



MOMENTUM

Training Program

Executive Summary

MOMENTUM is a two-year (21 month) training program for current and future pastors, church planters or missionaries. It is offered by The Orchard Network, a separate 501c3 organization started by The Orchard Evangelical Free Church to ***Grow Gospel Leaders for Churches***.

Purpose

The purpose of **MOMENTUM** is to nurture

- A Vibrant Spiritual LIFE
- Robust, Christ-centered DOCTRINE
- Refined, Effective Ministry SKILLS

Through **MOMENTUM** we want to energize and equip pastors, church planters and missionaries in a way that makes them *ready*.

- ... *ready* to embrace a calling in full-time vocational ministry
- ... *ready* to make the Gospel central to church, life and ministry
- ... *ready* to build ministry on an unswerving confidence in God's Word
- ... *ready* to celebrate the beauty and primacy of the local church
- ... *ready* to have immediate, effective ministry impact
- ... *ready* to have lasting, sustainable ministry fruit over a life-time

Background

Our observation about Christian **leaders** in the United States is two-fold:

- 1) We don't have enough Gospel-centered, Bible-preaching, Christ-exalting, committed, passionate leaders. We need more.
- 2) There is alarming *drop-off* and *burn-out* rate among those involved in vocational ministry. Research reveals that as much as 40% of seminary graduates will no longer be involved in vocational ministry within 5 years of finishing school. We theorize that two major reasons for this burnout are:
 - a. Those new to vocational ministry do not have the mindset or skills needed to make an immediate, effective ministry impact. The actual day-by-day realities of ministry are overwhelming; much is expected of them; and they are confronted by their inexperience. These realities lead to poor ministry leadership, slow progress, discouragement, isolation, defensiveness, defeat and burnout.
 - b. Those new to vocational ministry do not maintain an intimate, vibrant, daily spiritual walk with the Lord through the Word and Prayer. The realities of ministry begin to dominate; the pressures of ministry leadership begin to weigh; the complexities of ministry become clear ... and new ministers neglect their walk with the Lord. This means they are no longer "abiding in Christ" (John 15:1-8) but are relying on their own strength or wisdom. They become worn out, dried out and eventually burned out.

At The Orchard Network, we want to address these issues through **MOMENTUM**.

Description

MOMENTUM is a weekly gathering during which Pastor Colin Smith and other pastoral staff at The Orchard speak out of their own experience regarding day-to-day, on-the-ground church ministry. Formats include presentations on specific topics, group discussions, and guided group exercises. We aim to strengthen the foundation of current and future ministry leaders so that people who go into ministry *last* and have a fruitful impact for Christ.

The full program lasts for two academic years, although each of the four semesters is self-contained so it is possible to attend one semester and still benefit. It parallels the academic calendar so we begin mid-August and go to mid-December, and then meet again from January to May. During those months we gather every Friday morning at The Orchard Barrington from 9:00 a.m. to noon for some group time and two teaching sessions. Breakfast is provided. All our teaching sessions are connected to a) cultivating a rich spiritual LIFE, b) refining and sharpening ministry SKILLS or c) deepening and applying Christ-centered DOCTRINE. These are three values that The Orchard Network leadership believes are central for a person to have a long-term, fruitful ministry for Jesus.

Curriculum and Schedule

MOMENTUM entails 16 modules. Below the modules are organized as primarily related to Spiritual Life (L), Doctrine (D) or Ministry Skills (S).

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| <p>Fall 2016: August 19-December 9, 2016</p> <p><i>Quad 1: August 19-October 7, 2016 (Eight Weeks)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Gospel Nourished Life (D) • Cultivating a Godly Life 1 (L) <p><i>Quad 2: October 14-December 9, 2016 (Eight Weeks)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preaching 1 (S) • Church Leadership 1 (S) | <p>Winter/Spring 2017: January 13-May 12, 2017</p> <p><i>Quad 1: Jan 13-March 3, 2017 (Eight weeks)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Church (D) • Pastoral Care 1 (S) <p><i>Quad 2: March 17-May 12, 2017 (Eight weeks)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preaching 2 (S) • Missions/Church Planting (S) |
| <p>Fall 2017: August 18-December 8, 2017</p> <p><i>Quad 1: August 18 – October 6, 2017 (Eight weeks)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural Engagement (D) • Cultivating a Godly Life 2 (L) <p><i>Quad 2: October 13 – December 8, 2017 (Eight weeks)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preaching 3 (S) • Church Leadership 2 (S) | <p>Winter/Spring: January 12-May 11, 2018</p> <p><i>Quad 1: January 12 – March 2, 2018 (Eight weeks)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Doctrines of Grace (D) • Public Worship (S) <p><i>Quad 2: March 16 – May 11, 2018 (Eight weeks)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pastoral Care 2 (S) • MOMENTUM Capstone (L) |

Note: **MOMENTUM** does not meet on the Friday after Thanksgiving or on Good Friday.

A typical **MOMENTUM** morning looks like this:

- 9:00 – 9:30 a.m., Welcome, Announcements, Prayer, Devotions
- 9:30 – 10:30 a.m., Teaching Session #1 (associated with the first of our two concurrent modules)
- 10:30 – 11:00 a.m., Coffee Break (refreshments and coffee provided)
- 11:00 – noon, Teaching Session #2 (associated with the second of our two concurrent modules)
- End at Noon

Who can participate?

MOMENTUM is intended for people who fit into one of the following categories.

- Current pastor or called to be a pastor (male)
- Current church planter or called to be a church planter (male)
- Current missionary or called to be a missionary (male or female)
- Current or potential church staff person (male or female)
- Direct invitation from Pastor Colin Smith or another pastor at The Orchard

If you do not fit into one of the above categories, please contact the Director of Residency and Training to discuss potential participation: akok@theorchardnetwork.org.

Cost

Members of The Orchard Evangelical Free Church, or those who will pursue membership at the next opportunity, can participate in **MOMENTUM** for free. For all others, the base cost for **MOMENTUM** is \$1,000 per semester. Scholarships are available (see application and scholarship form, attached).

Expectations

- Attendance every Friday Morning from 9:00am – 12:00noon (maximum one absence per quad permitted)
- Active Participation during our sessions
- Engagement (completion of reading and assignments)

Interested? Please fill out an application or contact us with questions.

Laura Eder, Orchard Network Director: leder@theorchardnetwork.org or 224-764-4034

Arthur Kok, Director of Training: akok@theorchardnetwork.org or 217-358-8434