

Hospital and Prison Chaplaincy

COURSE OUTLINE

Unit 1

A Brief History of Chaplaincy

What is a Chaplain?

The Purpose of a Chaplain

When to Call a Chaplain

Ethics and Integrity

Unit 2

Domestic Violence

Listening and Communicating

Rape, Molestation, Incest

Stress-related Duties
(Armed Services etc.)

Unit 3

Prison Ministry

Death and Grief

Trauma, Terror, and Terrorism

Crisis Reaction

Unit 4

Pastoral Psychology

Unconditional Responses

Hospital/Nursing Home Visits

Do's and Don'ts of Ministry

Unit 5

Dealing with Spiritists, Cults and Occults

Case Study
(Review)

Unit 6

Points of Discussion

Examination

The purpose of a Chaplain

Chaplains are ministers who help people during times of trouble, illness, or crisis of any kind. The Chaplain is there to listen, care, and respond appropriately to the agenda of the person or client. The Chaplain plays a vital role in the faith, hope, healing, recovery and spiritual and emotional well-being of victims, inmates, patients, or their friends and families. The Chaplain is there to listen, care, and respond appropriately to the agenda of the person or client.

Chaplaincy is a ministry of presence and availability. There are various types of Chaplaincy. The following is a brief description of some of the more common chaplaincies and their requirements.

Military Chaplaincy

People preparing for and going to war need Pastoral Care! There are Active Duty, Reserves, and National Guard Chaplains in the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines, and Coast Guard. Requirements are a Bachelor's degree and a Master of Divinity degree, usually earned before the fortieth birthday. The Air Force and Navy also sponsor volunteer Chaplaincy in the Civil Air Patrol and Sea Cadet programs.

Healthcare

Veterans' Affairs and civilian hospitals, as well as hospices, hire professional Chaplains. Who better to reach the hopeless, hurting, and dying of society than caring well-trained Chaplains? To be a healthcare Chaplain generally requires a Bachelor's degree, a Master of Divinity degree, and one year of Clinical Pastoral Training (better known as Clinical Pastoral Education CPE) in a healthcare context.

Correctional

God has seen to it that the felon has a chance to contemplate his/her crimes against society. Who better to reach out to the lost, hopeless, desperate, and forgotten of society with a message of deliverance, and hope than a dedicated Chaplain? There are professional and volunteer opportunities in our nation's Federal, state, and local facilities for Chaplains. Correctional facilities are presently the fastest growing industry in America.

Could God be calling you to minister to those who have known nothing but bondage? Or, could he be calling you to support Chaplains who do? Requirements vary according to the correctional facility. Volunteer positions are plentiful and do not require degrees.

Workplace

Business and industrial chaplaincy is a new and growing field. Employees not distracted by marriage and family crisis, alcohol, drugs, and other addictions, as well as a myriad of personal and spiritual problems are safer, more productive employees. Studies indicate that for every dollar spent on workplace chaplaincy results in a \$4 to \$7 saving for business due to absenteeism, accidents, medical and counseling intervention and treatment, etc. Specializations in the field of workplace chaplaincy include union, truck stop, airport, seaport, fire department, police department, racetrack, and college chaplaincies. Requirements for these chaplaincies vary considerably.

Educational

Public School Chaplaincy for America is the only organization that equips clergy for ministry to students, faculty, and administrators in public schools in the US. A quick glance of the top tragedies of the last several years makes the mandate for this new genre of Pastoral Care painfully clear! Requirements are appropriate specialized training, criminal background check, and Ecclesiastical Endorsement.

When to Call a Chaplain

- When you want prayer or spiritual guidance
 - When you need to talk about fears, concerns, hopes or any other issues
 - When you desire a rite or ritual (such as communion, baptism, the sacrament), prayer for the sick, or anointing with oil)
 - When there is a death or crisis
 - When there is deep emotional trauma caused by abuse of any kind
 - When you're wrestling with spiritual issues such as unresolved grief, lack of faith, inability to pray, a sense of being abandoned by God, or when you lack hope or question the meaning of life
 - When you need information about local religious groups or resources
1. Remember, as a chaplain you have a duty to all of your constituents, not just those who are of the same religion as yours. When becoming a chaplain, you should learn as much as possible about other religions as well.
 2. **Worship.** Next, you need to be able to lead the people in worship. There are general ecumenical services that a chaplain will hold, sometimes on a weekly basis, sometimes on a daily basis. Apart from ecumenical services, however, you should also provide communion, confession and counseling for the various people in the field in which you work.
 3. **Trust.** Another aspect that you need to develop if you want to become an effective chaplain is the ability to gain other people's trust. In most situations, a chaplain is working under special conditions such as in war, in hospitals, in leprosarium, etc. Clearly, the typical chaplain is surrounded by people with special needs. If you want to be able to help these people, you need to be able to gain their trust so that they will open up to you and confide in you their secrets.
 4. **Counseling.** Finally, you should also study psychology and read up on how to counsel properly. Although you will not be expected to offer counseling sessions the same way a psychiatrist would, you still need to have sufficient knowledge in dealing with various personalities and giving them good advice.

INTRO TO CHRISTIAN ETHICS

Ethics are defined as a body of moral principles or values governing a particular culture, group, or organization. Christian ethics are a complex of moral precepts held, or rules of conduct followed by individuals. Ethics is what you think is right or wrong. Being "ethical" means trying to be reasonable and doing what is considered right. Furthermore ethics can be considered as moral philosophy. It deals with answering questions such as 'what ought to be', not 'what is'.

ANOTHER ANSWER

In its simplest form, ethics are the actions we take to accomplish the greatest good. What is the greatest good? In its simplest form it is the revealed will of God as it relates to our relationship to God, ourselves, and our fellowman. It is what constitutes the greatest good to the greatest amount that can become complicated.