Ashley Boyles

Omega Graduate School

Dr. David Ward

Submission Date:

July 31, 3023

100 Day Assignment Action Plan

Write and submit to Dial in one document the following using the headings as listed, and using the prompt provided:

1. Submit your research-based intervention

The research-based intervention utilized to address the problem in this action research project is… (see Appendix C).

NOTE: This should be 1 paragraph; however, the actual instrument you will be using will be in Appendix C of your project.

2. Sociological and Theological Implications (2-3 pages)

The sociological theory best suited to address this problem and the proposed intervention is…because…

From a Christian perspective, this problem is…and the proposed intervention is…because…

NOTE: This section should be approximately 2-3 pages in length. It is important to explain each in detail.

3. Site Permission and Protection of Participants

Permission to conduct the action research intervention will be secured by….evidence of permission is in the form of a letter (see Appendix A).

Participants will be protected by agreeing to an Informed Consent Document (see Appendix B) prior to completing the data collection tool.

NOTE: Each of these are important and may be lengthy. Contact the DSL Director for guidance if necessary.

4. Location and Duration

The location of the intervention will be…

The duration of the intervention will be…

5. Data Collection Tools

An open-ended questionnaire (see Appendix D) will be used to collect data prior to and following the intervention.

The data collection tool consists of..;

6.Data Collection and Analysis Procedures

Data will be collected for a period of…

Approximately \_\_\_\_ participants are expected

Results of the pre-intervention and post intervention data will be evaluated for patterns and themes…

7. Expected Outcomes

If the problem is adequately addressed by the intervention, data should indicate…

100 Day Assignment Action Plan

Write and submit to Dial in one document the following using the headings as listed, and using the prompt provided:

1. Submit your research-based intervention

The research-based intervention utilized to address the problem in this action research project is a brief but intensive course based on the problem but adjusted if necessary to target any additional problems found in results from the first round of the questionnaire. The course will consist of lessons based on the items in the questionnaire, which are based on the belief statement of City Light Baptist Church. While some well-known authors may be used as examples, the lessons will focus more on the beliefs themselves. Based on some of the women’s reaction to questioning some of their favorite teachers, this seems more appropriate because it may be less likely to be perceived as an attack. After the intervention is complete, the participants will fill out the original questionnaire again as a post test.

 (see Appendix C).

NOTE: This should be 1 paragraph; however, the actual instrument you will be using will be in Appendix C of your project.

2. Sociological and Theological Implications (2-3 pages)

The sociological theory best suited to address this problem and the proposed intervention is Symbolic Interactionism because it can help to better interpret cultural settings that might otherwise not make sense to the observer (Heddendorf & Vos, 2010). Scholars Heddendorf and Vos define symbolic interactionism as “the kind of social reality found in the interaction of with the symbols they make and use (Heddendorf & Vos, 2010).” They also note the unlimited possibilities and changes in light of context and perspective (Heddendorf & Vos, 2010). Some situations, especially teachings or conflicts in the church might not make sense without the use of symbolic interactionism because context varies and changes. In this situation, symbolic interactionism can help too make sense of why people who supposedly follow the same God and use the same Bible would have very different understandings and beliefs. As for Christians who are receptive to false teaching, it is because different (in this case unbiblical) meanings have been assigned to key doctrines and presented to the masses. Therefore, the following concepts as symbols: the Bible, God, Man, Jesus, Atonement of sin, the resurrection, salvation, ordinances of the church, and eternity could all vary in meaning from one context to another. Also, an unbiblical change in one of these often changes its relationship to the other parts. The Bible describes itself as inerrant and complete (2 Timothy 3:16). Refusal to acknowledge this leads to other problems. The Bible will differ as a symbol from one individual to another depending on how the person views it. Be it inside or outside the church, an individual in question of the inerrancy of the Bible will disrespect it and teach others to do the same. Also, denying the sufficiency of the Bible invites the temptation to add or subtract from scripture, which could mean adding something unbiblical or depriving others of vital information. Without the Bible as a solid foundation, other concepts have room to be redefined and neglected.

Biblically, God is triune (Matt 3:13–17, Mk 1:9–11 and Lk 3:21–22, Jn1:29–34 ). Several movements inside and outside of Christianity that claim to believe in God may use the same word or symbol but the meanings differ. An unbiblical deviation from this model places all three members of the trinity in a different relationship with one another, contrary to scripture as in modalism where God is defined as one person in three different forms (Bernard, 2020). Other definitions of God even deny the divinity of any of its members, as in the prosperity gospel or word-faith movement, where it is taught that Jesus left his divinity in heaven to come to earth (Nel, 2023). Man, biblically, is a creation in God’s image; while being made in His image, man is still not God, or a god on any level (Genesis 1). The Word-of-Faith movement, however, teaches that God wants the health and wealth of His people and that they have the ability to demand them from Him (Blazer, 2023). Jesus Christ is biblically one person in the triune God; He is both completely God and completely human (John 1). He is also the only truly sinless person (1 Peter 2:22). In addition to leaving his deity to live as a man, prosperity theology teaches that Jesus was a substitute sinner rather than sinless (Nel, 2023). As for atonement of Sin, the Bible teaches that it is the sacrifice of Christ in place of sinners (). In contrast, the prosperity gospel, teaches that this was done not for salvation from sin but for sinners to gain the advantages of being divine and the worldly perks of material wealth and comfort (Nel, 2023). The only similarity of humans to God expected in the Bible is holiness (1 Peter 1:15-16). BIblically, Resurrection consists of Jesus’ death on the cross, burial, resurrection, and ascension (1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Acts 1:9). The prosperity Gospel yet teaches that He went to Hell during the time period between His death and resurrection, an unbiblical concept justified by later “secret revelation (Nel, 2023).”

A biblical view of Salvation is that belief in Christ (Romans 10:9-11). Other movements including the prosperity Gospel teach that the purpose of salvation is not only for the believer to be spared of eternal condemnation but also worldy, fleshly problems regarding health and finances (Blazer, 2023). Ordinances of the Church include Baptism and Holy Communion ( Matthew 28:19-20, 1 Corinthians, 12:26). While Baptism and communion are signs of salvation, the acts themselves are not the cause of it (Ephesians 2:8-10).

Eternity, depending on the audience (even among professing Christians), will vary in meaning based on the audience. While the Bible teaches clearly on Heaven and Hell, other movements have different understandings of it. From the perspective of symbolic interactionism as defined in *Hidden threads*, the intervention will treat each of the above concepts from the church beliefs statement as a symbol. From this approach, the intervention will assess the participants’ understanding of these symbols, with the goal to correct any unbiblical understandings and replace them with a biblical foundation (Heddendorf & Vos, 2010).

From a Christian perspective, this problem is severe because if not addressed, false understanding of God and the Bible could creep into this church as they have others, which leads to devastating eternal consequences. False teachings could lead to further confusion, a faulty understanding or no understanding of God, Man, and salvation, as well as false conversions or no conversions.

In order to prevent this, the proposed intervention is a brief, intensive training course targeting Biblical information on the items in the church belief statements plus any related issues resulting from the first round of the questionnaire. The goal of the intervention is that worldview reinforcement will correct any errors and strengthen the participants’ growth in their learning about God. In addition to the concepts in statement of beliefs, key theological terms will also be assessed for in the questionnaire should they need to be addressed in the course. Also, due to theological and sociological reasons discussed above, the content of the training will aim to point out and defeat the false content of the teachers, rather than the teachers themselves. Due to (polite) push-back in earlier instances of pointing out false teachers and the ladies defending them, this is the best response so the training is not perceived as an attack on someone they admire. Also, the goal is not for a witch-hunt or that they will dislike these individuals but to recognize unbiblical teaching when they see it, regardless of how captivating the teacher is.

NOTE: This section should be approximately 2-3 pages in length. It is important to explain each in detail.

3. Site Permission and Protection of Participants

Permission to conduct the action research intervention will be secured by….evidence of permission is in the form of a letter (see Appendix A).

Participants will be protected by agreeing to an Informed Consent Document (see Appendix B) prior to completing the data collection tool.

NOTE: Each of these are important and may be lengthy. Contact the DSL Director for guidance if necessary.

4. Location and Duration

The location of the intervention will be at City Light Baptist Church, 1121 Sperryville Pike, Culpeper, VA 22701. The duration of the intervention will be a total of 6-8 hours. The structure is based on the sessions as described in the teaching practicum offered at Omega Graduate School. The plan is to have several of these sessions over two to three days. It would be similar to many youth, college, and academic conferences, structured like an intensive event. This would give the women notice so they could plan for it ahead of time without making any long term schedule changes for school, work, or other commitments.

5. Data Collection Tools

An open-ended questionnaire (see Appendix D) will be used to collect data prior to and following the intervention.

The data collection tool consists of a questionnaire with multiple choice questions relating to the items listed in the Belief Statement at City Light Baptist Church.

6.Data Collection and Analysis Procedures

Data will be collected for a period of a week before and a week after the intervention, using Survey Monkey.

Approximately \_20+\_\_\_ participants are expected

Results of the pre-intervention and post intervention data will be evaluated for patterns and themes relating to the eight areas in the belief statement at City Light Baptist Church.

7. Expected Outcomes

If the problem is adequately addressed by the intervention, data should indicate a strengthened worldview of the participants. More specifically it should sharpen their discernment and provide a more biblical worldview of key concepts in the Bible framed by the beliefs statement on the church website. It should also begin or at least build om a theological vocabulary to aid in their biblical studies. Even though the church is very doctrinally sound, with superb, biblical leadership, this will help it stay that way because the congregants, particularly in this case, to recognize even the more subtle unbiblical teachings that may try to creep in.

Appendix A

Appendix B

Consent Form

\*Action Research Project

Assessing, Enhancing, and Maintaining Biblical Beliefs through Worldview

Training: Women’s Edition

Action Research Project

Principal Investigator: Ashley Boyles, Omega Graduate School

Phone:(540) 222-5307

Email:woodwardac@alumni.vcu.edu

Faculty Advisor: Dr. D. Ward, PhD

Email:

Participant Recruitment:

The target population for this study consists of churchgoing females at CityLight Baptist Church who are 18 and older (except those who are pregnant or in prison). Participation is entirely voluntary and any participants may opt out at any time for any reason.

OGS Informed Consent Template

Participant Recruitment:

The target population for this study consists of churchgoing females at CityLight Baptist Church who are 18 and older (except those who are pregnant or in prison). Participation is entirely voluntary and any participants may opt out at any time for any reason.

Informed Consent:

Dear CityLight Church members,

I am currently enrolled in Doctor of Social Leadership program at Omega Graduate School and am now working on the Doctoral Action Research Project. I have received permission from the Office of Academics CAO and the Dean of Faculty to survey CityLight Baptist Church as part of research exploring biblical worldview in Christian women.

I am requesting your consideration and your participation in my Action Plan Research Project. Should you choose to participate, you will be asked to complete a survey via Survey Monkey by (TBA).

You are being asked to volunteer in a research study conducted by Ashley Boyles, who is a doctoral student in the Doctor of Social Leadership program at Omega Graduate School. Ashley Boyles is conducting this study for her doctoral Action Research Project. Dr. Ken Schmidt is the faculty advisor for this project. This study is self-funded by Ashley Boyles.

Your participation in the study is entirely voluntary. Please read the information below and ask questions about anything you do not understand before deciding whether to participate. You are being asked to participate in this study because you are a female church attendee at City Light Baptist Church, over 18 years of age, not pregnant or in in prison.

The purpose of this study is to identify opportunities to reinforce and maintain understanding of biblical concepts found in the statement of beliefs page on the church website: <https://www.citylightculpeper.org/values.>

 After reading the attached documents, if you choose to participate, please use the attached ‘practice survey’ to draft a response to the qualitative questions, prior to entering the information into Survey Monkey. Once the survey is begun in Survey Monkey, it must be completed because if stopped before completion the answers cannot be saved. The practice survey can help to prepare the participant for the actual survey.

Survey Monkey Link: (TBA)

Procedures

The study involves three parts, to be completed once before the intervention and then a second time after the intervention is complete. The three parts include the consent form, the demographic questions, and the questionnaire. To participate in the study, all three sections must be completed, each time.

If you wish to participate in this study, please complete:

1. The consent form
2. The demographic information
3. The questionnaire

If there are is an open ended question you do not know the answer to or are unsure, just write that in the blank.

Risks and Benefits:

 There is no cost and no known risk to participate in this study. Discomfort, risks, or inconveniences, if any, are expected to minimal or unlikely. If they do become problematic, you may terminate participation in this study.

The potential benefits of the study, if the intervention is successful, would directly strengthen biblical worldview discernment for women at City Light Baptist Church but also less directly, Christian women in general outside of the church.

Confidentiality and Privacy:

Any information that is obtained in connection with this study and identified with you will remain confidential to only be revealed with your consent or as required by law. Confidentiality will be preserved by means of a code number created by the participant to let Ashley Boyles and the Omega Graduate School IRB to determine the validity of the data collection and its analysis.

Ashley Boyles will, however, use non identifiable information from the study for other publications and possible future research without further permission. Any information used will not identify any participants publicly.

Compensation:

You will not receive any payment or other form of compensation for participation in this study.

Procedures for Withdrawal:

You can choose whether or not to participate in this study. If you do participate, you may withdraw at any time without any consequences. You may also decline to answer any questions you do not want to answer. Unanswered questions will be treated as withdrawal and any previous

information collected will be destroyed.

I have read and understand the information above.

Yes

No

Identification of Investigators: If you have any questions or concerns about the research, you may contact:

Ashley Boyles, Principal Investigator

Omega Graduate School

Phone: (540) 222-5307

Email: woodwardac@alumni.vcu.edu

Dr. D. Ward, PhD

Faculty Advisor

Omega Gradaute School

Email:

Vulnerable Populations:

OGS does not support research with vulnerable populations (e.g., children, pregnant women, prisoners)

Rights of Research Subjects

An Institutional Review Board (“IRB”) is overseeing this research. An IRB is a group of doctoral-level researchers who perform an independent review of research studies to ensure the rights and welfare of participants are protected.

 The Omega Graduate School Institutional Board of Review has reviewed my request to conduct this research project. If you have any concerns about your rights in this study, please contact the OGS IRB at dean@ogs.edu.

Statement of Consent

I have read and considered the information and procedures presented in this letter. I affirm that I understand the purpose of the research and the study procedures. I understand that I may ask questions at any time and can withdraw my participation without disadvantage or consequence. I have read this consent form. My signature below indicates my consent to participate in this study.

I consent to participate in this study.

Yes

No

To preserve confidentiality in your responses, please create a code unique to you. Please enter the birthdate of friend or relative. Please use a two-digit month, two-digit day, and four-digit year with no symbol separating. For example 06161929 for June 16, 1929.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please do not share this code with others to help maintain the confidentiality of your responses.

Appendix C

Demographic Questionnaire

Please select your Age group

18-24

25-29

30-49

50-64

65+

Are you a member?

Yes

No

Marital Status:

Single

In a relationship

Married

Widowed

Divorced

Do you have children?

Grandchildren?

Role at Church:

Attendee

Member

Leader

Teacher

Volunteer

Other

Previous Church Background

None

Minimal

Baptist

Other Denomination(s)

Other

Educational Experience

Christian

Secular

Both

Other

Highest Level of Education:

High School

Associate

Bachelors

Masters

Doctoral

Post Doctoral

Boyles Christian Belief Questionnaire

Beliefs

Where do you stand with the Bible? (select all that apply):

 Inerrant

 Complete

 Flawed

 Incomplete

 Inaccurate

 Eternal

 Outdated

 Truth

 Holy

 Other:

 Don’t Know

What do you think about God? (Select all that apply):

 The Father

 The Son

 The Holy Spirit

 The Universe

 Everything

 Everyone

 Other:

 Don’t Know

What is your view of Man? (Select all that apply):

 Divine

 Good

 Mortal but Made in God’s Image

 Power of God

 Equal to God

 One with God

 Future God

 Sinful

 Other:

 Don’t Know

How would you describe Jesus Christ? (Select all that apply):

 The Word

 God

 Human

 The Son of God

 Sinless

 Other:

 Don’t Know

Where do you stand on Atonement of Sin?(select all that apply):

 Complete

 Necessary

 Unnecessary

 Incomplete

 Sufficient

 Limited

 Other:

 Don’t Know

What is your understanding of the Resurrection? (Select all that apply):

 Bodily

 Literal

 Spiritual

 Historical

 Fictional

 Symbolic

 Other:

 Don’t Know

What is you view of Salvation? (Select all that apply):

 Necessary

 Possible

 Earned

 Unnecessary

 Impossible

 Unearned

 Other:

 Don’t Know

What are the Ordinances of the Church? (Select all that apply):

 Infant Baptism

 Believer's Baptism

 Baptism by Immersion

 Baptism by Pouring

 Baptism by Sprinkling

 Baptism for the Dead

 Communion is transubstantiation (literally Christ’s body)

 Communion is symbolic

 Communion is the spiritual presence of Christ

 Other:

 Don’t Know

How would you describe Eternity? (Select all that apply):

 Heaven

 Hell

 Reincarnation

 Nirvana

 Future Deity

 Purgatory

 Ruling your own planet as a deity

 No existence after death unless you are one of the 144,000

 Nonexistent

 Unknowable

 Other:

 Don’t Know

Open-Ended Questionnaire

Insructions:

If you do not know an answer, please do not leave it blank but wrtie that you do not know. Please define as many of the following words as you are familiar with:

Biblical Worldview Discernment

Exegesis

Eisegesis

Extra-Biblical Revelation

UnBiblical Prayer

Syncretism

Appendix D

Demographic Questionnaire

Please select your Age group

18-24

25-29

30-49

50-64

65+

Are you a member?

Yes

No

Marital Status

Single

In a relationship

Married

Widowed

Divorced

Do you have children?

Grandchildren?

Role at Church:

Attendee

Member

Leader

Teacher

Volunteer

Other

Previous Church Background

None

Minimal

Baptist

Other Denomination(s)

Other

Educational Experience

Christian

Secular

Both

Other

Highest Level of Education:

High School

Associate

Bachelors

Masters

Doctoral

Post Doctoral

Boyles Christian Belief Questionnaire

Beliefs

Where do you stand with the Bible? (select all that apply):

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 Inaccurate

 Eternal

 Outdated

 Truth

 Holy

 Other:

 Don’t Know

What do you think about God? (Select all that apply):

 The Father

 The Son

 The Holy Spirit

 The Universe

 Everything

 Everyone

 Other:

 Don’t Know

What is your view of Man? (Select all that apply):

 Divine

 Good

 Mortal but Made in God’s Image

 Power of God

 Equal to God

 One with God

 Future God

 Sinful

 Other:

 Don’t Know

How would you describe Jesus Christ? (Select all that apply):

 The Word

 God

 Human

 The Son of God

 Sinless

 Other:

 Don’t Know

Where do you stand on Atonement of Sin?(select all that apply):

 Complete

 Necessary

 Unnecessary

 Incomplete

 Sufficient

 Limited

 Other:

 Don’t Know

What is your understanding of the Resurrection? (Select all that apply):

 Bodily

 Literal

 Spiritual

 Historical

 Fictional

 Symbolic

 Other:

 Don’t Know

What is you view of Salvation? (Select all that apply):

 Necessary

 Possible

 Earned

 Unnecessary

 Impossible

 Unearned

 Other:

 Don’t Know

What are the Ordinances of the Church? (Select all that apply):

 Infant Baptism

 Believer's Baptism

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 Baptism by Pouring

 Baptism by Sprinkling

 Baptism for the Dead

 Communion is transubstantiation (literally Christ’s body)

 Communion is symbolic

 Communion is the spiritual presence of Christ

 Other:

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How would you describe Eternity? (Select all that apply):

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 Reincarnation

 Nirvana

 Future Deity

 Purgatory

 Ruling your own planet as a deity

 No existence after death unless you are one of the 144,000

 Nonexistent

 Unknowable

 Other:

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Open-Ended Questionnaire

Insructions:

If you do not know an answer, please do not leave it blank but wrtie that you do not know. Please define as many of the following words as you are familiar with:

Biblical Worldview Discernment

Exegesis

Eisegesis

Extra-Biblical Revelation

UnBiblical Prayer

Syncretism

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