

Women's Leadership Studies FAQ

What are the benefits of a certificate?

Many women find that the process of earning a certificate gives them definite goals as they pursue personal growth and/or equipping for more effective ministry. The practical nature of the classes helps them see how they can apply Biblical principles personally and in ministry contexts. The Certificate in Biblical Leadership is an indicator to the local church that the holder takes seriously her responsibility to be prepared for the ministry in which she is serving.

How many classes do I need to complete a certificate?

Each certificate requires 6 classes, and the Certificate in Biblical Leadership also requires completing the Certificate in Biblical Foundations.

How long does it take to get the certificate?

It all depends on how often you take classes. Taking them every 6 months makes it possible to complete the certificate in three years.

How are these classes different from the average seminary class?

These classes involve Continuing Education Credits, and do not require the additional study, writing papers, etc. that a seminary class would involve. It is optimal, however, that the participant invest additional time after the class reviewing the concepts and reading some of the recommended resources to broaden her understanding and internalize the principles.

What is the cost and what does it include?

The current cost per class is \$90. We offer a \$10 Early Bird discount if you register three weeks prior to the class. The class fee covers the CEU credit, class materials, facilitator honorariums and travel expenses, lunch on Saturday, and operational overhead.

What would it cost to participate in a seminary class for the same number of hours?

Ten hours of seminary seat time would cost around \$350.

Can I attend part of a class?

We encourage you to attend the entire class and can only offer CEU credit upon completion of the full ten hours. You are welcome to attend portions of the class if your schedule doesn't allow you to be present for all sessions, but we do not offer discounted fees.

Can men take the classes, too?

While the classes are not closed to men, it's important to realize that the emphasis is on how women can use their gifts and unique abilities for the Kingdom. Many women find that the environment of women only frees them to be more open in asking questions and participating in class activities.

Is childcare provided? Can I bring my children?

No. We ask you to make these arrangements on your own. Due the nature of the classes, we want to provide a distraction-free environment for you and the other attendees.

Why aren't the classes offered online?

We firmly believe that an important part of these classes is the relationships that develop as women interact with the material together. Relationships are vital in ministry, and the classes give us opportunities for healthy interactions. Many women feel they have benefitted most from the classes because of the like-minded women they meet and add to their ministry network.

How can I take a class if none is offered near me?

Classes are offered based on invitations from churches or groups who wish to host them. Check with your church to see if they are willing to host a class. This essentially involves providing a room with AV setup for a Friday evening and Saturday morning and afternoon, offering a Saturday noon meal for the participants, and printing posters and postcards from PDFs to use to publicize the class. Many churches enjoy offering the opportunity to their congregation to host the facilitators in their homes. Send us your request specifying which class you want and giving us several date options. We will get a packet to you with the information you need to follow through. We suggest planning 4-6 months ahead.

What does it take to be a class facilitator?

Class facilitators take a week-long intensive module at Grace Seminary with Dr. Christy Hill in which they learn the teaching methods and standards of the program. They are also expected to complete the certificate for which they are teaching and to do more in-depth study of the material for each class they qualify to teach. They then are teamed up with experienced facilitators for apprenticeships until they have mastered the material and teaching methods.