

Disability and God's People (DM034-508)

Australian College of Theology name: *Foundations of Disability and Normality*

Unit Description

One in five people in Australia live with some kind of disability, and yet people with disability are described as the most unreached people group. This unit will introduce you to the issues of disability and inclusion from a biblical and practical perspective and allow you to hear first-hand experiences from people with disability and their families.

Exclusions

Prior to 2020, this unit content was delivered under the unit code DM223.

Learning Outcomes

On completion of this unit, you will:

A. Know and understand:

Demonstrate foundational knowledge and understanding of a Christian perspective on disability and normality, including the methods and standards of professional, safe and ethical practice

B. Be able to:

1. Outline biblical and theological perspectives on disability and normality
2. Describe contemporary legal, ethical and social attitudes to disability in their historical context
3. Present organised evidence-based perspectives on disability in Christian ministry

C. Be in a position to:

Relate perspectives and skills from this unit to contemporary Christian living and ministry contexts

Content

1. Introduction to the developments of different models of describing disability, such as the medical and social models
2. Overview of how the church has responded to and engaged with rights movements and social justice

3. Particular Scriptures and theological concepts, including church and creation in God's image, and some of sin, divine sovereignty, justice, community, prayer, worship, hope, hospitality, salvation and healing, will be considered in the light of disability
4. Current practices and developments (with particular reference to Australia) will be described and you will be invited to consider your own practice and perspectives