

The foundation document endorsed by 500 Signatories

Background

The administrator of Calvary University, Calvary Life Tutors (CLT) offers a framework, material and method for Biblical and practical training in a contact-tutor setting providing information combined with learning instruction, resulting in achieved life skills, suitable for ministry as a worker, leader or pastor of a local congregation, which continues into the post-graduate level of learning.

This training is for local churches and is not meant to replace a seminary. Informal training, in a wide **church recognition** context, has proven to be more cost-effective, whilst outcomes are reached in an environment using accreditation standards as required by Calvary University. The CLT short courses build 'life skills experience' suitable for the granting of **Recognition for Prior Learning** [RPL].

Some students, whilst completing this training to equip themselves for local church leadership, develop a call on their life for deeper involvement in ministry training. For these students Calvary University recognizes the first three CLT short courses of 80 credits each (240 credits) **as a basis** for several Bachelor degree qualifications. A further 160 credits in **ministry training** which leads to a **Bachelor of Ministry** is available.

Development

We received accreditation for our programmes in February, 2000, and had permission to issue degrees. We voluntarily withdrew from the SA accreditation process for a season, as requirements changed and no longer allowed franchises (Tuition Centres) to operate without being evaluated by the State. This problem has now been resolved by **Calvary University** having full accreditation status.

CLT now offers material for accredited programmes, where centres mentor students through short courses, using the **Standards for Accreditation** of **Christian Quality Assurance (CQA)** which hundreds of international Christian institutions hold to. With accredited courses students can easily get bank loans or business bursaries. However, our students do not need this kind of financial assistance since our courses are affordable. Training is intended for **ministry training**, the and the Church is positioned to do its own evaluation of suitable content for Christian ministry.

Purpose

The purpose of this Charter is to provide **assurance of quality** among centres and meaningful training during the years of preparation through our Calvary programmes.

Participants

Calvary Life Tutors and the **Tuition Centres** can be described as Mentoring Centres for quality contact education in the field of Christian Ministry and Church Management, using tutors who specialise in advanced e-learning technology.

Mentoring means that a trained, experienced professional comes alongside a student to train, counsel and advise in order to impart academic knowledge and practical skills. This is not limited to higher education, but may include any such courses which form part of a programme. The method is advanced since we use all that technology has provided for us, including the Internet giving access a multitude of websites.

Churches are represented by groups, fellowships or denominations and give credence to the programme through professional evaluation, and by providing their declared stamp of approval to the Calvary University programme. It has always been our practice that every denomination can still require that a student, who has spent up to five years of training through the short courses, should also do additional modules or courses in order to understand the specific approach to doctrine of a given church group.

Christian Quality Assurance (CQA) provides an on-going service of training, informing, evaluating and publicizing of quality learning centres. Its stamp of approval is controlled through site visits and professional quality officer evaluations.

Core Concepts

The principles of learning include: life-long learning; integrated with life skills; relevant to the Pentecostal-Renewal experience; credibility due to international acceptance; flexible learning to offer multiple pathways; easy access for all in order to progress; with portable credits and incorporating recognition of prior (informal) learning, which are recognised and endorsed by **Calvary University**.

Fundamental Principle

Secular curricula are based on various philosophical models such as idealism (the mind is the creator), realism (things just are), pragmatism (things are true if they work) and existentialism (there is no ultimate purpose).

A Christian curriculum, in contrast to this, is a teaching–learning process with its overall focus (purpose) on CHRIST the Master Educator’s example, and His command to make Disciples. The presence of God’s Holy Spirit in teaching makes it a divine, supernatural ministry.

Christian education is functional in that it seeks to guide individuals at all levels of growth – through contemporary teaching methods – towards knowing and experiencing God’s purpose and plan through Christ, touching every

aspect of life, and equipping them for effective ministry as well as other regular professions.

The church cannot turn to the state to have its learning model and content evaluated against those diametrically opposed ideologies with non-Christian educational principles.

In order to recommend acceptable learning principles by which the church must train its sons and daughters in both character and life in the Spirit, to secure its future, its doctrinal health and its holiness of life, the church must wake up, see the truth, take the initiative and make its own decisions. This is embodied in Calvary University.

This document will serve as a mandate to teach thousands of disciples in hundreds of churches to an acceptable standard, to secure student success, within a Christian value system.

Components

The document consists of:

- This **Introduction**,
- a **Charter Declaration** stating the fundamental principles of belief,
- a central **Purpose** statement,
- a set of **Organizing Principles and Relationships**,
- the **Roles and Responsibilities** of the participants and
- a Charter **Signatory Statement**.

Charter Declaration

This Charter seeks to establish, confirm and support the implementation of the **Calvary Academics** training model set forth by Calvary University, and utilized by a Christian community, hereby represented through the signatories to this document. Their agreement signifies their endeavour to give practical and effective embodiment to the training facets of the **Great Commission** given by the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Foundation

We believe that the Great Commission gives us a mandate for training new disciples in obedience to the Lord's command.

We encourage these trained disciples to be further trained as workers, leaders, counsellors, pastors and other professions to provide an infrastructure for congregations and Christian communities to fulfil the Great Commission.

We value the advantage of close contact in education between learner and teacher to maximize the development of character building and impartation of the ethos of the local expression of the church.

We strive towards the building and strengthening of the Kingdom of God in our co-operation with other local churches, denominations and training organisations such as Calvary Life Tutors, Christian Colleges and Calvary University as well as the CQA standards, in order to enhance the functionality of trained members.

We respect each individual Christian in his or her calling to work in the vineyard of God, and will work towards the greatest advantage through training and diligent mentoring through discipleship in the individual's life in Christ.

We support Calvary Life Tutors as an organisation, embracing their training model as acceptable for the local training we envisage.

We will employ the training principles provided through the Calvary University model to encourage, establish and promote quality education.

We will acknowledge, respect and apply CQA's Standards for Accreditation in our training and/or our acceptance of the earned credits of students.

We will honestly and professionally apply all credits of students in our evaluation of individuals who are called to various ministry and professional positions.

Purpose

To develop knowledge of the Word of God in church members using this Biblical training model; mentoring them to become functional members of the body both in a local context and in the church at large, through the application of acceptable standards of teaching, evaluation and recognition of transferable credits.

Organizing Principles and Relationships

Calvary University is committed to providing Bible Schools and Tuition Centres with its **Calvary Academics** curriculum, which is suitable for training Christians to gain spiritual growth and to understand the church and its ministries. It offers materials for training in a diversity of particular fields of calling, through which disciples and workers may be prepared for leadership through on-the-job training, which provides for objective directed learning, suitable for the local Church.

Calvary Life Tutors promotes the establishment of strategically situated Bible Schools to facilitate academic support and student guidance within a Biblical mentoring model, using academically qualified and professionally trained lecturers with relevant practical experience in a field of specialization.

Tuition Centres (TC's) are locally governed structures set up and maintained by individual churches or other governing bodies for the purpose of offering a training service to members and other Christians who accept the authority of the Tuition Centre for the purpose of their learning needs in a field of ministry and church management.

Christian Quality Assurance (CQA) has as its primary purpose the dissemination of international accreditation standards of Christian institutions for higher education. They do this by providing necessary information about accreditation to all institutions which seek to improve their quality and level of accreditation values and principles. These are the standards Calvary University requires from Tuition Centres, and which we also hold to and are measured by, as we disciple students who are studying informally by means of short courses, or who have registered for a qualification at an institute of higher education (CU).

Tuition Centres promote learning by offering classes and study group facilitation for prospective students. They obtain acceptable learning material from Calvary Life Tutors, which they offer in a prescribed format so that the learning objectives may be turned into successful outcomes as SAQA accredited vocational certificates.

Church Bodies such as denominations and fellowship groups which carry oversight responsibilities, accept student credits as a basis on which to ordain members for the ministry, appoint marriage officers, and fill other positions through informed decisions. They have transparent requirements for academic competency and in their human resource management make use of the Calvary Academic Platform **CAP**, which allows for Tuition Centres to disclose records of credits attained, as well as conduct and character shown during studies in a discipling environment.

Calvary Life Tutors and Tuition Centres agree to cooperate in the development of improved methods, materials and directives for the sake of the learning success and quality of the students in a Christian context.

Roles and Responsibilities

Each of the role-players has distinctive roles and responsibilities:

Calvary Life Tutors will develop curricula, take responsibility for the logistics of curriculum provision, give directives for implementation of courses as well as for evaluation of progress and outcomes; will distribute quality awareness material; send reminders of its implementation; and is responsible for the delivering of certificates of Calvary University, who is the accredited issuing body.

Bible Schools and Tuition Centres provide suitable facilities, resources and faculty, in order to ensure quality delivery of the learning material according to prescribed methods. They will operate an acceptable management system incorporating an administrative database which is secure, accurate and kept up-to-date by competent staff. A Quality Officer with an educational qualification will ensure in-house quality control.

Christian Quality Assurance represented locally by evaluators, will compare Tuition Centre evaluation reports made to CQA with reality, inform Tuition Centres, train them in the Principles of Accreditation, manage its seal of quality, control the CQA listing, as well as membership of this Charter according to its findings during site visits and/or interviews.

Church Bodies as described will make known their level of acceptance, their requirements for students on different levels of training to do certain specified extra work to enable their acceptance for different levels of ministry to which they aspire to be ordained or installed.

Charter Signatory

This is the wording on the Charter signatory page which has been initially signed by selected and invited signatories. Their names will be published on a page of the Calvary Website at www.clt.org.za/chartersignatories.html. It will be printed and numbered in the format of a certificate to be displayed by each member in a suitable place. It will be an indication of quality learning which is endorsed by Calvary University, only to be attained by a number of quality Bible Schools, Tuition Centres and other supportive Christian organisations or fellowship groups:

Signatory Statement

We, the undersigned, in our capacities as representatives of Bible Schools, Tuition Centres and church denominations or fellowships, embrace our role as vital contributors in realizing the purpose of the Calvary Academics curriculum as set out in the published Charter, which is endorsed by Calvary University, and hereby recognize its true value by this public acknowledgement of this Charter. We hereby add our signature to the **Calvary University Charter**.

Calvary University Charter

This sealed Charter seeks to establish, confirm and support the implementation of the Calvary University training model utilised by a Christian community, hereby represented through the signatories to this document. Their agreement signifies their endeavour to give formal, practical and effective embodiment to the training facets of the Great Commission given by the Lord Jesus Christ.

CALVARY LIFE TUTORS – 100

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Dated this **Eleventh** day of **November, 2011**

Signed Paul Bunting

Signed [Signature]

Signatory

number: 02



CLT

*Tutors mentoring students by utilising
advanced e-learning technology
within a Christian context.*

