

Goals of VBI

Vineyard Biblical Institute seeks to offer a wide range of educational opportunities to church groups or individuals around the world, rooted in a Kingdom of God paradigm and reflecting the core values of the Vineyard Movement. VBI is an excellent equipping tool for growing disciples, lay leaders, and emerging church planters or pastors. Its flexible options allow groups or individuals to study at a pace, level, & price range that fits a wide variety of lifestyles. Ultimately, we would like to see VBI become the #1 training / discipling tool in the Vineyard.

Areas of Study

VBI offers 4 main areas of study:

- **Kingdom Theology** – The Kingdom of God is the central theme of Christ's message. This area delves into the mysterious nature of this kingdom and the ramifications of its unfolding influence on every facet of Christianity, both from an intellectual and practical standpoint.
- **Biblical Theology** – This area focuses on the biblical narrative: On biblical Books and themes and then on the essential skills of interpretation and preaching.
- **Practical Theology** – This area works out the implications of the Kingdom Certificate in church life and ministry.
- **Historical & Contextual Theology** - Here we endeavor to learn from history through studying the history of Christianity and by identifying key areas requiring greater input from the Church.

Uses of VBI

1. Church Discipleship Program

Finally, VUSA has an in-church training program that will work in all sizes of churches and for every level of disciple. VBI is perfect as a tool for discipleship because it builds the entire program on the Kingdom of God and other Vineyard topics. Further, these classes are very inexpensive when conducted under **Level 1** (the School of Ministry). For a low fee of \$15 per person this economical approach makes it much cheaper than hiring a full or part-time individual to oversee training within the local church. Our goal is to have every class on-line with a corresponding set of notes and instructor available on DVD. Thus VBI classes are available for even those churches without mature teachers. For those desiring more advanced studies, we have **Level 2** (Diploma), **Level 3** (Advanced Diploma) and **Level 4** (Bachelor's Degree).

2. Small Groups / Neighbourhood Bible Studies

During the next year, VBI is rewriting the top 20-30 classes into 30 page summaries (the text for all School of Ministry courses). These will be ideal for use in small groups over 4-6 week periods. They could also be a great alternative to Beth Moore, Kay Arthur, etc. materials that many churches now use.

3. Church Planters' Resource

We will make VBI materials **100% free** to church planters for the first 12 months. The second 12 months will be **50% off** and the third 12 months will be **25% reduction** in the cost of materials. This will allow church planters to get excellent Vineyard teaching into his/her team in those early formative years.

4. Missionary Tools (in native languages)

We will offer these materials to Third World missionaries **for free** as follows.

- The missionary completes classes at the Diploma Level and becomes qualified to teach the same class at the School of Ministry Level
- Once a missionary gathers 10 or more students, teaches them the material (**at no cost from VBI to the students**), and has them complete a 30 question quiz, he/she may take another Diploma Level class **free**
- As long as the missionary keeps getting at least 10 people to complete a School of Ministry class, Diploma Level classes for him/her is **free**.
- We are in the process of translating the booklets at this time and need help from the various missions partnerships.
- We are already using it in China & India

5. Undergraduate Degrees (while staying at home)

By combining with junior colleges, St Stephen's University has agreed to give undergraduate degrees for taking BCS Level VBI classes. Here are a few details:

- 30-60 hours needed from any accredited college
- 60-90 hours needed from VBI classes
- 120 total hours needed for the Bachelor of Christian Studies degree
- Individuals can stay home, intern, and be trained to be church planters, leaders, etc.
- **An accredited 4-year degree would cost less than \$15,000 TOTAL (housing extra)**
- We would greatly increase the number of individuals who are Biblically trained with an accredited undergraduate degree

Levels of Study

To make VBI usable at all maturity levels, we have instituted 4 levels. Following is a brief explanation.

Level 1: School of Ministry (Discipleship)

- Text: abbreviated (~30 pages)
- Cohort/Mentor: none
- 30 multi-choice question exam (optional)
- Price: \$15/course + text cost

Level 2: Diploma

- Text: full length (150+ pages)
- Cohort/Mentor: none
- 60 multi-choice question exam
- Price: \$50/course + text cost

Level 3: Advanced Diploma

- Text: full length (150+ pages)
- Cohort/Mentor: yes (for 10 courses @ \$1000/year)
- 60 multi-choice question exam & 5 page essay
- Price: \$100/course + text cost
- Extra reading and assignments required

Level 4: Bachelor of Christian Studies

- Text: full length (150+ pages)
- Cohort/Mentor: yes (for 7 courses @ \$2000/year)
- ~60 multi-choice question exam & 5 page essay
- Price: \$100/course + text cost (+ SSU & other fees)
- Extra reading and assignments

Getting started is simple...

Register today online at www.vbivc.org. Select the Partner Church that is closest to you geographically. That church will be available to assist you if needed.

Once registered, login using your username and password and begin selecting your courses.

For individuals:

- Select your level of study
- Select a course you wish to study
- Make your purchase and follow the download instructions
- Download your course text and begin studying (see multimedia resources)
- Complete your online assessment when you're ready to earn VBI credit

For churches:

- Select a course you wish to offer at the School of Ministry or Diploma Level
- Have the lead teacher/facilitator complete a course at the Diploma Level (or upper levels).
- Ask students to register themselves for the course at the School of Ministry or Diploma Level (paying via credit card)
- Use the DVD resources or teach the School of Ministry materials to students
- Contact your Partner Church for help or additional resources, as needed

Contact Information

Website: www.vbivc.org

General Questions:

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BCS Degree Program Questions:

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*Training that
makes a difference!*