



Syllabus

Course: 21 Steps to a Stronger Church for the 21st Century

Credit Hours: 2

Instructor: David W. Cloud

Videos for this course can be found on the Media List at <https://www.wayoflife.org/media/>

Class Description: This course has two main sections. First, **Looking at a Stronger Church**, which examines key Bible passages that provide the pattern for the church for the entire age. The second section is **21 Steps toward a Stronger Church**, which are as follows: The leaders must have spiritual revival; the leaders must be courageous; start with a biblical examination of the church; be ready to engage in a difficult battle; be patient; be confident of God's help; pastors must be real leaders; pray for a ministry team; immerse the church in prayer; aim for a regenerate church membership focus on the real disciples; strengthen the church covenant; set up biblical standards for workers; immerse the church in Scripture; disciple all of the people; deal with sin; emphasize separation from the world; emphasize Bible prophecy; double down on evangelism; have a strong vision for church planting and world missions; aim to incorporate all the biblical elements of a discipling church.

Texts Required for class:

The King James Bible

21 Steps to a Stronger Church for the 21st Century by David W. Cloud, 123 pages, May 2020 Edition

Outcomes—At the end of the course, all students will be able to:

1. Understand key passages related to having a stronger New Testament Church.
2. Realize the importance of spiritual, courageous leaders in the church.
3. Recognize the necessity of being willing to stand alone in these last days.
4. Set up biblical standards for workers in the church.
5. Know practical steps that can be taken for stronger churches in these times.

Evaluation—the class grade will be broken up in the following manner:

Tests (2) – 60%

Quizzes (5) – 25%

Projects (2) – 15%

90–100%	A	70–79%	C
80–89%	B	0–69%	D (Failing)

Validation:

Outcome 1. Students read *21 Steps to a Stronger Church for the 21st Century* completely and answer all review questions.

Outcome 2. Students take diligent notes during class over important topics regarding having a stronger church.

Outcome 3. Students memorize key verses on stronger churches.

Outcome 4. Students take tests over the material covered in class and read outside of class.

Outcome 5. Students write two papers on having stronger churches.

There are two options for taking this class. They are the following:

- **Slower Pace-15 Week Option**

This option takes a total of 15 weeks and has regular assignments two times every week: Tuesdays and Thursdays.

- **Advanced-One Month Option**

This option takes a total of 4 weeks and has regular assignments six times every week: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

-----Slower Pace-15 Week Option-----

Course Outline:

Week Topics

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Looking at a Stronger Church
- 3 Looking at a Stronger Church
- 4 Looking at a Stronger Church
- 5 Looking at a Stronger Church
- 6 Looking at a Stronger Church
- 7 Looking at a Stronger Church/ **Test 1**
- 8 21 Steps to a Stronger Church
- 9 21 Steps to a Stronger Church
- 10 21 Steps to a Stronger Church
- 11 21 Steps to a Stronger Church
- 12 21 Steps to a Stronger Church
- 13 21 Steps to a Stronger Church
- 14 21 Steps to a Stronger Church
- 15 21 Steps to a Stronger Church/ **Test 2 (Final)**

Weeks:**Assignments:**

**The pages read each day will not always correspond with the videos watched. For this course, the videos correspond with the 21 steps that will be read after Test 1 is taken.

Weeks	Tuesday	Thursday
1	Pages 1-7	Video 1 (Overview)
2	Pages 8-16 Quiz 1—Acts 2:41-42	Video 2 (Introduction)
3	Pages 16-26	Video 3 (Leadership)
4	Pages 26-35 Quiz 2—1 Peter 2:5	Video 4 (Prayer-Part 1)
5	Pages 35-43	Video 5 (Prayer-Part 2)
6	Pages 44-53 Quiz 3—1 Thessalonians 1:3, 9	Video 6 (Salvation)
7	Pages 53-57	Test 1—All of “Looking at a Stronger Church”
8	A Stronger Church Project Part 1	Video 7 (Salvation Evidence)
9	Pages 58-66	Video 8 (Membership)
10	Pages 66-74 Quiz 4—Romans 15:14	Video 9 (Standards)
11	Pages 75-84	Video 10 (Evangelism)
12	Pages 84-93 Quiz 5—1 John 1:8-9	Video 11 (Church Planting)
13	Pages 93-103	Video 12 (Where to Start)
14	Pages 104- 115	A Stronger Church Project Part 2
15	Pages 115-122	Test 2—Final (Cumulative)

-----Advanced-One Month Option-----

Course Outline:**Week Topics**

- 1 Looking at a Stronger Church
- 2 Looking at a Stronger Church
- 3 **Test 1** / 21 Steps to a Stronger Church
- 4 21 Steps to a Stronger Church / **Test 2 (Final)**

Weeks**Assignment**

Wk	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	Pages 1-16	Video 1- Overview	Pages 16-26 Quiz 1— Acts 2:41-42	Video 2- Intro	Pages 26-35 Quiz 2— 1 Peter 2:5	Video 3- Leadership
2	Pages 35-43	Video 4- Prayer- Part 1	Pages 44-53 Quiz 3— 1 Thess 1:3, 9	Video 5- Prayer- Part 2	Pages 53-57	Video 6- Salvation
3	Test 1—All of “Looking at a Stronger Church” Pages 58-66	Video 7- Salvation Evidence A Stronger Church Project Pt 1	Pages 66-74 Quiz 4— Rom 15:14	Video 8- Member- ship	Video 9- Standards	Pages 75-93 Quiz 5— 1 John 1:8-9
4	Video 10- Evangelism	Video 11- Church Planting	Pages 93-115	Video 12- Where to Start	Pages 115-122 A Stronger Church Project Pt 2	Test 2— Final- Cumulative

Details of Course Assignments:

- **Reading Assignments**

Students are given reading assignments most days and must complete the assignments along with answering the corresponding questions.

- **Quizzes (5)**

Quizzes will be given on five Tuesdays (*for the slower-paced option*) scattered throughout the semester. These quizzes will **only** be verse quizzes.

- **A Stronger Church Projects (2)**

The student will write a total of two papers over a stronger New Testament church. Both papers should be a minimum of three double-spaced pages.

For the first paper, the student will select one of the headings under *Looking at a Stronger Church* in the Table of Contents to write on. He will need to expound on the point he has selected and include practical ways churches can grow in that particular area. Be sure to include Scripture references to back up the point you have selected.

For the second paper, the student will select one of the 21 steps to a stronger church to expound on and write about. He should include why this is an important step, ways churches are failing in this step, and ways they can improve in this specific area. Be sure to include Scripture references as well too back up the point you have selected.

- **Tests (2)**

There will be a total of two tests taken during this semester. Including certain review questions and potentially additional important information in the reading, the tests will be short answer questions. The tests are used to measure how much the student has retained over the course. The first test will cover the first half of the book, and the second test will be cumulative over the whole book.

Plagiarism Statement: Plagiarism is something that is not tolerated at Way of Life Bible College. Any material taken from another must be clearly documented.