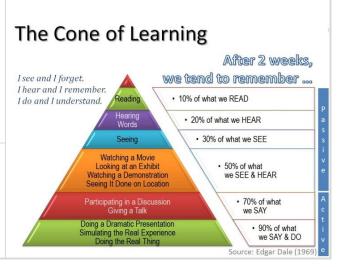


Accelerated Adult Learning Strategies

Authentic learning involves observation, interpretation, and application. The goal of *balanced instruction* is to address the learning strengths of adult learners, including verbal, visual, musical, logical, kinesthetic, reflective, interpersonal, natural, and spiritual. *Student-centered instruction* is most effective when it impacts the mind, will, and emotions.

TEAM-based Active Learning Principles

Students are encouraged to study in teams to develop application skills, leadership/relational skills, and presentations. Students are not to give answers to co-learners, but help them learn how to find the answers. TEAM = Together Everyone Accomplishes More.



Student Requirements

First, answer the **questions** in the **portfolio** before class. This will assist student-leaders in focusing on core information and developing the time-on-task study skills and writing skills essential to effective learning and long-term memory. Each student must do his or her own work.

Second, maintain the **journal** in the portfolio. (1) What is God teaching you in this session? (2) How are you going to apply these concepts to your life, family, and ministry? (3) How can your church apply these concepts to making disciples and developing leaders? This will assist student-leaders in developing reflection, application, and decision-making skills essential to spiritual growth.

Third, participate in the **discussion** of the questions and applications in the portfolio during class. Through discussion students learn from one another and sharpen one another as iron sharpens iron. This will assist student-leaders in developing the relational, speaking, and creative/critical thinking skills essential to effective teaching and servant-leadership.

Fourth, complete the **midterm exam**. This will assist student-leaders in developing long-term memory through multiple reviews of the core material.

Fifth, participate in an individual or **group presentation** on one of the chapters in the textbook. The ability to make engaging presentations will multiply your influence, leadership, teaching, and preaching. Discuss applications found in that book. This presentation can be a PowerPoint, drama, role-play, charts, or drawings. This will assist student-leaders in developing the creative/critical thinking and teamwork skills essential to effective teaching and servant-leadership. Week 13

Sixth, type a 10- to 15-page **term paper** titled "Applications from Early Church History for Leadership and Character Development." The ability to write well will multiply your influence, leadership, teaching, and preaching. Footnote all the ideas, paraphrases, and direct quotes in your paper, whether from books or the Internet. Font should be Times New Roman 12. Include illustrations and charts. This will assist student-leaders in developing the creative/critical thinking and writing skills essential to effective biblical teaching, preaching, and servant-leadership. Week 13

Seventh, complete the **final exam** in the portfolio. This will assist student-leaders in developing long-term memory through multiple reviews of the core material and in focusing on transformational leadership and teaching skills. Week 14

Course Objective Is Life Change

Our mission is to bring glory to God by assisting local churches to equip believers to live and minister biblically based on the inerrant Word of God. This equipping includes Bible knowledge, Christian character, and ministry skills. The objective is to take student-leaders from where they are and move them to where they need to be. Students will learn how (1) to read with their brains; (2) to remember what they have read; (3) to sharpen their thoughts through journaling; (4) to speak effectively before others; (5) to work as learning teams of leaders; and (6) to biblically apply what they are learning to life, family, and ministry.

Accelerated Adult Learning Techniques

Adults learn in unique ways and so this course incorporates multiple learning styles. According to the **Cone of Learning**, writing, discussing, and applying concepts are the keys to accelerated adult learning. The portfolio is foundational to learning because students remember more of what they write, discuss, and apply. By applying these principles of champion learners, students will experience transformational growth. Welcome to the accelerated disciple-making process!

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
1		Introduction The Fullness of Time Persecution in the First Century Go over this syllabus and the portfolio. Preview the study guides for the exams. Discuss the appendix. Discuss portfolio questions and journal applications. Demonstrate how to get the most out of the Jeremiah Study Bible, the Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary, and the textbooks. Group Activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters. Review in class: https://www.blueletterbible.org/resources/charts.cfm and www.biblestudytools.com. It is imperative that professors help students improve their term papers and character through coaching, feedback, encouragement, examples, and rubrics. These are crucial learning and leadership skills. Go over the Transformational Discipleship Covenant.	Print 459 History of the Church 1 portfolio and notes. Pay the honorarium to the director. Skim the textbooks and be prepared to discuss how these books are unique as learning tools. Study chapters 1-5 in <i>The Story of Christianity</i> . Explore the resources in the Topical Index of the Jeremiah Study Bible or at www.jeremiahstudybible.com Explore resources on the history of the church at www.dtruth.net , www.gotquestions.org/ , and www.gotquestions.org/ , and www.gotquestions.org/ , and www.gotquestions.org/ , and <
2		Persecution in the Second Century Persecution in the Third Century Welcome guests and encourage students to share what they have learned so far. Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and understand the lessons of history. Group Activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters. Optional: Watch A.D. The Bible Continues on YouTube or DVD. Optional: Watch "Ben Hur" on YouTube or DVD. Remind students how being a chosen generation, royal priests, a holy nation, and God's special people	Study chapters 6-10 in <i>The Story of Christianity</i> . Explore Internet resources on this topic. Watch A.D. The Bible Continues on YouTube. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Make or update a reach list of every unchurched person that you know. Go on an evangelistic visit during the course with your pastor, deacon, church leader, Sunday school worker, or friend. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples. Invite friends and apprentice disciples to see how the course works.

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
		impacts our discipleship and leadership development.	
3		Christian Life The Monastic Reaction Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and understand the lessons of history. Group Activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	 Study chapters 11-15 in The Story of Christianity. Watch A.D. The Bible Continues on YouTube. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Pray for those on your reach list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
4		The Schismatic Reaction The Great Cappadocians of Asia Minor Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and understand the lessons of history. Group Activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	 Study chapters 16-20 in The Story of Christianity. Explore resources on this topic at www.gotquestions.org/. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Pray for those on your reach list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
5		Ambrose of Milan The End of an Era Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and understand the lessons of history. Group Activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	 Study chapters 21-26 in The Story of Christianity. Explore resources on this topic at www.gotquestions.org/. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Pray for those on your reach list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
6		Medieval Christianity—The New Order Islamic Invasions The Islamic Slave Trade in Europe Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and understand the lessons of history. Group Activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters. Review for the midterm exam.	 Study chapters 27-30 in The Story of Christianity. Explore resources on this topic at www.4truth.net. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Pray for those on your reach list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
7		Midterm Exam Give the midterm exam. Preview the second half of the course. Coach students on how to improve their term papers. Make corrections to the term paper in class. Discuss who would benefit from the EBI leadership training program. Order textbooks for next semester. Request next semester portfolios and notes by email.	 Review the study guide in the notes to prepare for the midterm exam. Four hours of study are recommended. Work on the term paper. Make or update your list of next-generation leaders you can pray for, share with, encourage and disciple. Pay for textbooks for the next courses. Be involved in the small group and/or Sunday school ministry of your church.
8		The Islamic Slave Trade in Africa The Islamic Offensive The Crusader Counter-Offensive Welcome guests and encourage students to share what they have learned. Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and understand the lessons of history. Group Activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of this chapter.	 Study chapters 31 in The Story of Christianity. Explore Internet resources on this topic. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Pray with people on your reach list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples Invite your friends and apprentice disciples to see how the course works.
9		The Golden Age of Medieval Christianity The Collapse of Leadership Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and understand the lessons of history. Group Activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of one of these chapters.	 Study chapters 32-33 in The Story of Christianity. Explore resources on this topic at www.4truth.net. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Pray with people on your reach list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
10		In Quest of Reformation John Wycliffe John Huss Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and understand the lessons of history.	 Study chapter 34 in The Story of Christianity. Watch Brother Sun, Sister Moon from on YouTube. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Let your light shine by doing acts of kindness for people on your list.

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
		Group Activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of this chapter. Watch "Brother Sun, Sister Moon" from on YouTube.	Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
11		Renaissance and Humanism Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and understand the lessons of history. Group Activity: Create a visual summary or mind-map of this chapter.	Study chapter 35 in <i>The Story of Christianity</i> . Explore resources on this topic at www.theopedia.com/. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Let your light shine by doing acts of kindness for people on your list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
12		Spain and the New World The Portuguese Enterprise Discuss portfolio questions and applications. Coach students on how to improve their term papers and understand the lessons of history. Group Activity: Prepare for next week's student presentations. Watch "The Mission" on YouTube.	Study chapters 36-37 in <i>The Story of Christianity</i> . Watch "The Mission" on YouTube. Type the answers to the portfolio. Work on the term paper. Review the study guide. Let your light shine by doing acts of kindness for people on your list. Share what you are learning with your apprentice disciples.
13		Student Presentations and Term Papers Welcome guests and disciples. Coach students on how to improve their presentations. Coach students on how to improve their term papers. Group activity: Peer-review and make corrections to the term paper in class. Review for final exam.	Prepare to participate in a group or individual presentations on a chapter in the books. Bring a rough draft of your term paper for peer-review and corrections. Invite your friends and apprentice disciples to watch student presentations.
14		Final Exam and Course Evaluation Give final exam. Collect completed portfolio for review. Collect revised term paper for review. Students will debrief by sharing how they are using and sharing what they have learned.	Review the study guide for the final exam. Complete the portfolio. Revise the term paper. Share and/or email your revised term paper to pastors, deacons, small-group leaders, and your apprentice disciples in order to

Session	Date	Professor Responsibilities	Student Responsibilities
		Discuss how to recruit students who would benefit from the EBI leadership training program. Distribute the textbooks, syllabi, portfolios, notes, and promotional materials for the next course. Time of fellowship.	multiply your ministry in obedience to 2 Timothy 2:2-3. Learning is about teaching others. Pass on the baton of transformational discipleship by sharing what you are learning.

EBI holds to the *Baptist Faith and Message*. The inclusion of articles, books, or external links in this course does not imply that the opinions expressed represent the official position of EBI.

Webliography

- 1. Jeremiah Study Bible Online Content http://www.JeremiahStudyBible.com
- 2. 4 Truth.net www.4truth.net
- 3. Apologetics 4Truth www.4truth.net
- 4. Bible http://www.bible.org/series.asp?series_id=76
- 5. Bible Atlas Online http://anova.org/sev/atlas/htm/
- 6. Bible Bulletin Board http://www.biblebb.com/
- 7. Bible History http://www.bible-history.com/
- 8. Bible Land Photos http://bibleplaces.com/
- 9. Bible Study Resources www.bible.org
- 10. Biola http://www.go2rhcc.com/resources/OTHist/homepage.html
- 11. Blue Letter Bible Timeline http://www.blueletterbible.org/study/parallel/timeline/index.html
- 12. Blue Letter Bible Study Tools/Charts http://www.blueletterbible.org/study/
- 13. Christian Classics Ethereal Library "World Wide Study Bible" http://www.ccel.org/wwsb/
- 14. Crosswalk.com Bible study tools http://www.biblestudytools.net/
- 15. Church Starting http://www.churchstarting.net
- 16. E-sword.net Bible study tools http://www.e-sword.net/
- 17. Got Questions http://www.gotquestions.org/
- 18. Holy Land Photos http://www.holylandphotos.org/
- 19. New Testament Summary http://www.bible.org/page.asp?page_id=2076
- 20. Old Testament Gateway http://www.otgateway.com/
- 21. Online Bible links http://www.onlinebible.net/links.html

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HCSB Study Bible. Annotated. Nashville, TN: Holman Bible.

Holman Book of Biblical Charts, Maps, and Reconstructions. Edited by Marsha A. Ellis Smith. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 1993. 9781558193598

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Holman Illustrated Bible Dictionary. Edited by Charles W. Draper and Chad Brand. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 2003. 9780805428360

Holman QuickSource Guide to Christian Apologetics. Edited by Doug Powell. Nashville, TN: Holman Reference, 2006. 9780805494600

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- Eckman, James P. Exploring Church History. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2001. 158134368X
- George, Timothy, and David S. Dockery. *Theologians of the Baptist Tradition,* 2nd ed. Nashville, TN: Broadman and Holman, 2001. 0805417729
- Nettles, Tom J., and Russell Moore. *Why I Am a Baptist*. Nashville, TN: Broadman and Holman, 2001. 0805424261 http://www.spiritualdisciplines.org/chapters.html
- Noll, Mark A. *Turning Points: Decisive Moments in the History of Christianity.* Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2012. 9780801039966
- Shaw, Mark. 10 Great Ideas from Church History: A Decision-Maker's Guide to Shaping Your Church. Downer's Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1997. 083081681X
- Sutton, Jerry. The Baptist Reformation: The Conservative Resurgence in the Southern Baptist Convention. Nashville, TN: Broadman and Holman, 2000. 080542198X

Transfer of Credits to Southern California Seminary

Attendance Policy

Attending class on time is important to receive the most out of the course. Entering class late disrupts the learning process of all students. Students are permitted three absences for a 14-week semester course. For the semester (28 classroom hours plus 68 homework hours) courses, more than 10 minutes late is a *tardy;* more than 20 minutes late is an *absence*. Two tardies count as one absence. College credit cannot be transferred to Southern California Seminary when a student misses four or more class sessions. A grade of NC (No Credit) will be recorded when a student misses four sessions, does not complete coursework on time, or earns less than 700 points.

Class Time and Homework Policy

To transfer credits to Southern California Seminary, each 2-unit course must include at least 28 hours of class time discussion and 68 hours of portfolio homework during the 14-week semester. Courses with less than 28 hours of class time do not meet EBI requirements. Since "time plus focus equals learning," increased classroom time and active learning result in increased learning—and learning is the key to leadership and service. Courses start the week of January, May, and September. For maximum learning, it is recommended that working students take 2 courses per semester or 6 courses per year.

Late Work Policy

Completing work on time is an important habit for leaders to develop. Homework should be completed weekly before the class discussion and application. The grade for work that is between 1 and 7 days late is lowered by 20%. The grade for work that is between 8 and 14 days late is lowered by 40%. Work that is over 14 days late will not be accepted. Professors are to send to the EBI offices the grade sheet within 15 days of the end of each course so that transcripts can be updated each semester.

Portfolio Policy

To transfer credits from Equip Biblical Institute to Southern California Seminary, students must present a complete portfolio of their course work. The portfolio consists of the questions, journal applications and reflections, term papers, and exams for each course. Upon successful completion of the Associate of Biblical Studies, students may transfer **60-66 units** into the Bachelor of Arts in Biblical Studies degree. If the portfolio for a course is not complete, the credits may not be transferable. Portfolios must be completed individually—not as couples. Answers to portfolio questions are subjective so each student must do his or her own work.

			Grade	e Scale		
Grade		Percent	Points	A STATE OF THE STA		
Α	=	95-100%	950-1,000	FRI		
A-	=	90-94%	900-949	CSBC		
B+	=	87-89%	870-899	Collection Convention Experie Convention		
В	=	84-86%	840-869	The second secon		
B-	=	80-83%	800-839	MALCO DE CO		
C+	=	77-79%	770-799	一		
С	=	74-76%	740-769	Samuraru		
C-	=	70-73%	700-739	Seminary observator		
NC	=	Below 70%	0-699			
Student Evalua Portfolio/Grou	ıp Activ	vities		Percent55%	Points 550 100	
Midterm Exam						
Student Presentations						
					150 100	
				100%	1,000	

Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Session 5	Session 6	Midterm 7	Session 8	Session 9	Session 10	Session 11	Session 12	Presentation 13	Term Paper 13	Final Exam 14	Points	Grade
50	50	50	50	50	50	100	50	50	50	50	50	100	150	100	1,000	ABC

	Course Grading Rubric						
Grade	Requirements	✓					
А	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 10- to 15-page paper with zero errors.						
A-	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 10- to 12-page paper with 1 or 2 errors.						
B+	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 10- to 11-page paper with 3 or 4 errors.						
В	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 8- to 9-page paper with 5 or 6 errors.						
B-	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 7-page paper with 7 or 8 errors.						
C+	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and the 6-page paper with 9 or 10 errors.						
С	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and essay are completed but need corrections.						
C-	Exams, portfolio, presentation, and essay need individual tutoring or peer coaching.						
NC	Students earn less than 700 points or miss more than 3 sessions.						

It is possible to earn a "C" by writing an essay rather than a term paper, but it is necessary to write a term paper to earn an "A" or "B". Writing clarifies one's thoughts and is a key skill for an effective leader. Initially students may have difficulties in developing writing skills, but they will improve and gain confidence with each course they complete. It is important that professors help students improve their writing skills to maximize their thinking and leadership skills. Students should use the term paper rubric, sample term paper, and type-over template to write their term papers. Since students have different abilities, goals, responsibilities, and schedules, students can choose the grade for which they are aiming.

Writing is one of the most important skills that a leader can develop. As part of the academic agreement with Southern California Seminary, to earn an "A" students are required to email or mail a copy of their academic work to the EBI Registrar. The goal is to catch students doing something right and affirming them. The objective is to recognize and analyze the best term papers and to prepare next generation leaders for university level education by helping them improve their writing skills, thinking skills, and leadership skills.

The mission of Equip Biblical Institute is to bring glory to God by assisting local churches to equip believers of various cultures and languages to live and minister biblically based on the inerrant Word of God. This equipping includes building biblical knowledge, Christian character, and ministry skills. The goal is to provide preaching and teaching resources, intentional leadership development, disciplemaking materials, Skype courses, YouTube videos, charts, notes, and visuals to pastors and churches around the world. EBI is equipping the next generation of pastors and leaders to multiply their influence by training leaders, creating videos, and writing books.

EBI is a religious exempt school and not accredited by the U. S. Department of Education; however, EBI Associate degrees are transferable to Southern California Seminary and other schools.

As students take each course their brains will develop a multitude of new neural connections increasing their ability to read with comprehension, make practical applications from what they are learning, and improve their communication, leadership, and writing skills.