



CORNERSTONE  
*Bible Institute*



Handbook



**CORNERSTONE**  
*Bible Institute*

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## Message from Our President

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Cornerstone Bible Institute (CBI) is a church-integrated training center focused on developing leaders to impact the nations of the world for Christ. Recognizing that all of life is to be lived for Christ, we do not acknowledge a division between the sacred and the secular. Whether your vocation is in full-time church work, missionary work, or in the workplace, it is all considered ministry.

Paul was a tentmaker. Jesus was a carpenter. Abraham was a wealthy businessman as well as a great spiritual and political leader.

Christian leadership and influence is needed in every arena of our society. At CBI, majors are offered to prepare Christians to effectively influence the business, professional, political, and other work places, as well as full-time church and missionary service.

The only hope for America is for Christ-centered leaders to be trained and commissioned to leadership roles throughout society. In a new innovative program, CBI uses the *lamad* teaching method. *Lamad* is a Hebrew word that means both “to teach” and “to learn.” In the Hebrew mind, the teacher has not taught unless the student has learned.

Since all teaching and learning begins in the fear of the Lord, the goal is not to simply teach facts but to change lives. In the *lamad* method of learning, we are returning to the Hebraic concept of education that includes a personal encounter and response to God’s revelation in preparing each student to fulfill their God-given destiny.

Since CBI is integrated into the life of the church, courses are offered in the local Cornerstone churches as needed. The curriculum is designed so that the local pastor or designated teacher in the local church can facilitate the classroom experience.

Standards for the courses are set and monitored centrally at the main office where all student records are maintained. Requirements for admission into the CBI program include spiritual openness, a high school diploma or its equivalent, and a minimum age of 18. Exceptions may be considered on an individual basis.

CBI is recognized by the Virginia Council of Higher Education as exempt from the requirements of state approval, being that the primary purpose is to provide faith-based training.

Associates and Bachelors Degrees are offered in Applied Ministry. Both are two-year programs that include the School of Leaders. However, in order to receive a Bachelors degree the graduate must hold a recognized Associates degree from another educational institution such as a two-year community college.

A Masters Degree in Applied Ministry is awarded to those who complete all three years of training including the School of Leaders and a designated major. To receive a Masters degree, the graduate must hold a recognized Bachelors degree. Those without a Bachelors degree will be awarded an Advanced Associates Degree in Applied Ministry.

Our desire is to work with each student to design a program that will fit his or her unique interest, calling, and destiny in God.

## **Background**

Cornerstone Bible Institute (CBI) is a ministry of Cornerstone Church & Ministries International (CCMI), an apostolic network of cell churches and ministries committed to church growth, church planting, and cross cultural missions.

### **Our Mission**

The mission and purpose of CBI is to train and equip the church to preach the gospel to lost people, pastor believers, prepare leaders, and plant cell groups and churches around the world in obedience to the Great Commission to go and make disciples (Matthew 28:19).

### **Our Vision**

The vision is to experience church like we read about in the New Testament where according to Acts 2:42 they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching (sound doctrine and proper spiritual authority), fellowship (one another ministry using spiritual gifts in accountable relationships), breaking of bread (worship and lifting up Jesus as Lord) and prayer (submission to and dependence on the Holy Spirit).

### **Our Strategy**

CBI teaches the strategy of win, consolidate, disciple, and send as an expression of the five-fold ministry outlined in Ephesians 4. Win is preaching the gospel to lost people, a function of the evangelist; consolidate is pastoring the believers, a function of the pastor; disciple is preparing leaders, a function of the teacher; and send is planting cell groups and churches, a function of the apostle and prophet.

### **Our Goals**

The goals are to establish Christian believers in the truth of God's Word in order to live fruitful lives free from fear and shame; to train disciples of Jesus Christ to evangelize the lost and edify the believer, recognizing that every area of life is a calling from God to be lived out in basic Christian community; to prepare and encourage Christian workers to fulfill their spiritual destiny in the career of their choosing and calling, recognizing that all of life is to be lived for the glory of God.

## **Our History**

Cornerstone Bible Institute began in 1989 as Cornerstone Bible College. The Bible College grew out of a need discerned by the elders of Cornerstone Church for solid Biblical training in preparing persons to serve in extending the Kingdom. In light of the need for a new generation of leaders and an evangelical Anabaptist alternative, a decision was made to become a Bible Institute with a new innovative curriculum designed to meet the challenge of the cutting edge church of today. CBI classes are held in the local church. In 2000, Cornerstone Bible Institute became a member of the Apostolic Council for Educational Accountability, an association developed to provide a functional alternative for traditional academic accreditation. ACEA, formed by C. Peter Wagner, Chancellor of Wagner Leadership Institute (Colorado Springs), currently provides peer-level evaluation and mutual accountability among 47 apostolic training institutions in 20 states and eight countries.

## **Our Curriculum**

The Cornerstone Bible Institute curriculum has been developed with a taxonomy in mind. Taxonomy comes from two Greek words: taxis, "order," and nomia, "distribute." A taxonomy expert would say, "If you are going to discuss C and D, it is first necessary to introduce A and then B. Otherwise, the learner will not know what you are talking about."

Since most if not all Christian education materials are developed without regard for a taxonomy, traditional training programs have been mostly helter-skelter combinations of materials which have resulted in very few Christians moving beyond the elementary stages of Christian experience. In sharp contrast to that, the Cornerstone Bible Institute is built around a well defined taxonomy.

For this reason, all students are required to go through the School of Leaders in addition to taking the classroom courses. Each level builds on the one before. In the same way, each CBI course builds on the one before, both by term and by year. Under normal circumstances it will take a student three years to complete the requirements for graduation.

**School of Leaders**

**LEVEL ONE**  
**Foundational Teachings**

**LEVEL TWO**  
**Ministry Training**

**LEVEL THREE**  
**Character Development**

**CBI**  
**Course of Study**

**YEAR ONE**

**Fall Term**

Understanding the Bible/Pentateuch  
 Communion with God  
 The Basics of Christianity  
 Counseled by God

**Winter Term**

United Kingdom  
 Naturally Supernatural  
 Foundational Experiences  
 Turned Toward Mercy

**Spring Term**

Divided Kingdom  
 Increasing the Anointing  
 The Law & the Spirit  
 Altars of the Heart

**YEAR TWO**

**Fall Term**

Life of Christ  
 History of the Radical Church  
 Cornerstones of Communication  
 Gifted to Succeed!

**Winter Term**

Acts & Epistles  
 Christian Heritage of America  
 Christian Caregiving  
 Creative Problem Solving

**Spring Term**

Epistles & Revelation  
 Bible Speaks to Cont. Issues  
 Caring Evangelism  
 Creating Your Mission Statement

**YEAR THREE**

**Fall Term**

Poetry Books  
 Elective  
 Elective  
 Elective

**Winter Term**

Major Prophets  
 Elective  
 Elective  
 Elective

**Spring Term**

Elective  
 Elective  
 Elective  
 Elective

**YEAR THREE MAJORS**

Biblical Studies and Theology  
 Leadership in the Workplace  
 Pastoral Leadership

Christian Counseling and Divine Healing  
 Influencing Public Policy  
 Missions and Evangelism  
 Worship, Music, and Christian Arts

*First Year***BIB 100 Understanding the Bible**

The purpose of this course is to equip you to understand and use the Bible in your everyday life by learning how it is organized, how to study books and topics, how to interpret it correctly, and how to use Bible study aids. This course will prepare you to receive revelation from the Bible from Genesis to Revelation as we look at it more closely in upcoming courses.

**BIB 101 Pentateuch**

The student will read through Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy at a rate of about two chapters per day. You will discover, record, and share your insights from each chapter. The background and theme of each book is studied, and major biblical themes are traced. The student is exposed to proper principles of biblical interpretation and is required to work with them. The revelation of the Holy Spirit as the Author of the Scriptures is central throughout.

**BIB 102 United Kingdom**

The student will read through Joshua, Judges, Ruth, I and II Samuel, I Chronicles, and the first half of I Kings and II Chronicles at a rate of about two chapters per day. You will discover, record, and share your insights from each chapter. The background and theme of each book is studied, and major biblical themes are traced. The student is exposed to proper principles of biblical interpretation and is required to work with them. The revelation of the Holy Spirit as the Author of the Scriptures is central throughout.

**BIB 103 The Divided Kingdom**

The student will read the second half of I Kings and II Chronicles, II Kings, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi at a rate of about two chapters a day. You will discover, record, and share your insights from each chapter. The background and theme of each book is studied, and major biblical themes are traced. The student is exposed to proper principles of biblical interpretation and is required to work with them. The revelation of the Holy Spirit as the Author of the Scriptures is central throughout.

**REN 111 Communion With God**

This is a practical course on how to hear the voice of God. Not only will you enjoy personal conversation with God but you will also acquire tools that can be used to increase your intimacy with God every single day. You will become more fully convinced of how much the Father loves you as you learn to hear Him speak directly to you. You will learn and practice two-way communication that has the potential of transforming your relationship with God.

### **REN 112 Naturally Supernatural**

Through the working of Almighty God, He has joined His Spirit to our spirits. We will study and experience the glory of Christ (through the Holy Spirit) living within us, as well as ways of approaching Him and releasing His indwelling presence. One abides in Christ to the extent that he knows that Christ abides in him. We will also learn how to allow the gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit within us to flow out through us. (Prerequisite: REN 103 - Communion with God)

### **REN 113 Increasing the Anointing**

The key to the successful Christian life is walking and living in the anointing of the Holy Spirit. This course has three emphases: First, we examine the anointing of the Holy Spirit and how the anointing can be increased in our lives. From there we go on to increase our awareness of our spirits. All 1400 verses of Scripture that deal with the heart and spirit of man are closely considered with the one supreme objective of learning to sense our spirit and the Spirit of Christ within our spirit. In addition, we seek to become better acquainted with our Helper and Comforter, the Holy Spirit.

### **THE 121 The Basics of Christianity**

“When the foundations are being destroyed, what can the righteous do?” (Psalm 11:3 NIV). This course presents the foundations of Christianity in a simple way. It helps you understand and communicate the basics of the Scriptures: salvation, Christian culture, Holy Spirit, faith, worship, healing, righteousness, peace, joy, prayer, giving, ministry, heaven, and hell.

### **THE 122 Foundational Experiences**

An intensive study of the six foundational experiences of the Christian life as found in Hebrews 6:1-2 – repentance from dead works, faith towards God, baptisms, laying on of hands, resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment. Students will learn how to live in these truths.

### **THE 123 Law and the Spirit**

The law and the flesh always war against faith and Spirit. The battle is as old as Isaac and Ishmael, and recounted for us clearly in Galatians, chapters 1-3. Each of us battles daily between law and Spirit in our own lives. Discover how God’s voice sets us free from the bondage of legalism and error. God’s vision is for a triumphant, empowered, overcoming Church that lives out of intimacy with the Holy Spirit. Learn what a church that is free of religion looks like. Let the Church be the Church! Let us be children of the faith!

### **COU 131 Counseled by God**

God’s Spirit is a “Wonderful Counselor.” We will let God speak to our hearts and counsel us about the basic emotional pressures of life. These include anger, doubt, depression, condemnation, and inferiority. We will learn to let God replace these with His opposites, as His voice releases His grace within our hearts. Those whom the Son sets free are free indeed.

### **COU 132 Turned Toward Mercy**

In this course of study we follow mercy as the expression of the Father's heart throughout the Bible . Mercy is the *passionate* love of God, the *present* love of God, the *sovereign* love of God, and the *overshadowing* or covering love of God. This course of study teaches that mercy is the basis for all relationship whether God to man or man to man and also the basis of all ministry in the kingdom of God. The goal of this intimate study is to turn hearts away from hurt and toward mercy, the unreasonable love of God flowing from the heart of a loving Father. Mercy changes everything.

### **COU 133 Altars of the Heart**

This course is a biblical and practical approach to healing wounded hearts. In this course, the participants learn to identify seven basic influences and resulting lies such as fear, rejection, worthlessness, shame, insecurity, defilement, and hopelessness that rob us of anointing and prevent us from enjoying our intimate relationship with God. God has provided a biblical process to trace present pain to past sources and help us to find healing in the presence of *Truth*. We will uncover self-promises, demonic strongholds, and unforgiveness that keep lies in place in our lives. Those in the class will learn to facilitate this simple approach with confidence and gentleness in the Spirit and learn ways to continue in the truth for life-long healing.

## ***Second Year***

### **BIB 201 Life of Christ**

The student will read Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John at a rate of about two chapters per day. You will discover, record, and share your insights from each chapter. The background and theme of each book is studied, and major biblical themes are traced. The student is exposed to proper principles of biblical interpretation and is required to work with them. The revelation of the Holy Spirit as the Author of the Scriptures is central throughout.

### **BIB 202 Acts and Epistles**

The student will read the Acts of the Apostles, Romans, I and II Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, and Colossians at a rate of about two chapters per day. You will discover, record, and share your insights from each chapter. The background and theme of each book is studied, and major biblical themes are traced. The student is exposed to proper principles of biblical interpretation and is required to work with them. The revelation of the Holy Spirit as the Author of the Scriptures is central throughout.

### **BIB 203 Epistles and Revelation**

The student will read I and II Thessalonians, I and II Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, I and II Peter, I, II, and III John, Jude, and Revelation at a rate of about two chapters per day. You will discover, record, and share your insights from each chapter. The background and theme of each book is studied, and major biblical themes are traced. The student is exposed to proper principles of biblical interpretation and is required to work with them. The revelation of the Holy Spirit as the Author of the Scriptures is central throughout.

### **REN 211 History of the Radical Church**

This course deals with church history and theology from the point of view of the radical church movements rather than from that of the institutional church. It is based on the research and teachings of Dr. Roger Forster, London, England. It traces the course of the cell church through history, from its inception in Jerusalem to the present time.

### **GOV 212 The Christian Heritage of America**

The United States is the longest continuous constitutional republic in the history of the world because its constitution is structured on Biblical principles. *“The philosophy of the school room in one generation will be the philosophy of government in the next”* (Abraham Lincoln). In this course you will discover how central God and Christianity were to the development of America’s strength and longevity, and what has happened since the Bible was removed from the classroom in 1963.

### **THE 213 The Bible Speaks to Contemporary Issues**

In this course we will examine the foundation of Christian ethics. We will study the Scriptures to discover the precepts and principles we are given about such subjects as sex, family, honesty, suicide, abortion, the education of children, welfare, inflation, humanism, and gambling. We will then go one step further to discover the character of God that provides the foundation of the commands. We will learn to apply the Test of Truth and the Evidence of Truth in any situation. Finally, and perhaps of greatest importance, we will learn how to pass our moral standards on to the next generation.

### **COU 221 Cornerstones of Communication**

Communication is the center of all relationships, yet most of us are untaught in the dynamics of great communication skills. This course will teach you these skills. With practice, every relationship you have will be much more effective than it currently is, including your family relationships. Give yourself the gift of outstanding communication skills.

### **COU 222 Christian Caregiving**

This is a foundational course for the training and equipping of all believers with basic caregiving skills. Specialized ministry modules will help translate this training into everyday life situations as well as life crisis. It reinforces the most basic core conditions of relating (warmth, empathy, and respect), then moves on to those conditions of genuineness, self-disclosure, concreteness, confrontation, and conflict resolution. It is designed to present Biblically based and practical steps toward renewing, building, and maturing the body of Christ. Particular attention will be given to understanding and dealing with interpersonal conflict.

### **EVA 223 Caring Evangelism**

This course will introduce the student to the ministry of Caring Evangelism. The course is designed to help the student share your faith with others naturally and comfortably. Beginning with a distinctive approach to "evangelizing the evangelist," the course strengthens participants' own relationship with Christ. As participants grow spiritually, you are equipped to share Christ's love in your daily lives by words and actions that others welcome.

### **LEA 231 Gifted to Succeed**

“To each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ’s gift...And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers...for the equipping of the saints” (Ephesians 4:7,11-12). Do you know which of these heart motivations God has given to you? Is God asking you to express this heart motivation within or outside the structured church, or both? Through which ministry or vocation is He asking you to express yourself? What blends of heart motivation has God given to you? What kinds of people do you need next to you to make you most effective? These questions and many others will be answered in this course.

### **LEA 232 Creative Problem Solving**

Spirit-born creativity is no accident; it requires purposeful activity. This study will open the doors of your understanding so that the creativity of God can flow through you continuously in ways such as you may have only dreamed. You will examine step by step how God progressively fills each of the senses of your spirit with Himself, until His creative miracle is released into the natural realm.

### **LEA 233 Creating Your Mission Statement**

In a world in which we are daily forced to make decisions that lead us either closer to or further from our goals, no tool is as valuable in providing direction as a mission statement – a brief, succinct, and focused statement of purpose that can be used to initiate, evaluate, and refine all of life’s activities. People or groups with carefully defined missions have always led and surpassed those who have none. In this course you will be guided through every step of both defining and fulfilling a mission.

### *Third Year*

#### **BIB 301 Poetry Books**

The student will read Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon at a rate of about two chapters a day. You will discover, record, and share your insights from each chapter. The background and theme of each book is studied, and major biblical themes are traced. The student is exposed to proper principles of biblical interpretation and is required to work with them. The revelation of the Holy Spirit as the Author of the Scriptures is central throughout.

#### **BIB 302 Major Prophets**

The student will read Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, and Daniel a rate of about two chapters a day. You will discover, record, and share your insights from each chapter. The background and theme of each book is studied, and major biblical themes are traced. The student is exposed to proper principles of biblical interpretation and is required to work with them. The revelation of the Holy Spirit as the Author of the Scriptures is central throughout.

#### **Electives**

There is room in the third year of study for nine elective courses that will help to direct each student in a particular major. The majors are as follows:

- A. Biblical Studies and Theology
- B. Christian Counseling and Divine Healing
- C. Leadership in the Workplace
- D. Influencing Public Policy
- E. Missions and Evangelism
- F. Pastoral Leadership
- G. Worship, Music, and Christian Arts

Each student will be directed in the choice of elective courses that would be appropriate in your chosen major.

## PROCEDURES

### Cornerstone Bible Institute Admission and Registration Requirements:

#### A. Christian Experience

Because of the purpose and objectives of Cornerstone Bible Institute, it is necessary that each student have a born again experience and manifest a life dedicated to Christ. Applicants must give evidence of sound moral character and a willingness to live in harmony with the standards and ideals of Scripture.

#### B. Registration

To register for courses, please return the following to the local Cornerstone Church office:

- Application for Admission form filled out completely.
- 200-300 word autobiography explaining how you came to know Jesus Christ and why you desire training at Cornerstone Bible Institute.
- Registration Form.
- Request your high school and/or college transcripts be sent to Cornerstone Bible Institute, P.O. Box 1366, Harrisonburg, VA 22803.

## POLICIES

### Admission Policy

Cornerstone Bible Institute admits students of any race, color, and national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national or ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

### Class Attendance

Students are required to attend all classes regularly. No unexcused absences are permitted. Students who are absent more than two times may be dropped from the course and asked to repeat the course at a later time.

### **Accreditation and Credit Transfers**

Cornerstone Bible Institute is a certified member of the Apostolic Council for Educational Accountability (ACEA) in Colorado Springs, Colorado. ACEA is an association developed to provide a functional alternative to traditional academic accreditation. Cornerstone Bible Institute, like other ACEA members across the nation and throughout the world, maintains its primary focus, not on academic accreditation, but rather on training students to interact continuously with the Holy Spirit in practical Christian living according to the principles of God's Word, and to equip and train others to do the same. Since each institution has its own criteria for evaluation of courses submitted for credit, students desiring transfer of Cornerstone Bible Institute credits to other institutions must contact the particular institution to which they wish credit transferred. Cornerstone Bible Institute will work with the Dean's office of any institution to which one of our students is transferring.



### **Statement of Exemption**

Cornerstone Bible Institute is recognized by the Virginia Council of Higher Education as exempt from the requirements of State approval being that the primary purpose of CBI is to provide faith-based training.

### **Philosophy of Grading**

Since we are focused on training over and above teaching, and since we are seeking to train both the spirit and the mind, the grading system will be based on the following: 50% on academic comprehension and 50% on experiential assimilation.

- D - Indicates barely passing work that is inferior to the average both in quantity and in quality.
  - Manifests a lack of initiative or sense of responsibility or both.
- C - Average work; either steady work of an acceptable quality, or work of a high quality that is uneven, irregular, or fragmentary.
  - May be mechanically or outwardly correct but shows little reflection upon or personal assimilation of the material.
- B - Intelligently has fulfilled the requirements of this course.
  - Understands the subject matter presented and has applied it to his life in a limited manner but has not really made the truths his own.
- A - Grasped the material with thoroughness, industry, and correctness of detail.
  - Made the material his own by thinking about it and integrating it, using originality, natural ability, and insight.

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

*We believe in:*

The divine inspiration, truthfulness, and authority of the Bible in its entirety as the only written Word of God, without error in all that it affirms, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice;

The one, eternal God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, who spoke the world into being and governs it according to the purpose of His will;

The only Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave Himself as the only ransom for sinners, the only mediator between God and man, the only Name by which we must be saved;

The power of the Holy Spirit that works within man to accomplish the new birth on the basis of grace alone, producing the fruit of the Spirit, and imparting the gifts of the Spirit to empower for service;

The personal and visible return of Jesus Christ in power and glory to consummate His salvation and His judgment.

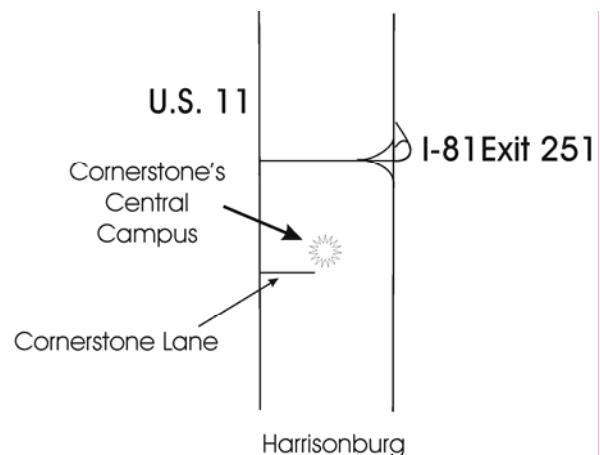
We believe the new life in us is evidenced by living in obedience to the known will of God revealed in the Bible. We believe He gives us strength through the present work of the Holy Spirit in us, enabling us to live a full and satisfying life as a Christian.

## LOCATION

The central office for Cornerstone Bible Institute is located at 297 Cornerstone Lane, Harrisonburg, VA, 22802, just one mile south of Exit 251 off I-81.

E-mail: [info@cornerstonenet.org](mailto:info@cornerstonenet.org)

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**ACEA**

APOSTOLIC COUNCIL  
FOR EDUCATIONAL  
ACCOUNTABILITY