

**Bethany Divinity College and Seminar
Dothan, Alabama**

Seminar - May 28 & 29, 2019

Pm-509 Exploring Mental and Spiritual Health
(Three Semester Hour Credit)

Lecturers

Rev. Edison Wiltshire. Ph.D. & Rev. Wayne Driver. P.hD.

Textbooks: The Holy Bible
Does my Wall have a Window? (Wayne Driver)

It is estimated that 1 in 5 people in North American will experience a mental health issue in any given year.

It would be interesting to compare that statistic to people in the Christian Community.

Certainly, every Church will have its share of troubled people within its membership or sphere of ministry. Pastors can testify to the many difficult people they have had to deal with in ministry. Furthermore, many of us have experienced such troubled individuals within our own families. It might even be that we ourselves are considered as such.

The Bible has its share of individuals living with mental health issues and spiritual dilemma. This seminar will explore some of these with the intention to learn the cause, the case, and the cure for bad behaviours and miserable attitudes. Individuals who have turned into hard cases are realities, but there are reasons, and there are results, and there are recourses.

The cases discussed in this seminar come from both the New Testament and the Hebrew Scriptures and range from big bullies, to wayward women, to cruel religious zealots, to bored, mutilative and over sexed men who take advantage of others. Not a nice picture. But one thing about God's Word, it doesn't cover-up, unlike much in the Church, in politics and in families to-day. Surprisingly, most of the Bible's difficult characters are God's chosen and most productive individuals. Go figure!

This Seminar will take students on a practical walk with some of the most unusual and difficult characters of the Bible and a few situations that may appear hopeless on the surface. But God is the God of the unexpected. Good thing, I say!

Edison Wiltshire is Bethany's Director of Canadian and International Affairs.

He holds a Certificate of Criminology from Memorial University in Newfoundland, a Bachelor of Theology from Acadia University in Nova Scotia, A Post-Baccalaureate Diploma in Prison Ministry from Acadia Divinity College, a Master of Ministry in Christian Counselling, a Master of Divinity in Community Chaplaincy, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Religion from Bethany Divinity College and Seminary.

He is the Founder and Executive Director of EZRA Community Chaplaincy and a Mental Health First Aid Instructor for the Mental Health Commission of Canada.

Wayne Driver is a retired military member who holds a Doctorate Degree in Ministry from Bethany Divinity College and Seminary. He is listed as a Mentor and Consultant for their Canadian Connection. Currently residing in Cold Lake Alberta, Wayne has returned to school to study in the Master's program of Christian Counseling to learn how he can first assist himself through the ordeal of living with Bipolar Disorder for which he has recently been diagnosed, and then, so that he may in turn aid in lessening someone else's suffering.

Wayne writes: *“One man's 'normal' may be another man's 'nightmare'. As if living with abusive parents wasn't bad enough, I was a sickly child who was bullied in the neighbourhood and at school while living a hellish nightmare with undiagnosed bipolar disorder. If you know anything about this disease, you know the rollercoaster ride it can take a person on. Now, picture that person on the same rollercoaster ride without medication, without therapy, without guidance or direction and without the understanding of his family, friends, employers, and co-workers. To be honest, there are many times when I thought that I was going crazy. Does My Wall Have a Window explains the multi-facets of the disorder, how you may know if you are a fellow sufferer, how to help yourself and others. You'll also be given a glimpse into my life as I unfold my hellish nightmare from the age of 5 on through to 59, and how I conducted myself through the years the best I could with actions I thought were 'normal', but congruent with the disorder and how the 'experts' in their field wouldn't listen to my dilemma to think outside the box. This autobiography is educational, humorous, somewhat of an eyeopener, and hopefully helpful all at the same time. Perhaps you know someone suffering from bipolar disorder and wonder if their living a 'hellish nightmare' as well? I can assure you, they are and this might give you some insight as to how you can aide them in their torment.”*

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:8-9 King James Version (KJV)

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Preparatory work

Students planning to take the three credit seminar course “**Pm-507 Exploring Mental and Spiritual Health**” offered during the 2019 graduation activities in Dothan, must complete and bring the following preparatory work to the Seminar on May 28:

1. Acquire an electronic copy of Wayne Driver’s book “Does my Wall have Window?” available on Amazon and become familiar with it.
2. Name a character in the Old Testament that you feel was experiencing mental health issues.
3. Determine in your opinion who showed evidence of being a bully in the Bible.
4. Have you ever faced a mental / spiritual health issue.

DOTHAN SEMINAR - May 28 - 29, 2019

Pm-509 Exploring Mental and Spiritual Health

**Rev. Dr. Edison Wiltshire
&
Rev. Dr. Wayne Driver**

Tuesday - May 28, 2018:

Session I

Alberta 8:00am-11:00am **Dothan 9:00am-12:00pm** Newfoundland 11:30am-2:30pm

Session II

Alberta 1:00pm-4:00pm **Dothan 2:00pm-5:00pm** Newfoundland 4:30pm-7:30pm

Session III

Alberta 8:00pm-11:00pm **Dothan 7:00pm-10:00pm** Newfoundland 9:30pm-12:30am

Wednesday - May 29, 2017

Session IV

Alberta 8:00am-11:00am **Dothan 9:00am-12:00pm** Newfoundland 11:30am-2:30pm