

APPL 507: WITH SKILLFUL HANDS AND INTEGRITY OF HEART LEADERSHIP LESSONS FROM DAVID

Mark Buchanan

July 20 – 24; 1:30 – 4:30 pm

1 or 2 graduate credit hours; or 1 audit hour

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Poet. Warrior. Shepherd. Assassin. Worshipper. Adulterer. David was a man after God's own heart, but also utterly human and deeply flawed - wise, courageous compassionate, but also prone to anger, pride, lust, fear, self-pity, and more. He's not so much a model as a mirror. Though much about him inspires us, not everything invites our admiration or imitation. But everything - his character, his prayers, his relationships, his decisions, his actions, his mistakes - demands our full attention and prayerful reflection.

In this course, we will enter deeply into the David story, not to find leadership principles but to reflect on the life of a real man and leader in real time, with all its tensions, contradictions, serendipities, and opportunities. And always, we will be looking at David's relationship with God. We'll eschew formulaic answers but will mine the story for real wisdom for our own journey as leaders.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon the successful completion of this course, students should have a clearer understanding of:

1. Its historical, biblical and literary context.
2. Its theological, interpretive and literary history.
3. Its lessons and warnings.
4. The implications and applications of its lessons and warnings to the student's own life, especially their leadership challenges and opportunities.

COURSE OUTLINE

Day 1 July 20 The David Story: Overview

Day 2 July 21 The Time of The Judges & The Rise of Samuel, Saul & David

Day 3 July 22 David in Saul's Court

Day 4 July 23 David in the Wilderness

Day 5 July 24 David & Power

NOTE: The student is expected each day to have read a portion of 1 or 2 Samuel and one Psalm; a schedule of readings will be sent to all enrolled students within a week of the course starting.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Robert Alter, *The David Story*. New York, New York: WW Norton, 2010.

David Wolpe, *David: The Divided Heart*. New Haven, Connecticut: Yale University Press, 2014.

Please Note: This Course Information Sheet is meant to assist in selecting courses. The official syllabus should be consulted for more detailed information. A full syllabus with drop deadlines, policies, and course assignment details is available on Moodle for registered students: moodle.regent-college.edu/login

