



Emet Ministries

Veritas Institute Mission

The Veritas Institute is a ministry of Emet Ministries. At the Institute, we seek to provide formal biblical and theological training to cultivate deeper discipleship in the local church that impacts communities near and far. The Veritas Institute is intentionally designed to help individuals love Jesus more by challenging them intellectually and by facilitating intentional intergenerational relationships in and outside of the classroom. The overarching goal of the two years is to give individuals competency and confidence so they may go from being disciples to disciplers by connecting apologetics, theology, and leadership with intentional relationships.



Why is the Veritas Institute needed?

The 21st century has seen a drastic lapse in the growth of the Christian community in the United States. With each passing year, fewer Americans are identifying as Christian. Barna's 2019 survey revealed that 64% of adults ages 18-29 that had grown up in the church had abandoned their former Christian practices. Ligonier's 2020 State of Theology revealed that 46% of professing evangelicals agree that "Everyone sins a little, but most people are good by nature." This same study also revealed that 39% of evangelicals agree that worshipping alone or with one's family is a valid replacement for church.

While the abandonment of the local church is alarming, we should also be concerned about the lack of Christians with a biblical worldview. A 2017 Barna study showed that only 17% of Christians "who considered their faith important and attend church regularly actually have a biblical worldview." Not only are there biblical and theological concerns in the church, but the ever-present disunity among evangelicals over secondary and tertiary doctrines remains a plague on the American church as a whole. We believe that intentional discipleship is key to resolving these issues.

17%
of Christians
have a biblical
worldview

How does the Veritas Institute aid discipleship?

A recent Barna Group study commissioned by the Navigators Ministry states that most people in the church believe they cannot disciple because they lack the Biblical knowledge to disciple well. The Veritas Institute seeks to meet this concern head-on in three specific ways. First, we connect theology, apologetics, and evangelism to discipleship. By providing a framework for how theology, apologetics, and evangelism connect to discipleship, we believe that participants will gain confidence in their ability to disciple others within their sphere of influence.

Four-Fold Disciples

1. Christ
2. Saints
3. Sources
4. Culture

Second, we connect individuals with disciplers and disciples. It's an expectation that those participating in the first year of the Institute will be discipled by someone in their local church. In the second year, participants will be expected to disciple someone as well.

Third, we teach and train participants to be Four-Fold Disciples. A Four-Fold Disciple is a disciple of **Christ** first and foremost. Then they are a disciple of mature **saints** and good **sources**, and they seek to understand the cultural moment so that they can be disciplers to the **culture**. Developing in these four areas—Christ, saints, sources, and culture—produces a Christian who loves the Lord with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength and their neighbor as themselves and who knows how to engage the community as a gospel-centered disciple. The Veritas Institute promotes this development through intellectual engagement, regular personal application, and accountability to spiritual disciplines.

We want to turn Disciples into Disciplers.

"Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ." - 1 Corinthians 11:1

What does the Veritas Institute look like?

The Veritas Institute is a one-year program consisting of two 15-week semesters. Each semester, participants commit to weekly readings with devotional reflections and four general meetings. The weekly readings come from various traditions within Christendom to provide a fuller understanding of the Scriptures and to demonstrate how to maintain unity around the gospel of Jesus Christ amid differing views on secondary and tertiary issues. The topic for each week is different, and the amount of reading may vary from 2 hours to 4 hours a week. The assignments are intended to challenge students and help them connect the readings to their personal walk with Christ and discipleship, taking the information from the head to the heart for daily living. The four general meetings take place every three to four weeks throughout the semester and consist of lectures and group discussions that aim to further apply the content of the readings from the previous weeks to discipleship.



Veritas Institute Overview

Weekly Focus: Semester 1

1. Theology and Discipleship
2. The Doctrine of God: Who He Is and What He Does
3. The Triune God
4. The Word of God
5. God's Sovereignty and Man's Responsibility
6. The Church and Fighting for Unity
7. The Church and Fighting for Unity
8. Total Depravity
9. Unconditional Election
10. Limited Atonement
11. General Meeting Review
12. Irresistible Grace
13. Perseverance of the Saints
14. Worshipping God
15. General Meeting Review

Weekly Focus: Semester 2

1. Evangelism
2. Evangelism and the Bible
3. Hospitality as Evangelism
4. Apologetics as Evangelism
5. Apologetics as Evangelism
6. Can We Trust the Bible
7. General Meeting Review
8. The Resurrection of Christ
9. Christianity and Science
10. Christians and Culture
11. General Meeting Review
12. Family Discipleship
13. Church Discipleship and Outreach
14. Discipleship and Books
15. General Meeting Review

59%

of youth stay in the church as adults if they have an intergenerational relationship

How do I apply?

We have a short application process to help us get to know those who are interested in participating. Apply now for the Veritas Institute at emetministry.org/veritas-institute/.

You can also email Christian Barrett at christian@emetministry.org.

How much does it cost?

Registration costs \$150. This covers both registration and the price of books.



Veritas Institute Readings

BOOKS

Against Calvinism- Roger Olson
Biblical Critical Theory- Christopher Watkin
Biblical Theology 101- Michael Lawrence Frame
Can Science Explain Everything?- John Lennox
Evangelism and The Sovereignty of God- J.I. Packer
Finding the Right Hills to Die On- Gavin Ortlund
Knowing God- J.I. Packer
The Gospel Comes With a House Key- Rosaria Butterfield
The Reason for God- Tim Keller
Why Trust the Bible?- Greg Gilbert
Your Verdict on the Empty Tomb- Val Grieve

HANDOUTS

Chan's Wisdom Tips for Evangelism- Tim Anderson
Divine Sovereignty and Human Freedom- John Frame
Five Points- John Piper
Praying to the Glory of God (Part 1)- Micah McCormick
Praying to the Glory of God (Part 3)- Micah McCormick
Providence- Paul Helm
Overcoming the Fear of Evangelism- Juan Sanchez
The Didache
The Freedom and Bondage of the Will- Steven West
The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self- Carl Truman

2024-25

Veritas

Syllabus

"Disregard the study of God, and you sentence yourself to stumble and blunder through life blindfolded, as it were, with no sense of direction and no understanding of what surrounds you."

- J. I. Packer

"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." - A. W. Tozer