



SUNSET RESIDENTIAL

*Colossians
1:28*

Prospective Student Information

SUNSET INTERNATIONAL BIBLE INSTITUTE

INDEX

From Our President	1
Our Past and Ongoing History	2
Our Purpose	4
Ministry Training Personnel	5
Sunset Administration	6
Typical Resident Student Body	7
Residential Curriculum	8
Congregational Ministry Major	9
Family and Youth Major	10
Deaf Ministry Major	11
Women’s Program	13
School of Missions	14
AIM	16
Senior Adventures in Missions	17
Post-Graduate Intern Program	18
Degree Program	19
Living in Lubbock	22
Sunset Finances	23

Sunset International Bible Institute

- Basic Two-Year Program
- Optional Three-Year Program Available
- Tuition-Free for full-time Residential Students
- G.I. Bill Benefit Approved for VA Eligible Persons
- Bachelor of Biblical Studies Degree covering the entire Bible
 - 40 core course
 - 8 Preaching Lab Courses
- Master of Biblical Studies Degree Program
- Mission Courses and Mission Team Formation
- Congregational Ministry Courses
- Family & Youth Courses
- Ministry Practicum
- Women’s Program
- Senior Adventures in Ministry
- Deaf Ministry and Sign Language Training
- Adventures In Missions for College-Age Adults

From Our President

From its improbable beginning, Sunset has had one main purpose—to prepare people to learn and share God's Word around the world. That original purpose remains at the heart of Sunset to this day. Begun in 1962 by missionaries as an effort to train Spanish-speaking preachers, Sunset has grown into a comprehensive program that provides college and graduate level instruction and training, including practical ministry development in missions and a number of other specialties.

FROM SUNSET TO THE WORLD

From its home campus in Lubbock, Texas, Sunset prepares students to effectively serve churches in the United States and around the world. We believe God still wants the Gospel taken to the whole world, and we remain committed to that purpose.



Tim Burow
President

WE VALUE THE WORD OF GOD

We believe that “all scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness.” We do more than merely study about the Bible, we open the text and let God speak to us through His word. God's word is the final authority for what we believe, teach, and practice. We not only read and memorize scripture, we teach students how to study, understand, and apply God's word to their lives. Our desire is to infuse a deep value for God's word into the next generation of preachers, teachers, missionaries, and other church leaders.

WE VALUE THE BODY OF CHRIST

Jesus valued his body, the church, enough to sacrifice himself for it (Ephesians 5:25). We love the church and are committed to be a resource for stronger and healthier congregations. We have a high view of the church and teach our students to esteem the body of Christ and work to build up rather than tear down the church. We teach our students the importance of cultivating existing congregations and planting new congregations. Our training program is conducted in the context of a large and healthy congregation, giving students a good context for practical ministry. There are dozens of small, rural churches within driving distance of Lubbock where many of our students minister while in school. Sunset has a long-standing partnership with congregations of various sizes throughout our brotherhood based on commonly-held Biblical values. We want our students to learn more than preaching. We want them to learn to minister to people in the body of Christ.

WE VALUE THE LOST

Jesus had compassion on the lost and helpless masses and urged his disciples to pray for workers for the harvest of souls (Matthew 9:36-38). Our faculty is composed of great Bible scholars who have also served as missionaries who have “looked into the faces of the damned” all over the world. They have committed their lives to the preaching of the good news of Jesus Christ to those people so that they can be saved. Students are exposed to a healthy Christian world view by those who have “been there and done that.” The classroom is more than a collection of theories. World evangelism and soul consciousness are infused into every lesson as teachers speak from a wealth of real experience. Whether graduates go abroad or remain in America, they leave with a burning desire to reach out to lost people with the compassion of Christ.

VALUES AND OUR DEGREE PROGRAM

We have received a letter of authorization from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to confer religious degrees without changing our values, our mission, our curriculum, our doctrine, or our faculty. We continue to improve our training based on the needs of the church, the clear mandates of scripture, and the vision of our Lord to share the gospel with a lost world.

Our Past and Ongoing History!



Cline Paden

From its humble beginnings almost five decades ago, the Latin American Bible School was a fulfillment of the dream of one godly man – Cline Paden. In 1962, Cline Paden saw a need and set into motion a valiant vision to train Spanish-speaking preachers. God granted his efforts tremendous success and also impressed upon his heart the ever growing need to fill pulpits throughout the United States, and train missionaries for foreign nations. This was the birth of Sunset School of Preaching, a partnership between Christians in West Texas and congregations all across America.

In 1993, as the dream flourished, the baton was smoothly passed to another man of equal evangelistic passion. Truitt Adair was appointed as the school's second President by the Sunset eldership with the encouragement of Cline Paden. The school

continued to prosper tremendously, and in 1995 its name was changed to reflect its growing global strategy "to go and make disciples of all nations." With more than four thousand Sunset-trained spokesmen to its acclaim, Sunset International Bible Institute has led the way in churches of Christ in producing well-equipped teachers, preachers, and missionaries to share the Gospel across America and around the world. In 2019, Tim Burow was appointed as the school's third President by the Sunset eldership. Under Tim's leadership, the school will continue to train preachers, teachers and leaders for the Kingdom.



Tim was officially appointed in 2019

First Class



EARN YOUR BACHELOR OF BIBLICAL STUDIES DEGREE

Going Locally

Sunset has recognized that a void exists in many churches across the nation. It has been suggested that this is due to a lack of biblical knowledge which has weakened congregations within our brotherhood. Sunset has heard the cries of the church and is committed to meeting this need by combining an outstanding Bible faculty with the delivery system of modern technology. Satellite Schools are being established as a distance-learning vehicle for congregants to receive solid biblical teaching. Participation through our Satellite Schools has risen to more than 7,000 students across America within more than 300 local congregations. Consequently, tools are being developed to equip churches for growth and maturity, to develop leaders, to provide a deeper knowledge of scripture, to encourage local evangelism, and to advance the unity of the Lord's church.

Going Internationally

God's global plan is for mankind to accept the message of Jesus Christ and be baptized for the forgiveness of sins. For almost five decades Sunset has taken the Great Commission seriously. One in four American missionaries received his/her training at Sunset. Although our graduates have gone to over 113 nations, there are still far too many unreached people in our world. Sunset's vision includes an accelerated effort to produce more American missionaries than ever before. Most of the future missionaries are the youth in congregations across America. Sunset has established a highly powerful and successful mission-training and apprentice program called Adventures in Missions. Since its inception this program has sent out more than 1,600 young people to approximately 175 mission points around the world. Sunset's vision includes the development of satellite AIM programs that will multiply the number of young missionaries equipped for service and sent out. Sunset also provides opportunities for senior adults in their retirement years to use their maturity in ministry settings to reach the lost through its Senior Adventures in Ministry program.

Going Nationally

Sunset is committed to attracting outstanding men for full-time ministry. Those who have passed through our doors have been equipped to fill pulpits in rural and urban churches, to minister among the youth and their families, to bring God's hope to the deaf, and to provide Bible-centered leaders for congregations nationwide. In the face of sky-rocketing educational expenses, Sunset has upheld its commitment in continuing to offer *tuition-free* Bible centered training to qualified full-time resident students.

Going Globally

Sunset has established International Branches and Associate Schools as regional training centers to prepare national preachers in their native lands. Currently more than 1200 national students are being trained to preach on five continents in their own language, economy, and culture. Fully staffed and certified by Sunset, these schools are producing well-equipped ministers for a fraction of the cost of the same training they would receive had they traveled to America. The heart beat of Sunset has been, and always will be, telling the Good News to the untold millions around the world and across the street. Your desire for a life of ministry is an answer to many prayers as God's people beseech the Lord of the harvest for workers to go into His harvest field. Prayerfully consider Sunset as the place for you to prepare yourself for a life of ministry, all to God's Glory! We look forward to hearing from you.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SUNSET INTERNATIONAL BIBLE
INSTITUTE ARE ELDERS AT THE SUNSET CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Our Purpose

“Training Whole Persons to Communicate the Whole Gospel
to the Whole World Wholly to Please God”

Training

Our ministry is to train people to serve Jesus Christ, and we believe that the quality of any training depends on the quality of its instructors. No teacher can effectively train others to do what the teacher has never done. Sunset teachers have distinguished themselves in educational achievements, but even more importantly, they have excelled in living virtuous lives. They have also been actively involved in leading lost souls to Jesus and building spiritually mature and active churches all over the world.

Evangelistic campaigns, ministry internships, workshops, chapel lectures, faculty mentoring, counseling, student orientation, and mid-course evaluations complete the curriculum. The effectiveness of our training program ultimately stands on the fruit shown in the lives of our graduates.

The value of a training program also grows from the quality of its curriculum. The Sunset ministry training program is described in academic circles as non-traditional. The typical Sunset graduate from the basic ministerial training program will have completed four years of traditional training in just two years of study. The Bachelor of Biblical Studies student will have completed 120 hours:

- Forty courses in biblical text and ministry applications covering the entire Bible. The curriculum includes four elective courses in one of the following fields of study: Family & Youth, Congregational Ministry, or Deaf Ministry
- Preaching and teaching lab courses to develop the public proclamation skills of the student

Because we do not wish to send “wounded soldiers” into the battle fields of the world, we are committed to developing men and women of spiritual, emotional, and familial stability. We want to develop people who exhibit attitudes of faith, love, humility, integrity, and other virtues in their lives demonstrated in the person of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Personal wholeness is required for one to have credible influence among those who need to hear the message of Christ.

To Communicate

We do not want our graduates to leave with a mere knowledge of Christ. We train men and women in the skills of communication so that they can effectively share their knowledge and wisdom through sharing the Word and through Christian examples.

The Whole Gospel

Our curriculum is designed to give the student a comprehensive knowledge of the whole counsel of God, His eternal purpose as revealed in scripture. The whole gospel was prepared and predicted by the inspired writers of the 39 books of the Old Testament. This gospel is revealed, interpreted, and applied by our Lord through the Holy Spirit to the church and to individual Christians in the 27 books of the New Testament. Thus, the Bible is the principal text book and center of every course taught at Sunset.

To The Whole World

The school has the word International in its name because it is dedicated to sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with the whole world. Jesus commanded that His church preach the whole gospel to every nation under heaven. Our faculty and students have carried the gospel to over 113 nations and to every state in the United States. Branch schools have been established in many nations around the world. Our External Studies division is a “school without walls,” spreading the word through audio, video, DVD courses, and online. Our purpose is to cultivate in every student a love for the lost of every nation, religion, race, and culture.

Wholly To Please God

Sunset exists for one purpose—to train people of God, to do the work of God, wholly to please God. We strive to do His will and not our own. We are in the ministry of training whole persons to communicate the whole gospel to the whole world—wholly to please God. To Him be the glory both now and for eternity.



Faculty of residential, external, and international divisions



SUNSET INTERNATIONAL BIBLE INSTITUTE LEADERSHIP TEAM



Tim Burow
President



Truitt Adair
Chancellor



Cory Burns
AIM



Paul Dowell
Residential Studies



Zane Perkins
Advancement



Brad Pruitt
Vice President, Finance



Jeff Rader
Advancement



Doug Reeves
International Studies

RESIDENT STUDENT BODY



Enrollment in Resident Studies at Sunset generally is from 150 to 200, representing the following departments: Basic Ministerial Studies, AIM, Advanced Missions, Deaf Ministry Studies, Women's Studies, and Senior AIM.

Students come to Sunset from the East, the West, from the North, and the South. They come from small towns in Texas, Tennessee, Hawaii, Alaska, and every state in the Union. Students come from large cities in states like New York, California, Washington, Michigan, and Florida. Our students come to us from places just like where you are living.

Foreign nations are represented by our international students: International students have come from places like Australia, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, France, Indonesia, Ireland, Kenya, Liberia, Mexico, Swaziland, Scotland, Russia, Estonia, England, and Japan, as well as other foreign places. Because of Branch Schools around the world, international students who come to Lubbock are fewer in number than in previous years, but those who do come add true global flavor to the student body.

Our students come to us from various professional backgrounds: Through the years we have had students come from many different backgrounds: Attorneys, biologists, government workers, fire fighters, police officers, students, truck drivers, security officers, school teachers, custodians, store managers, farmers, seismologists, operations managers, photographers, car dealers, Bible school teachers, preachers, funeral directors, lawn maintenance workers, registered nurses, pharmacy technicians, internet consultants, sales representatives, secretaries, safety managers, data-entry specialists, software project managers, athletic trainers, youth ministers, business owners, carpenters, postal workers, realtors, dentists, architects, members of our armed services, and a host of other professions.

Educationally, our students are diverse . . . from high school diplomas to Doctorate degrees. More than one third of our students have a college background. Many Sunset students have years of "life-learning" in lieu of formal higher education. All must be prepared for a very challenging educational experience in classes at Sunset. Graduates are encouraged to continue educational pursuits to promote personal and ministry growth. Although well prepared for ministry, many of our graduates go on to finish Masters and Doctorate degrees.

**YOU CAN SETTLE INTO THE SUNSET
RESIDENT STUDENT BODY EASILY!**

Bachelor of Biblical Studies Degree

RESIDENTIAL CURRICULUM

(Two-year Program with Optional 3 Year Completion)

FIRST YEAR COURSES

3 Hour Courses

2 Hour Courses

1 Hour Courses

Christian Evidences
Old Testament History 1
Spiritual Disciplines
Life & Teachings of Jesus 1

1ST TERM

Introduction to Ministry Studies

Confident Preaching

Old Testament History 2
Introduction to Homiletics
Christian Home
Scheme of Redemption

2ND TERM

Letters of John

Interpretive Reading

Acts of the Apostles
Life & Teachings of Jesus 2
Effective Bible Study
Greek

3RD TERM

Evangelism 1

Topical Preaching

1 Corinthians
Church History & Doctrine
1 & 2 Thessalonians / Philippians
Biblical Theology of Missions

4TH TERM

Evangelism 2

Preaching from the O.T.

SECOND YEAR COURSES

Minor Prophets
1 & 2 Peter/James
Spiritual Leadership (Major)
Foundation of Family / Youth Ministry (Major)
Ephesians / Colossians

1ST TERM

Sacrificial System

Effective Teaching 1

Gospel of John
Isaiah
Church Growth (Major)
Framework of Family / Youth Ministry (Major)
Hebrews

2ND TERM

Galatians

Effective Teaching 2

Church of Christ
Daniel / Ezekiel
Advanced Homiletics (Major)
Family & Youth Toolbox (Major)
Romans

3RD TERM

Christian Counseling

Preaching from the Epistles

Timothy / Titus
Wisdom Literature
Congregational Ministry (Major)
Administration of Family/Youth Ministry (Major)
Revelation

4TH TERM

2 Corinthians

Special Events Preaching

Bachelor of Biblical Studies Degree

CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY

Objective

Public proclamation has always been at the heart of Sunset's training. Each male student at Sunset takes the "Introduction to Homiletics" course, which is a study of the principles and practices of preaching, and includes a survey of the minister and his personal life. Each term students take a preaching lab to assist them in the development of preaching.

These include the following:

- Confident Preaching
- Interpretive Reading
- Topical Preaching
- Expository Preaching
- Effective Teaching 1
- Effective Teaching 2
- Preaching from the Old Testament
- Special Events Preaching



Ron Bontrager
Dean of Preaching
806/788-3245
rdbon@sibi.cc

The Congregational Ministry Major

Congregational Ministry is one of three majors we offer. The purpose of the Congregational Ministry major is to prepare men to preach and minister effectively in an established church.

Emphases in the Congregational Ministry Major

- Public Proclamation of the Word of God
- Personal Evangelism and Church Growth
- Ministry and Equipping the Church for Ministry
- Developing the Minister's Spiritual Life

Courses in the Congregational Ministry Major

- Spiritual Leadership
- Church Growth
- Advanced Homiletics
- Congregational Ministry



Bachelor of Biblical Studies Degree

FAMILY & YOUTH MINISTRY

Family and Youth Ministry Vision

Our mission is to bring glory to God through enabling ministry leaders and workers to possess the knowledge and practical skills to build and strengthen each household within the local church. **Will YOU prepare to minister in the vital area of family and youth?**

Within the context of the two-year program of Sunset International Bible Institute there are four terms of study offered to second year students focused on Family and Youth Ministry. These studies are intended to broaden practical ministry abilities as students are engaged in the textual studies of the two-year program.

Through the Family and Youth Ministry track of classes students are trained to reach the family with the gospel and facilitate parents and children to live within God's unique design for quality family discipleship. Spiritually strong families energize the local church with their willingness to engage the world with God's love and truth. These family-based youth ministry studies offer anyone – the full or part-time student, volunteer worker, or parents – the training to make an eternal difference in the families of their church and community.



Gibby Gilbert
Family & Youth Ministry
806/788-3256
ggilbert@sibi.cc

Courses of the Family and Youth Ministry

FOUNDATIONS OF FAMILY AND YOUTH MINISTRY

The foundation to family and youth ministry is a clear definition and application of Biblical teachings regarding the family and its symbiotic relationship with the church. During this course we will explore the development of a Biblical Christian world view as contrasted with the most popular Western world views. An introductory study of the basic principles of family-based ministry will set the stage for the courses that follow.

FRAMEWORK OF FAMILY AND YOUTH MINISTRY

The structure and context of family-based ministry will be defined and examined during the second term of study. A strategy for facilitation of family-based ministry within the background of present culture will be designed using Biblical guidelines for the "household." Most importantly, the relationship between the church and family will be appraised with the goal of understanding how we must actively integrate families – and especially our children – into the body of Christ.

FAMILY AND YOUTH MINISTRY TOOLBOX

This study will examine the "tools" provided by Scripture to impact the family and the church – and ultimately, our world. The significance of family-based education, evangelism, service, and missions will be explored in practical discussions – along with the presentation of related resources and materials.

ADMINISTRATION OF FAMILY AND YOUTH MINISTRY

The function of the minister in regard to operational procedures, planning structures, working relationship with church leaders, and the practical integration of family and youth into the church are key elements. A practical approach that harmonizes Bible principles and church expectation will be considered in this study.



Bachelor of Biblical Studies Degree

DEAF MINISTRY MAJOR

Deaf People Need Jesus

At Sunset we are training deaf and hearing men and women to accept the challenge of sharing the gospel with the deaf world.

At Sunset you will have an opportunity to come to a better understanding of the Bible, to associate with deaf and hearing Christians, and to encourage each other to grow spiritually.

Deaf Program

A three-year Ministry Training program is available. All courses are taught by skilled Bible instructors. (This course may be completed in two years with permission).

Online Remote Classroom

All classes taught to the Deaf are done in an online classroom allowing Deaf students from around the country to study.

Hearing Students

Students in the two-year Basic Ministry Training Program take forty core courses as well as eight preaching labs. A student may choose deaf courses as their track.

Womens Program

Women may take the full two year hearing program, or a Deaf Ministry Studies program that provides six deaf communication classes and fourteen Bible Classes.

Interpreter Training

Sunset offers eight courses in deaf communication including American Sign Language, Interpreter Training, and Deaf Psychology. There are millions of deaf people in our world today. We have a command from our creator to share the gospel of salvation with everyone including the deaf.



Dennis Wilson
Director, Deaf Ministry
Home- 806/853-8560
dennis@denniswilson.com



Mark Lowenstein
Deaf Ministry Instructor
Home- 623/207-8162
deafpreacher@gmail.com



Rebecca Shelt
Interpreter
Office: 806/788-3255



Bachelor of Biblical Studies Degree

CHRISTIAN INTERPRETER TRAINING



LEVEL 1: AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

Beginning ASL 1: This is an entry level American Sign Language course that covers the first half of Tom Humphries, Carol Padden and Terrence J. O'Rourke's book: **A Basic Course in American Sign Language**. This course builds students' vocabulary while teaching important grammatical features.

Beginning ASL 2: This course is a follow up to Beginning ASL 1. Students cover the second half of the book: **A Basic Course in American Sign Language**. This course provides students with basic conversational skills in ASL.

Religious Signing: Students will focus on ASL vocabulary prevalent in religious settings. Students learn and practice the art of interpreting hymns, scriptures and devotional thoughts. This course culminates with students interpreting a song or verse during SIBI chapel.

ASL Storytelling: In this course, students watch videos of ASL storytelling.

These videos demonstrate different aspects of effective ASL storytelling. Students then create their own stories while utilizing the various storytelling skills taught in class. Students also practice their receptive skills while voicing for Deaf storytellers.

LEVEL 2: EMPHASES CLASSES

ASL Idioms: Students are taught the art of interpreting English idioms into appropriate ASL equivalents. They learn hundreds of ASL idioms unique to the Deaf community.

ASL Interpreting: They learn vocabulary specific to the various fields in which they may be required to interpret. They learn to tailor their interpreting styles to match the tenor of each setting. Interpreting assignments will help to solidify new information presented in class.



Deaf Culture and Ethics: This course focuses on a historical overview of the American Deaf community and its evolving culture showing that deafness is a culture and not a disability. An overview of ethics for Christian Deaf Interpreters.

Conversational Sign Language: We will be following some foundational concepts from Willard J. Madsen's textbook on Conversational Sign Language as well as helping students study and incorporate a range of interpreting themes.



Dennis Wilson, Director of Deaf Ministry
806-788-3245 • dennis@denniswilson.com
3723 34th St., Lubbock, TX 79410 • 800-658-9553 • www.sunset.bible

Women's Ministry

The Mission of Our Department

Early in Sunset's ministry, we saw that there is much value in women being trained and equipped for ministry. Since that time Sunset has dramatically grown in providing biblically sound, well-equipped women. This makes Sunset one of the only ministry training schools in our brotherhood who offers an emphasis focusing on women. Here at Sunset, we feel the same responsibility to prepare our women, just as deeply as we do our men. Women share in the same commands to "go into all the world", just as much as their male counterparts. How can we minister to our neighbors, congregations and the world, without women doing their part?

Whether married or single, women are vital for the Kingdom to continue to grow, just as they were during the time of Christ. Many women serving the Lord today are doing innovative and effective ministries around the world. At Sunset, it is our prayer and goal to train godly women to be better equipped for a life in ministry.

Women who attend Sunset are offered the opportunity to complete one of two certifications. She can either choose to take our Women's Bachelor of Biblical Studies (48 courses) or our Women's Associates Program (28 courses).

The Associate Biblical Studies program is a popular option for women who study at SIBI. This part-time course of study is a great balance for women who need to work part-time or who are raising children. This program consists of twenty courses including four standard major field courses..

Associate Biblical Studies (ABS)

This program consists of twenty courses including four standard major field courses. The ABS can be earned over a two-year period.

Bachelor of Biblical Studies (BBS)

This program is the primary Sunset ministry training program requiring two years of full-time studies. Special speaking and teaching classes are provided in the women's training program.

Bachelor or Associate of Deaf Biblical Studies (BDBS or ADBS)

The ADBS and BDBS programs are designed to equip women to interpret or teach in sign language.

Sunset offers child care at the building (see page 20 for costs).



Betty Tracy
Dean of Women
806/788-3240
betty@sibi.cc



Sunset School of Missions

SIX MONTH INTENSIVE PRACTICAL MISSIONS TRAINING

Our Mission Vision

Our mission vision is to praise and glorify God by first being disciples, then making disciples of all the nations: to recruit, train and mentor missionaries, mission teams, send churches to plant, mature, and reproduce the Lord's church throughout the world.

How About Missions?

With more than a century of mission work experience the faculty at Sunset is eager to make available that wealth of knowledge to you no matter where you plan to do mission work. Each of the instructors in the SUNSET SCHOOL OF MISSIONS has on-field experience and has trained others who are now serving as missionaries around the world. This six-month program will train you by:

- Preparing you for team ministry
- Assigning you in-depth studies of your intended mission field
- Helping you to develop partners and raise funds
- Aiding you in the development of a strategy for fruitful cross-cultural evangelism
- Offering personal, family, and team assessments to enhance team cohesion and effectiveness



David Henniger
Dean of Missions
806/788-3263
david.henniger@sibi.cc

Curriculum:

- Team Development
- Developing Mission Strategy
- Mental Health on the Mission Field
- Cross-Cultural Preaching
- Linguistics
- Mission Partnership/Fund-Raising
- Missionary Issues
- Gospel & Culture
- Missionary Prayer
- History of Missions and Application
- Church Planting and Development



SUNSET
School of Missions

Missions

Going the distance makes a difference. The apostle Paul obviously thought understanding the worldview and customs of those in Athens was necessary to communicate the message of the risen Christ. It is just as important in our time. The Gospel doesn't change, but learning how to connect with people in their own culture is still critically important.



From the beginning, we have always been about missions both in foreign and domestic fields. Today we are just as dedicated to Christ's Great Commission as we always have been. A key part of His words at the end of the Gospel of Matthew is, "...go into all the world..." We believe that God has gifted and put on the hearts of individuals and groups to take the Gospel and make disciples in both domestic and foreign fields. Therefore, we want to train, equip and disciple these special groups and individuals to be effective in this type of ministry.

At Sunset we strive to take those special individuals and groups with a heart and passion for the lost, to a level of completeness in their training. If you are ready to dig in deep theologically, learn about yourself and connecting with others, and hone your passion for the lost in different cultures, we've developed our mission's emphasis for You!

Sunset Missions' Emphasis is a part for our Biblical Studies program where, alongside our core Bible curriculum, the student has the opportunity to be trained in missions. In this program they will learn how to effectively share the Gospel in different cultures throughout the world.

All of the instructors in the Missions Emphasis were missionaries in different nations around the world. They provide not only theoretical knowledge but also hands-on experience along with the heart for world evangelism.

We believe it is important to involve each of our students in two short mission campaigns (one on a foreign field, the other a domestic field). These campaigns are designed to help students see how God is working in different places, and to spark imaginations of each to see themselves at work in God's Kingdom in those contexts.



During the Mission's Emphasis at Sunset, students will be equipped in four key foundational areas:

Theology of Missions: Developing a clear biblical worldview with God and His mission as the center.

Culture: Understand multiple facets of culture, how it influences worldview, how it influences the implementation of different systems, and one's ability to share the Gospel message effectively.

Strategy: How to unite the above mentioned disciplines through critical thinking.

Implementation: Putting the pieces together (Team, Missionary Care, Equipping, Partnering, Fundraising, etc.)

For our students who have current plans to be in the mission field and want more extensive training, we offer our School of Missions. This time is intended to take individuals and mission teams into more complete knowledge and preparation to help prepare them for their specific field.

AIM

ADVENTURES IN MISSIONS

Adventures in Missions is a two year certificate program that provides an opportunity to make a significant difference in the world. AIM is for college age young men and women who come from all around the U.S. as well as from foreign countries. Some come to AIM directly out of high school while others wait until they finish college. Often a person has just reached a point at which he or she is really seeking to grow in Bible knowledge and spiritual maturity.



The first eight months are spent in an intensive study of God's word. Classes such as **Christian Evidences**, **Old Testament History**, and **The Life of Christ** are taught by the Sunset International Bible Institute faculty and the AIM staff. These classes are aimed at increasing personal Bible knowledge, helping share what they have learned with others, and understanding other cultures, beliefs, and people as

an apprentice missionary. We also spend time in people's lives through small group Bible studies, community service, campus ministry, and much more.

Mission Experience: After eight months in Lubbock those students approved for the field spend 14-20 months on a foreign or domestic mission field. They work with experienced missionaries of the Lord's church all over the world. These AIM coordinators have AIM students help them serve the church and reach the lost. While on the field, AIM students teach children's classes, organize youth activities, reach out to the lost, teach others about Jesus, serve the church, and proclaim Jesus in both their talk and their walk. This period of time is not only an exciting opportunity to serve, but also good preparation for a lifetime of missionary service.



Cory Burns
AIM Director



Pat Sheaffer
Advancement Coordinator



Robby Stephens
Staff Coordinator

Senior AIM

SENIOR ADVENTURES IN MINISTRY

Senior Adventures in Ministry is designed to:

- Encourage you to use life experiences and talents for the Kingdom in a productive way
- Edify yourself and others by being trained in biblical knowledge
- Enable you to use your God-given talents
- Enlarge your world vision

Senior AIMers will:

- Have the option to audit courses in the ministry-training program, but may also choose to take courses for full credit.
- Have the opportunity to study with qualified, dedicated instructors who combine biblical knowledge with practical experience.
- Interact with other generations while gaining a sense of the worldwide nature of the church.



Stuart Jones
Director
senioraim@sibi.com

How much time is required to finish the basic program?

The program is flexible and negotiable according to your own needs and goals. Students may return at a later more convenient date for additional study if they desire.

How can you use your wisdom and Experience?

You can help your own congregation and also help to stabilize and mature churches in the USA and in foreign countries by: mentoring/role-modeling, teaching children, teaching adults, serving as relief house parents, teaching English, teaching home Bible studies, assisting with missionary farming, coordinating a seniors' ministry, preaching, counseling, serving in medical missions, being substitute grandparents.



Cecilia Jones
Administrator

Who can benefit most from Senior Adventures in Ministry?

These classes are designed for retirees who want to enhance and sharpen their people-helping skills and Bible knowledge so they can be more effective in teaching and maturing individuals and groups.



Betty Garnett
SeniorAIM Assistant

Brian Garnett
Assistant Director
brian.garnett@sibi.cc



Summer and Graduate Internship

The Intern Programs work to place SIBI students and graduates in congregations that are not only biblically-centered and spiritually-focused but that have a heart for mentoring new ministers to greater levels of ministerial skills and maturity.

The intern works under the oversight of a mentor that has a broad and healthy church ministry history. During the 10 weeks or 18 month internship the mentor will guide the intern through a wide variety of educational and experiential ministry settings.

With the hands-on experience of an internship, the student in training will be better prepared to serve the church as a preacher, teacher, evangelist, and spiritual encourager.

As the Director of Internship, I exhort every student who comes for training to prepare himself/herself mentally, physically, and spiritually to accept an internship before your training is complete.

I am eager to hear from church leaders who want to partner with us in this vision and share in its good fruit.



Speedy Hart
806/788-3237
speedysiby@sibi.cc

Three Strands That Strengthen Men For Ministry

1. The power of God at work through His Word and Church
2. The ministry training received at Sunset
3. The mentoring congregation
 - The congregation, its ministry staff, and leaders can be agents through which ministers are trained and equipped. They can provide the practical ministry training that will help maximize the interning minister's potential.
 - It can serve to advance the intern's studies, broaden his ministry experiences, and enhance his ministry skills.
 - It can assist the intern in gaining ministry wisdom and confidence in a supportive environment.

Duration of Internship

A post-graduate internship should not be less than twelve months and no more than eighteen months in length. A summer internship length is determined on a case by case basis (usually eight months).

2 + 1 Commitment

Sunset believes that this combination is an excellent recipe for ministry success: God, Sunset training, and local congregation's experience! "A cord of three strands is not quickly torn apart." (Ecclesiastes 4:12)

"The classroom, while essential, cannot fully prepare students for the wide scope of ministry activities and responsibilities."

Questions About Our Degrees

Is Sunset an accredited school?

No. By our choice we are not seeking accreditation. Regional accreditation comes with requirements regarding curriculum, faculty, and students which would change the nature of our program and dilute the strength of our Biblical training. Since our objective is to prepare students for ministry in the church and other Christian services, we are more concerned with our values, our mission, and with pleasing God. The value of our degree can be seen in the quality of our curriculum, the qualifications of our faculty, and the knowledge, character, and skills gained by our students. The fruit of over five decades of training preachers, teachers, and missionaries in effective Christian ministry speaks well of the quality of a Biblical degree from Sunset.

By what authority do you offer degrees?

We have been issued a Letter of Authorization to grant degrees by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, according to the provisions of the Texas Education Code, sub-chapter G, chapter 61, title 3, section 7.5 (g). This authorizes us to legally grant religious degrees under the laws of the State of Texas.

What degrees do Sunset offer?

We offer the Associate of Biblical Studies (60 hours), the Bachelor of Biblical Studies (120 hours), the Bachelor of Theology (for those who already have an associate or bachelor's degree with liberal arts component) and the Master of Biblical Studies (36 hours in-ministry post graduate degree).

What can a person do with a degree from Sunset?

A degree is a tool which serves the student. A degree in Biblical Studies is designed to prepare a person for one basic task: MINISTRY. The BBS Degree represents a professional level of academic training in Bible and ministry related subjects. One who has earned this degree should be prepared for ministry in the church, in para-church organizations, Christian schools, missionary endeavors, or any number of other ministries. Beyond all these ministry possibilities a graduate should experience personal spiritual growth and the satisfaction of completing a rigorous program of study resulting in a degree.

Does Sunset offer enough hours to warrant a degree?

The degree programs offered by SIBI are accelerated, not abbreviated, which means the course work in the two year intensive resident program require enough contact hours, along with reading and research assignments, to award the appropriate semester-hour credits toward a degree. This does not take into account the three to five hours spent outside of class every day studying and researching. This is why the students typically attend full-time and don't pursue secular work while enrolled in the resident school. In fact, the student will earn 120 hours of Bible and related subjects in two years at Sunset.

Does a two year program qualify for a bachelor's degree when most bachelor's degrees require four years?

Most of our resident students complete the required hours of intensive Biblical studies in two years. However, there is an optional three-year program for those who require more time. Whether the required 120 hours are completed in two years, three years, or four years, they qualify one to receive a Bachelor degree in Biblical studies.

May women enroll in Sunset and earn a degree?

Yes. From the beginning Sunset has provided study opportunities for women. Through the years numerous women have completed a curriculum of courses designed for them. Though we are not training women for the preaching and leadership roles which the Bible specifies for men, our program equips them well for the vital roles outlined in scripture for Godly women.

Will the BBS degree from Sunset be accepted for entrance to Master's degree programs?

We can make no claim relative to acceptance into the graduate program of another college, seminary or university. A graduate from SIBI should do well in any graduate program in Biblical studies or ministry. While there are documented cases of students from unaccredited schools being accepted to graduate programs in accredited schools, each institution has its own rules for acceptance. It must be noted, however, that a Bachelor Degree in Biblical Studies does not qualify a person to enter a Master Program in a secular field of study. Most graduate schools require a liberal arts degree with an approved major for acceptance into their graduate program.

Do you have an adequate faculty to deliver your planned degree programs?

Yes. Sunset faculty members are faithful Christians who have years of experience in textual research and study, congregational ministry, foreign missions, and in the classroom. All have sufficient experience and scholarship and have achieved a high level of mastery in their fields of teaching. While our faculty members have outstanding academic credentials, our emphasis is on knowledge, competence, and ministry experience. Because we are training people for ministry and missions, we seek faculty members who have "been there and done that."

What is the value of a degree from Sunset?

The value of any degree from any institution is only as good as (1) the quality of education received, (2) the quality of the faculty, (3) the quality of the skills developed by students, and (4) the success of the graduates. These four points especially apply to church-sponsored degree programs such as offered by SIBI. Proficiency in these four major areas support the value of a degree in Biblical Studies from Sunset.

Frequently-Asked Questions

How much does school cost?

We are always happy to answer this question because Sunset is tuition free for residential students. Our brotherhood believes in training preachers. The brotherhood supports the Institute and its faculty and staff so that you can come and prepare to preach the word of God. *See page 21 for specific costs.*

How much support does a person need?

When it comes to the cost of living, Lubbock is less expensive than most parts of the country. Each individual or family will have its own needs and expectations. *See page 21 for income suggestions.*

How should I go about raising support?

Most of your support will come from people who know you. Do not be afraid to ask everyone you know to help you prepare for the greatest work on the face of the earth. Also, encourage those who know you to share your desire for training with others. A sample brochure can be sent to you as a guide for helping you prepare a concise information hand-out telling of your future plans with hopes for a life of ministry. This brochure should be prepared early and should be ready for distribution once you have received your acceptance letter from the school. It is important that you complete your application in a timely manner once you have made your decision to come. Also included in the acceptance packet is a list of suggestions to help you raise your support after you have been accepted to the school.

Where should my supporters send their support?

There are two primary options that are used for the collection and distribution of student support. The first option, which works best, is that you arrange for a congregation to be your sponsoring church and have your supporters send their checks there. That congregation then gathers your support each month and sends it directly to you in one check. This is the best avenue for your support to be collected.

If this arrangement is not possible, your second option is to have your support sent directly to Sunset. The school will keep a ledger and will give you a check on the 1st and 15th of each month. You will receive only what is in your account. It is your responsibility to manage your monthly support. If your supporters choose to send their support through the school, they need to be sure to attach paperwork that tells us that the contribution is for you. You will also need to let your supporters know that sending their support to the school does not mean that their support is automatically tax deductible. That must be determined on an individual basis by their own tax advisor.

How you claim your support on your taxes needs to be discussed with your own tax advisor! We cannot give legal or tax advice.

What about housing?

Lubbock has literally hundreds of apartment complexes and normally a good supply of houses and duplexes to choose from. Due to Lubbock's large college population rent houses are harder to find once the college students start looking, so you need to have something secured by July. See page 21 for projected housing costs.

Sunset has only limited avenues of help with housing. The easiest and most efficient way for you to find housing is to find it yourself, especially if you take advantage of online housing resources. There are also several house locating services, and an apartment guide that is available online. Log onto the following links to research housing: www.ci.lubbock.com; www.lubbockonline.com; www.lubbockapartments.com

Is my wife required to attend classes?

No, but wives are highly encouraged to be involved as much as possible in the Women's Program activities and in school functions. Many courses will be of great value and encouragement for the husband and wife to attend together. Women at Sunset can choose from several levels of study or involvement, ranging from one night a week to a full 40-course degree. There is a TEAM class one night per month so that working wives can participate and fellowship with other women. Ladies classes are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with day care available on campus if you have small children. For more details see *Women's Studies*, page 13.

Is it possible to work and support myself while I am attending Sunset?

With five core courses and a preaching lab every term it will be almost impossible for a full-time student to have a job and at the same time keep up with his/her studies. Sunset does not demand that a student in the basic program not work, but highly discourages it. If a student chooses to work, it cannot be at the expense of his/her academic performance. The school does offer a three-year program that allows the student a reduced-course load and could allow the student some additional time for employment.

Living In Lubbock

BASIC EXPENSES - NOT INCLUDING PREVIOUS ON-GOING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS

Suggested Income (Needs vary for each person/family)

- Single - \$1,500 to \$1,800 per month
- Married without children - \$1,800 to \$2,500 per month
- Married with children (family of four) - \$2,500 to \$4,000 per month
- SIBI students who qualify may receive G.I. Bill Benefits

Housing (Key word in this list is “UP”)

Efficiency apartments - \$400 & up per month (plus bills)

Apartments (many to choose from in Lubbock)

- One B/R - \$500 & up per month
- Two B/R - \$700 & up per month
- Varied plans on paying utilities (Approximately \$200 per month for utilities)

Houses (All sizes and prices in city)

- Two B/R - \$675 & up per month
- Three B/R - \$850 & up per month (Approximately \$300 per month for utilities)

Phone - renter's responsibility

Health Insurance

Health Insurance is strongly recommended. Opportunities to secure a policy available through local insurance companies

School Expenses

Books - Approximately \$50-\$150 per term (required books only)

Class Fees (due at registration)

- \$120 per term for full-time student
- \$20 per course for part-time and auditing student

Child Care at Sunset building (during school hours only)

- One child \$2.00 per hour
- Two children \$3.00 per hour
- Three children \$4.00 per hour

(Lunch not provided. Children eat with parent(s))

Campaigns

- One domestic campaign required before graduation
- One foreign campaign required before graduation (approximate cost for this campaign: \$1,000 - 1,500)
- Summer internship opportunities may be available to fulfill the foreign campaign requirement

Sunset Finances

How is Sunset Financed?

No tuition is charged to residential students. Therefore, we depend upon donations and contributions for almost 100% of our financial requirements.

Ministry-trainers at Sunset are supported by sister congregations and interested individuals. The expense associated with teacher salaries is the single largest cost of the Sunset ministry. Our teachers are missionaries who are training the next generation of preachers and missionaries.

Students are sent to us and supported by churches and individuals from all over the U.S. and foreign countries as well. Because four years of study are condensed into two years, students are not usually able to pursue employment for their support.

Other operational expenses such as office expenses, staff, and equipment are financed from general contributions.

Financial Sources for Contributions

Sunset Church of Christ

Counting contributions through the budget and the substantial benefits of facilities, utilities, equipment, and support staff, the Sunset Church of Christ provides benefits to the school of approximately \$300,000 per year.

Wills, Trusts, Non-cash Gifts

Periodically, the school benefits from the proceeds of estates, annuities, gifts of real estate, and other in-kind gifts. In 2013, the SIBI Foundation was established, an entity whose sole purpose is to support Sunset International Bible Institute. 4.5% of the Foundation's assets are used each year to support Sunset. For more information regarding your estate planning, please contact our Intitute Advancement Office.

Brotherhood Foundations

Foundational gifts to Sunset are of great benefit because they are sometimes tied to a matching fund challenge. These motivate additional giving.

Sister Congregations and Individuals

More than 2,400 sister congregations and individuals, including Sunset members, make cash donations to the Sunset International Bible Institute. Some give on a monthly basis. Gifts of stocks, bonds, and other securities are also welcomed. This currently provides the greatest amount of our faculty and student support.

Sunset Alumni

Sunset alumni contribute financially to the school's ministries. Though the majority of our graduates are preachers and missionaries, they make a significant contribution to our annual financial need.



Sunset International Bible Institute
3723 34th St.
Lubbock, TX 79410-2895
800/658-9553
www.sunset.bible

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