



TRAINING

C E N T E R

Y E A R O N E
A P P L I C A T I O N
F A L L 2 0 2 4



I N S T R U C T I O N S

Overview

- Please read the entire application and complete the enclosed forms.
- Information provided will be regarded as confidential.
- Each form must be filled out completely on the paper provided (do not use additional pages).
- Information will be confirmed and discussed by the Training Center leadership team.

Process

1. Read the History of the Training Center.
2. Read and understand the Program.
3. Read, check, and sign the Contract.
4. Read and have a ministry leader or an elder check and sign the Candidate Sponsor form.
5. Complete the Student Information form on yourself.
6. Complete the Character and Convictions form.
7. Return a scanned copy of the application in the following order;
 - a. Contract [make this the front page].
 - b. Candidate Sponsor.
 - c. Student Information.
 - d. Character and Convictions.
8. Email a scanned copy of your application to Sam Shwetz (sam@shwetzfam.com) by Thursday, August 1, 2024.

Note: Part of the acceptance decision is based in part on whether you can follow these clear instructions.

Notification

If the Training Center leadership team accepts the applicant into the Training Center, the candidate will be notified as quickly as possible after the application is received, but no later than early August. Summer reading and other assignments will be given upon approval of the application.

Notification will be sent to the email provided in the student information section.

Preparation

1. The candidate will pay a total of \$1,000 for annual school tuition. An initial \$200 deposit must be made by the start of the first semester. A payment plan be made per arrangement with Sam Shwetz (sam@shwetzfam.com).
2. The student will bring a completed Prayer Support Team form to their first day of TC1.
3. The student will purchase their own textbooks and complete assigned summer reading before the first day of TC1.
4. The student will purchase Fall textbooks and have them in hand by the first day of class.
5. The student will have received an overview of Bible verses required for memorization.

The Prayer Team form and book lists will be provided alongside acceptance notification.



H I S T O R Y

Purpose

2 Timothy 2:2 – *“And the things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, these entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.”*

The purpose of the FBC Training Center is to obey 2 Timothy 2:2 by equipping faithful men to serve the Lord and his church with deeper devotion, stronger conviction, and greater effectiveness.

Goal

Ephesians 2:10 – *“For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”*

We desire for each man in the Training Center to discover how God has gifted him so that he can confidently walk in the good works that God has prepared for him. The target is not to make men into something but to draw out what God has already gifted them in. In the end, our vision is that God would raise up faithful men who would better know their Bibles, their hearts, their wives, and their children; who would better minister in word and deed; who would better walk in complete holiness, humble confidence, and selfless love. While some will be leaders, elders, pastors, or missionaries, all will be used of Christ in his church for his glory.

History

The Training Center at Foothill Bible Church was modeled after The Training Center at Faith Bible Church in Murrieta, CA. Pastor Chris Mueller at Faith Bible had developed this program over the course of 30 years in several different churches. After Pastor Art attended that TC from 2018–2020, the elders here at FBC began talking about what it would look like to start a similar church-based training program.

In 2021, we launched our inaugural class of 28 men. After three years, 15 men are graduating in May 2024. This training has already borne fruit in these men, their families, and their ministries. We pray God continues to bless our efforts, causing men to be equipped for his service in our church, our community, and the world.

Leadership

Art Nakamura is the associate pastor at Foothill Bible Church for the past 16 years overseeing a number of ministries including outreach and missions, administration, counseling, mercy ministries, training hour and small group ministries. Previously, Art was ordained from Foothill Bible and sent out to India in 2000 and served at the Pastoral Training Seminary training men for ministry to the local church within India. Art has been married to Kim for 32 years and has 3 children and 10 grandchildren.

Micah Lugg is the teaching pastor at Foothill Bible Church. He has been at Foothill since 2008, serving in student ministries and adult ministries before being called to be the teaching pastor in 2019. He graduated with a B.A. in Biblical Studies from The Master’s University in 2008 and from The Master’s Seminary in 2013 with an M.Div. He has been married to Audrey for 10 years and has four children. He enjoys reading, hiking, golfing, drinking good coffee, and the Oakland Athletics.

Taylor Sinclair is the student ministry pastor at Foothill Bible Church. Before serving at FBC, Taylor served as the pastor of the Children’s Ministry at Grace Community Church in Sun Valley, California. He graduated with a B.S. in Business Administration from the Master’s University in 2016 and from The Master’s Seminary in 2020 with an M.Div. He and his wife, Kelsey, have two sons and enjoy taking walks, reading books, and visiting new coffee shops.



P R O G R A M

The Training Center is a program with three separate years that runs from late August through mid-May. Classes are scheduled every Monday from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for a 30-minute dinner and a three-hour class. This schedule allows students to attend class after a normal workday. Homework, study, reading, writing, and class preparation may involve an additional 6 to 18 hours/week, depending on class requirements and the student's abilities.

Year One: **Scripture**

The first year of the Training Center comprises an in-depth study of the entire Bible, surveying both the Old and New Testaments. Year one also focuses on learning and applying biblical hermeneutics.

Year Two: **Theology**

The second year of the Training Center comprises an in-depth study of theology. Students will study biblical, systematic, historical, and practical theology. Students will also be introduced to exegesis, teaching, preaching, and other areas of ministry, such as discipleship, counseling, shepherding, weddings, funerals, and more.

Year Three: **Leadership**

The third year of the Training Center focuses on leading and shepherding God's people. Students will apply their knowledge of Scripture and theology and apply those truths to ministry philosophy, leadership, and missions. Students will also spend focused time being more equipped in teaching, preaching, counseling, and service based on the student's unique giftedness and calling.

While each year of the Training Center has a particular emphasis, each year, there will be assignments and discussions focusing on

1. **The man:** These assignments and discussions will seek to grow each student in personal holiness.
2. **His marriage:** These assignments and discussions will seek to grow and equip each student in loving, leading, and shepherding his wife and family.
3. **His ministry:** These assignments and discussions will seek to grow and equip each student to understand his spiritual giftedness and how he can best serve the body of Christ through those gifts.

These assignments seek to equip each student to live intentionally for the good of others and the glory of God.

Process

The weekly three-hour gathering is more than just class time, it is a life-on-life mentoring process involving every student as they share with each other and help shape one another's lives. The learning process is integrated, harmonizing the teaching topics with the reading topics to formulate discussion over key issues of ministry. The training is church-based, led by a pastor, and uses other pastors to give input at every level of the training process. Those familiar with graduate-level courses, where students work outside of class, form convictions, and then discuss and present inside of class will see similarities in the Training Center.

Approach

The Training Center recognizes the value of a seminary education and yet, many men cannot attend seminary. Therefore, the Training Center focuses on equipping the man of God with the various tools he will repeatedly use in everyday ministry.

The Training Center focuses on developing:
CHARACTER that is honest,



COMMITMENT that is passionate,
Bible CONTENT understanding that is alive,
COMMUNICATION skills that are practical, accurate, clear, and engaging.

Requirements

A man who desires to go through the Training Center process must have:

- A strong desire to serve in the local church.
- The fruit of a changed life already proven from their existing ministry.
- The approval of their teaching pastor and elder team.

A completed and signed application, submitted by August 1, 2024 [in order to start at the end of August].

*Class sizes are limited; therefore, it is best to apply early.
Submitting an application is not a guarantee of acceptance.*

Conditions

The Training Center requires a great deal of time spent in class, in study, and attending an annual pastor's conference (up to a week long). Students with demanding jobs or uncertain travel schedules, those who know they will miss more than three class sessions a semester, or those not affirmed by their pastoral leadership need not apply. We welcome participants from other churches in the region, but do require direct, regular involvement by a pastor or elder from the sending church. Leadership teams who are not able to have an elder or pastor attend with their student at least once per month also need not apply.

Costs

The Training Center is a not-for-profit ministry of Foothill Bible Church for our church members and is open to the local church community. The following amounts should be used for budgeting purposes.

Tuition costs are approximately \$1,000 per school year;

- This amount **does** include printed materials and related office supplies.
- This amount **does** include the cost of the annual pastor's conference.
- This amount **does not** include books, a laptop, and Logos Bible Software.
- This amount **does not** include the cost of dinner on Monday nights. Students will work in groups to provide dinner for the class, which will cost approximately \$50 per semester.

TOTAL COST [including everything for each year]:

- **Year One:** Approx. \$1,000.
- **Year Two:** Approx. \$1,500, including Logos Bible Software (approx. \$300-\$500).
- **Year Three:** Approx. \$1,000.

Payment and Refund Guidelines:

- Tuition is collected before the beginning of each semester.
- Tuition payment must be made to Foothill Bible Church. Memo line is "Training Center."
- If you need a payment plan or other tuition assistance, please make arrangements with Sam Shwetz (sam@shwetzfam.com).
- All payment plans require an initial payment of \$200 by the start of the semester.
- Tuition will be refunded minus a \$50 withdrawal fee before class begins.
- Once class begins, tuition is refundable minus a \$100 withdrawal fee.
- After 4 weeks of the semester are completed, tuition is non-refundable.



C O N T R A C T

Candidate Name _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

I agree to complete what I have started. I will not drop out without mutual agreement between myself, Micah Lugg, Taylor Sinclair, and Art Nakamura. I also agree to involve them early in the process of evaluating my continuing in the training center and not later after a decision has already been made. I also agree to a four-week release point where I can step out of the Training Center after being able to better count the cost.

Initial here:

I agree to take time off for a scheduled pastors' conference each year (a week long, typically held sometime between Feb-Apr), to pay for the \$500 tuition per semester, which include the pastors' conference costs, and if I continue into TC year 2, to purchase Logos Bible Software (Silver), costing approximately \$800, and have it installed and functioning on a laptop that I own or will purchase. I understand that the Training Center seeks to financially break even – it is not-for-profit.

Initial here:

I agree to attend every class on time, except for severe sickness or crisis. I agree to notify Sam Shwetz each time I may have to miss class in writing, by email, or by phone, before I miss a class. I understand that my absence may have consequences. I also understand that being absent from more than three classes in a semester will result in the termination of my enrollment in the Training Center. I will complete projects and reading on time, prepared correctly, and submit digital copies to the TC leadership, using the correct format and method, before class starts each week.

Initial here:

I agree to have my calling, my character, my understanding of the Word and theology, my ministry commitment, competency, courage, chemistry with others and my communication as a teacher or preacher or shepherd be evaluated continually throughout the Training Center process. I desire to grow and welcome the input of Micah Lugg, Taylor Sinclair, Art Nakamura, the other elders, and the men of my class in my life, even when it is difficult to hear.

Initial here:

I agree to work hard to maintain a healthy relationship with Christ, to be filled with the Spirit, and to be in regular and continual prayer for Micah Lugg, Taylor Sinclair, Art Nakamura, and the Training Center men. I will learn aggressively, apply the Word diligently, and maintain my passion for Christ and His Church as hard as I can.

Initial here:

I agree to pursue loving my wife like Christ loves the church, to lead my home, and to parent my children [and/or grandchildren] consistently throughout the Training Center process. I will seek to apply what I am learning most aggressively in my home so that my wife and children are encouraged by the sacrifices necessary to continue in the Training Center. I will strive to outdo all my prior years as a husband and father.

Initial here:



I agree to submit to the leadership of my church and will support all the ministries of my church from the heart, in prayer, and by participation whenever possible. I will affirm the doctrine and direction of my church family completely. If a member of Foothill Bible, I will be involved in shepherding a portion of the flock weekly, I will be faithfully involved in consistent ministry, and will involve my wife and children in age-appropriate ministries. I will also be a supporter, from the heart, of the children's, student, college and adult ministries of my church – not just with my words and prayers, but also by the participation of my own family. I will give generously to my church, both with my finances and my time.

Initial here:

I agree to have a team of people praying for me through my Training Center experience. I will keep them current on how to pray and on answers to their prayers. From the beginning of my time in the Training Center, I will be involved in shepherding a portion of the flock. By the end of year one, I will seek to be sharing the gospel weekly and discipling at least one man. Throughout the Training Center, I will be aggressive with ministry opportunities, attend up to two Saturday training days per semester, take a ½ day per semester for a personal prayer summit and attend one 'fun' day with my Training Center class, and possibly the spouses.

Initial here:

I agree [within reason] to complete all Training Center assignments and reading in a 15-hour maximum period each week. I will seek help if I need to develop study habits, to develop discipline, or if I am a perfectionist.

Initial here:

I understand that even if I complete Year One, I may not continue into Year Two for additional shepherd training. This depends on my calling, gifts, desire, the affirmation of the elders, the Training Center leadership and the Training Center men, and satisfactory work during Year One.

Initial here:

I agree and am committed to paying for and taking time to serve on a cross-cultural short-term ministry trip, in order to serve the Church in some manner, before, during, or within two years after my time in the Training Center.

Initial here:

TRAINING CENTER CANDIDATE

Date: _____

CANDIDATE'S WIFE, if married

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____



C A N D I D A T E S P O N S O R

Candidate Name _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Email _____

Application Process Described

1. Complete and submit ALL application forms to apply for the Training Center.
2. The leadership of the Training Center will review, discuss and approve potential men for the TC class, taking into account their fit for that particular year, class size & preparation.
3. One of the Foothill Bible pastoral staff will communicate the decision to each of the men who apply.

Principles I Am Affirming in My Recommendation

By recommending the man listed above...

1. I affirm my belief that God could intend this man to be a future elder, teaching pastor, staff pastor, missionary, church planter, biblical counselor or significant layman. And I recognize the warning of 1 Timothy 5:22: "Do not lay hands upon anyone too hastily and thus share responsibility for the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin."

Initial here:

2. I affirm the potential candidate listed above is a man who has been a part of the family of Foothill Bible Church or like-minded church for two years in active ministry. (*There are some exceptions to this requirement that can be discussed.*)

Initial here:

3. I affirm he has shepherded his family in such a way as to be an example for Foothill Bible Church or like-minded church family.

Initial here:

4. I affirm that I have observed him demonstrate a genuine love for people, both lost and saved.

Initial here:

5. I affirm my belief that he has a respect and love for the Word of God.

Initial here:



6. I affirm my belief he is a member of Foothill Bible Church or a like-minded church.

Initial here:

7. I affirm that he understands and embraces the doctrine of Foothill Bible Church.

Initial here:

8. I affirm that he has no overt character flaw which would hinder him from responsible ministry and has enough discipline in order to complete the process of the training center—including 3 hours of class time and up to 15 hours of preparation—all while maintaining his commitments to the Lord, his wife, and children and ministry to the church.

Initial here:

9. I affirm that he is faithfully and regularly giving to support the ministry of Foothill Bible Church or a like-minded church.

Initial here:

One signature is needed to complete this form; the pastor or elder must sign below. In doing so, the pastor/elder is affirming that he has...

- 1. Read this entire page in light of the man listed above and with a clear conscience can affirm this man to participate in the Training Center for the new class starting August 26th, 2024, and,**
- 2. Agreed to sponsor this man through the process of the Training Center; meaning to support the candidate with prayer, counsel, support, encouragement, and help.**

Date _____

Signature _____

Print Name _____

Once signed, a scanned copy of this form should be included with the candidate's application.



S T U D E N T I N F O R M A T I O N

Keep it short and simple.

Candidate Name _____ Nickname [if any] _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Email _____ Other Email _____

Country of Birth _____ Age _____

Current Career and Previous Jobs: _____

Are you a member of Foothill Bible Church? Circle one: Yes | No How long? _____

If you are a member of another church, please list here:

Wife's Name _____ Number of Years Married _____ Number of Children _____

Child's Name	Age	Gender	School they Attend	Best Quality

Countries Visited _____

Languages you speak other than English _____

List "pre-FBC" ministry involvement [List main roles in chronological order (oldest to most recent) and the church/organization they took place in]



List current ministry involvement at Foothill Bible Church or like-minded church:

Current Pastor/Elder/Overseer's name _____ Current Mentor [if different] _____

If you could teach any class at church, what would it be on? _____

Indicate Your Favorites

Candy Bar	Drink	Restaurant	Vacation Spot
Animal	Meal	Snack	Movie
Book [besides Bible]	Sport to Watch	Sport to Play	Hobby
Pastime	Skill	Type of Music	Musical Artist
Preacher	Radio Preacher	Book of the Bible	Best Friend

Indicate our top three favorite dead authors

1.	2.	3.
----	----	----

Indicate your top three favorite alive authors

1.	2.	3.
----	----	----

Indicate the top three online personalities/voices you follow

1.	2.	3.
----	----	----

List three local people you come in contact weekly that you are praying for that they might be saved

1.	2.	3.
----	----	----

Which particular sin is your biggest struggle right now? What are you doing to address it?

Which of the following "man" temptations is your biggest struggle? [circle one] Gold | Girls | Glory

Indicate the type of ministry you'd like to be doing in 3-10 years and why.



C H A R A C T E R A N D C O N V I C T I O N S

Candidate Name _____

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

If you are involved in another church, please substitute your church's name in place of Foothill Bible Church.

Because the Training Center is about training men in character and convictions in ministry, this form is used to expose the candidate's heart as a determiner to the readiness of the candidate to pursue the process of shepherd in Christ's church. All answers must be completely honest, clear, and brief. No long explanations. Godly leaders may carefully investigate your answers. You may be asked follow-up questions. Use only the spaces provided.

1. Where have you served in ministry at Foothill Bible Church in the past?
2. Where are you currently serving at Foothill Bible Church? In what capacity/role?
3. How long have you served in your current position at Foothill Bible Church?
4. Have you been faithful in ministry in your current role?
5. What kind of changed lives [fruit] have you witnessed as a result of your ministry?
6. What percentage of your annual income is given specifically to Foothill Bible Church? _____ %
How long have you been giving at that level? _____ years
7. Have you ever been critical of the Foothill Bible Church elders, deacons, or ministry leaders? If yes, in what way? How was it resolved? Have you had a conflict with any elder, deacon, or ministry leader at Foothill Bible Church?
If yes, how did you resolve that conflict?
8. Have you been involved in any serious counseling from or shepherding with a Foothill Bible Church ministry leader? If yes, what was the nature of the issue being discussed?



9. How is your commitment to the leaders of Foothill Bible Church manifested?

10. What are your main biblical priorities as a man?

11. How does your commitment to family relate to your commitment to your church family?

12. How many hours do you spend playing video/computer games each week, on average?

13. How many hours do you spend watching television each week, on average?

14. What is your favorite show? Why?

15. How many hours do you spend on social media each week, on average?

16. How often do you NOT attend church in a year? For what reasons?

17. How much and how often (if at all) do you use the following substances: alcohol, tobacco, nicotine, marijuana?

18. How involved are each of your children [if applicable] in Foothill Bible Church Children's, Student, and College ministries?

19. Why do you think you should be included in the Training Center process?



20. On the following topics, indicate how alike or different you are from Foothill Bible Church leadership...

Doctrines of Grace (TULIP)

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different

Lordship

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different

Cessationism

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different

Millennial View

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different

Church Membership

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different

Creation

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different

Church Government

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different

Demon Possession and Exorcism

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different



Homosexuality

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different

Marriage, Divorce, and Remarriage

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different

Gender Roles in the Home and in the Church

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different

Abortion

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different

Integration of Psychology and Christianity

If different, please describe how:

[circle one] Alike / Different

21. Where do you disagree with Foothill Bible Church doctrine? Be specific!

22. What areas of Foothill Bible Church doctrine are you still unsure or undecided about?

23. What specific steps have you taken, if any, to study those issues where you disagree or are unsure about Foothill Bible Church doctrine?

Date _____

Signature _____

Print Name _____

