



RELATE  
UNIVERSITY

2026-2027







# RELATE UNIVERSITY

## Student Handbook 2026-2027

**Relate University exists to assist Christian leaders in reaching their full potential through instruction in God's word and training in best ministry practices.**

6885 Siwell Road, Byram MS 39272  
Relate University is located inside Relate Church  
601-372-4117

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# Welcome

I am thrilled to be providing this opportunity for you to grow your leadership, deepen your faith, and receive training in best ministry practices through Relate University. Whether you have a call to a five-fold ministry of Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor, or Teacher, or if you have a desire to serve in a greater capacity in the local church, I am confident you will receive the necessary tools at Relate U.

Many have had a desire to attend a Bible School, yet were hindered because of time, money, circumstances, and/or distance. Now we are able to bring the necessary training of the Word of God and practical ministry application at a university level to you!

As you press toward the goal of the upward call of God in Christ, we will be working together to reach a lost and dying world for Jesus.

I look forward to seeing you in class and seeing what God does in your life through Relate University!

Chuck Ford

Relate University

# Doctrinal Beliefs

**Relate University holds to the same beliefs held by Relate Church.**

## **HOLY BIBLE**

The Holy Bible, and only the Bible, is the authoritative Word of God. It alone is the final authority in determining all doctrinal truths. In its original writing, it is inspired, infallible and inerrant (II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20-21; Proverbs 30:5; Romans 16:25-26).

## **TRINITY**

There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. These three are coequal and co-eternal (I John 5:7; Genesis 1:26; Matthew 3:16-17, 28:19; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 9:6; Hebrews 3:7-11).

## **JESUS CHRIST**

Jesus Christ is God the Son, the second person of the Trinity. On earth, Jesus was 100% God and 100% man. He is the only man ever to have lived a sinless life. He was born of a virgin, lived a sinless life, performed miracles, died on the cross for mankind and thus, atoned for our sins through the shedding of His blood. He rose from the dead on the third day according to the Scriptures, ascended to the right hand of the Father, and will return again in power and glory. (John 1:1, 14, 20:28; I Timothy 3:16; Isaiah 9:6; Philippians 2:5-6; I Timothy 2:5).

## **VIRGIN BIRTH**

Jesus Christ was conceived by God the Father, through the Holy Spirit (the third person of the Trinity) in the Virgin Mary's womb; therefore, He is the Son of God (Matthew 1:18, 25; Luke 1:35; Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:18, 23-25; Luke 1:27-35).

## **REDEMPTION**

Man was created good and upright, but by voluntary transgression he fell; his only hope of redemption is in Jesus Christ, the Son of God (Gen. 1:26-31, 3:1-7; Romans 5:12-21).

## **REGENERATION**

For anyone to know God, regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential (John 6:44, 65).

## **SALVATION**

We are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ; His death, burial, and resurrection. Salvation is a gift from God, not a result of our good works or of any human efforts (Ephesians 2:8-9; Galatians 2:16, 3:8; Titus 3:5; Romans 10:9-10; Acts 16:31; Hebrews 9:22).

## **REPENTANCE**

Repentance is the commitment to turn away from sin in every area of our lives and to follow Christ, which allows us to receive His redemption and to be regenerated by the Holy Spirit. Thus, through repentance we receive forgiveness of sins and appropriate salvation (Acts 2:21, 3:19; I John 1:9).

## **SANCTIFICATION**

Sanctification is the ongoing process of yielding to God's Word and His Spirit in order to complete the development of Christ's character in us. It is through the present ministry of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God that the Christian is enabled to live a godly life (I Thessalonians 4:3, 5:23; II Corinthians 3:18, 6:14-18, II Thessalonians 2:1-3, Romans 8:29, 12:1-2, Hebrews 2:11).

## **JESUS' BLOOD**

The Blood that Jesus Christ shed on the Cross of Calvary was sinless and is 100% sufficient to cleanse mankind of all sin. Jesus allowed Himself to be punished for both our sinfulness and our sins, enabling all those who believe to be free from the penalty of sin, which is death (I John 1:7; Revelation 1:5, 5:9; Colossians 1:20; Romans 3:10-12, 23, 5:9; John 1:29).

## **JESUS CHRIST INDWELLS ALL BELIEVERS**

Christians are people who have invited the Lord Jesus Christ to come and live inside them by His Holy Spirit. They relinquish the authority of their lives over to him thus making Jesus the Lord of their life as well as Savior. They put their trust in what Jesus accomplished for them when He died, was buried, and rose again from the dead (John 1:12; John 14:17, 23; John 15:4; Romans 8:11; Revelation 3:20).

## **BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Given at Pentecost, it is the promise of the Father, sent by Jesus after His Ascension, to empower the Church to preach the Gospel throughout the whole earth and is evidenced by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues. This experience can be received by faith by every believer today. (Joel 2:28-29; Matthew 3:11; Mark 16:17; Acts 1:5, 2:1-4, 17, 38-39, 8:14-17, 10:38, 44-47, 11:15-17, 19:1-6).

## **THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

The Holy Spirit is manifested through a variety of spiritual gifts to build and sanctify the church, demonstrate the validity of the resurrection, and confirm the power of the Gospel. The Bible lists of these gifts are not necessarily exhaustive, and the gifts may occur in various combinations. All believers are commanded to earnestly desire the manifestation of the gifts in their lives. These gifts always operate in harmony with the Scriptures and should never be used in violation of biblical parameters. (Hebrews 2:4; Romans 1:11,12 :4-8; Ephesians 4:16; II Timothy 1:5-16, 4:14; I Corinthians 12:1-31, 14:1-40; I Peter 4:10, Romans 11:29).

## **THE CHURCH**

The church is the Body of Christ, the habitation of God through the Spirit, with divine appointments for the fulfillment of Jesus' great commission. Every person who is born of the Spirit is an integral part of the church as a member of the body of believers. There is a spiritual unity of all believers in our Lord Jesus Christ. (Ephesians 1:22, 2:19-22;

Hebrews 12:23; John 17:11, 20-23).

## **TWO SACRAMENTS**

**Water Baptism:** Following faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, the new convert is commanded by the Word of God to be baptized in water in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:12, 36-38; 10:47-48).

**The Lord's Supper:** A unique time of communion in the presence of God when the elements of bread and grape juice (the Body and Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ) are taken in remembrance of Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross (Matthew 26:26-29; 1 Corinthians 10:16, 11:23-25).

## **HEALING OF THE SICK**

Healing of the sick is illustrated in the life and ministry of Jesus, and included in the commission of Jesus to His disciples. It is given as a sign, which is to follow believers. It is also a part of Jesus' work on the Cross and one of the gifts of the Spirit. (Psalm 103:2-3; Isaiah 53:5; Matthew 8:16-17; Mark 16:17-18; Acts 8:6-7; James 5:14-16; 1 Corinthians 12:9, 28).

## **GOD'S WILL FOR PROVISION**

It is the Father's will for believers to become whole, healthy and successful in all areas of life. But because of the fall, many may not receive the full benefits of God's will while on Earth. That fact, though, should never prevent all believers from seeking the full benefits of Christ's provision in order to better serve others.

- Spiritual - John 3:3-11; II Corinthians 5:17-21; Romans 10:9-10)
- Mental and Emotional - (II Timothy 1:7, 2:11; Philippians 4:7-8; Romans 12:2; Isaiah 26:3).
- Physical - (Isaiah 53:4, 5; Matthew 8:17; I Peter 2:24).
- Financial - (Joshua 1:8; Malachi 3:10-11; Luke 6:38; II Corinthians 9:6-10; Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Psalm 34:10, 84:11; Philippians 4:19).

## **RESURRECTION**

Jesus Christ was physically resurrected from the dead in a glorified body three days after His death on the cross. In addition, both the saved and the lost will be resurrected; they that are saved to the resurrection of life and they that are lost to the resurrection of eternal damnation (Luke 24:16, 36, 39; John 2:19-21, 20:26-28, 21:4; Acts 24:15; I Corinthians 15:42, 44; Philippians 1:21-23, 3:21).

## **HEAVEN**

Heaven is the eternal dwelling place for all believers in the Gospel of Jesus Christ (Matthew 5:3, 12, 20, 6:20, 19:21, 25:34; John 17:24; II Corinthians 5:1; Hebrews 11:16; I Peter 1:4).

## **HELL**

After living one life on earth, the unbelievers will be judged by God and sent to Hell where they will be eternally tormented with the Devil and the Fallen Angels (Matthew 25:41; Mark 9:43-48; Hebrews 9:27; Revelation 14:9-11, 20:12-15, 21:8).

## **SECOND COMING**

Jesus Christ will physically and visibly return to earth for the second time to establish His Kingdom. This will occur at a date undisclosed by the Scriptures (Matthew 24:30, 26:63-64; Acts 1:9-11; I Thessalonians 4:15-17; II Thessalonians 1:7-8; Revelation 1:7) (John 3:3-11; II Corinthians 5:17-21; Romans 10:9-10)

## General Information

Orientation: September 13th **(4:00 PM - 1st Year Students)**

Fall 1st Term: September 13th - October 18th

Fall 2nd Term: November 1st - December 13th

Spring 1st Term: January 10th - February 28th

Spring 2nd Term: March 14th - May 2nd

## Enrollment Requirements

- Students must be at least 16 years of age.
- Register online at [www.relateuniversity.com](http://www.relateuniversity.com). There is a \$35 non-refundable registration fee.

## Financial Information

**Registration: \$35**

**Tuition: \$530 Per Year**

Books: Included in tuition for two semesters.

Discounts available for couples who attend together. Spouse tuition will be \$325 per year.

Relate University fees can be paid all at once or monthly. Monthly payments (\$68.00 per month Sept - April) must be paid by the 1st of each month. Registration fees and tuition fees are subject to change.

Refunds of tuition will be prorated if full year of tuition has been paid in advance based on reason of withdrawal. If paying tuition on monthly terms, there are no refunds of tuition if withdrawal is requested or initiated by Relate University based on failure to meet attendance requirements, tuition obligations or failing to complete class assignments.

**Relate University currently does not have financial aid.**

## **FALL 2026 SEMESTER**

### **SEPTEMBER:**

13th Orientation

13th FS 1st Term Begins

20th Class Day

27th Class Day

### **OCTOBER:**

4th Class Day

11th Class Day

18th FS 1st Term Ends

25th Christopher Alam

### **NOVEMBER:**

1st FS 2nd Term Begins

8th Class Day

15th Class Day

**22nd NO CLASS**

29th Class Day

### **DECEMBER:**

6th Class Day

13th FS 2nd Term Ends

## **SPRING 2027 SEMESTER**

### **JANUARY:**

10th SS 1st Term Begins

17th Class Day

24th Class Day

31st Class Day

### **FEBRUARY:**

7th Class Day

**14th NO CLASS**

21st Class Day

28th SS 1st Term Ends

### **MARCH:**

**7th NO CLASS**

14th SS 2nd Term Begins

21st Class Day

**28th NO CLASS**

### **APRIL:**

4th Class Day

11th Class Day

18th Class Day

25th Class Day

### **MAY:**

2nd SS 2nd Term Ends

**16th RU Graduation**

## **Class Schedule**

**Class times are Sunday evenings from 5:00 to 7:10.**

- **First Class - 5:00-6:00**  
*10 minute break*
- **Second Class - 6:10-7:10**

## **2026-2027 Relate University Calendar**

### **General Academic Information**

No prior degree is required to register for classes at Relate University. Each student must be at least 16 years of age.

#### **Class Attendance**

Class attendance is mandatory. If possible, please notify the instructor or the director ahead of time if you are going to be absent. Students are responsible to make up missed work.

Classes meet on Sunday evenings from 5:00 pm until 7:10 pm. Be prepared to attend both classes.

You are allowed two absences per term. If you have more than two absences in a term, you could be dismissed from Relate University. If you are tardy three times, that will result in an absence.

***No Childcare available at this time.***

#### **Class Policy**

Each teacher/professor will provide a syllabus for students outlining the course expectations, methods of teaching, etc. Please refer to the contact information on the syllabus for any questions about a particular course.

## **Grading System**

**Relate University follows a 10 point grading system.**

**A = 90-100 - Excellent**

**B = 80-89 - Above Average**

**C = 70-79 - Average**

**D = 60-69 - Below Average**

**F = 50-59 Failing**

***Students are expected to maintain average grades. If a student's grades fall below a C, an appointment with the director or professor will be scheduled to help the student with an academic plan.***

## **Books**

Books are provided with tuition (except for a discounted spouse student), but you will need to provide notebooks, recorder, computer, tablet, etc.

# Course Schedule

## 2026 FALL SEMESTER

**ORIENTATION - SEPTEMBER 13TH 4:00 - 4:45 PM**

**1ST TERM - SEPTEMBER 13TH - OCTOBER 18TH**

5:00 - 6:00: Understanding Righteousness (Tamera Ford)

6:10 - 7:10: Spirit Led Life (Charles Ford)

**2ND TERM - NOVEMBER 1ST - DECEMBER 13TH**

5:00 - 6:00: Principles of Faith (Steve Pitre)

6:10 - 7:10: Leadership Qualities (Ronald Crowell)

## 2027 SPRING SEMESTER

**1ST TERM - JANUARY 10TH - FEBRUARY 28TH**

5:00 - 6:00: Practical Ministry (Jared Limbaugh)

6:10 - 7:10: Christ the Healer (Carl Andrews)

**2ND TERM - MARCH 14TH - MAY 2ND**

5:00 - 6:00: Believers Authority (Paul Ford)

6:10 - 7:10: Power of Words (Frank Childs)

## RELATE UNIVERSITY FACULTY



### **CHUCK FORD, PRESIDENT**

Pastor Chuck Ford is a Jackson, Mississippi native. Chuck is currently the Lead Pastor at Relate Church in Byram, Mississippi. In 1987 Chuck answered the call to the ministry and attended Rhema Bible College in Tulsa, Oklahoma and graduated in 1989. Chuck is a member of Rhema Ministerial Association through which Chuck is ordained.

In 1992 Chuck answered God's call to pastor a church and married Tamera. Chuck has served in full-time ministry as a pastor and teaching in bible schools locally and abroad for over 30 years. Chuck is passionate about seeing Mississippi reached for the glory of God. Chuck and Tamera have two children and reside in the Clinton area.



### **PAUL FORD, DIRECTOR**

Paul is a life-long resident of the central MS area. Paul is a 1990 graduate of Rhema Bible College and also has a Master's Degree in Christian Theology from Life Christian University. He has served in full-time ministry for 30 years as a Youth, Associate and Executive Pastor at Relate Church.

Paul, along with his wife Casey, have two children and currently reside in Brandon, MS. Paul has a desire to see people discover their God-given purpose and pursue it with passion.



### **CARL ANDREWS, FACULTY**

Dr. Carl Andrews, after attending an AA Allen tent revival meeting where he surrendered his life to the Lord, later received a divine supernatural call to the ministry of the Word of God at the age of 16. He continued his biblical studies at International Miracle Institute where he earned a Doctor of Divinity. He has over 50 years of experience serving in ministry in various capacities.

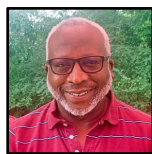
He along with his wife Gwen are members of Relate Church and serve as part of the GO team. They have dedicated their life to restoring covenant and leading people into the presence of God by preaching the gospel to the lost and teaching believers to reproduce the character of Jesus Christ.



### **FRANK CHILDS, FACULTY**

Frank is a Vicksburg, MS native. He and his wife Bridget are the Children's Pastors at Relate Church. He received his license to minister the gospel from Church Foundational Network in March of 1999.

Over many years of ministry, Frank has served with children, youth and adults, as well as, interim pastor. He has helped facilitate children's conferences for many churches in that timespan. Frank's desire is that children would know God and be equipped for ministry early in life.



### **RONALD CROWELL, FACULTY**

Ronald (Ron) Crowell is a native of Oakland, California. He has a distinguished 30-year naval career and 11-year stint as a consultant for an American non-profit engineering organization. He has had the opportunity to minister in many churches across the United States, as well as, serve as Bible Study Coordinator at Grace Covenant Church in Va.

Ronald and his wife Mary have been married for three decades and are the parents of three adult daughters and grandparents to two boys and two girls.

Ronald's desire is to help people take hold of the relationship God desires to have with them.



### **TAMERA FORD, FACULTY**

Pastor Tamera Ford is a Columbus, Ohio native. Tamera is currently the Lead Pastor at Relate Church in Byram, Mississippi. Tamera graduated from Rhema Bible College in Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1991. Tamera is a member of Rhema Ministerial Association through which Tamera is ordained.

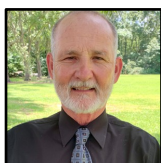
In 1992 Tamera married Chuck. Tamera has served in full-time ministry as a pastor, worship leader and Bible school instructor for over 30 years. Chuck and Tamera have two children and reside in the Clinton area.



### **JARED LIMBAUGH, FACULTY**

Pastor Jared Limbaugh was born in Jackson, MS and grew up in Carrollton, GA. From a very young age he served in his father's church in kids ministry, technology, student ministry, and general maintenance. He and his family began attending Relate Church in 2014 and he and his wife Katie are currently the student pastors there. Jared graduated from Relate University in 2019 and remains a student of the Bible and the best ways to teach it.

Jared and Katie currently reside in Clinton with their four children. Jared has a desire to shape the coming generation to remain true to God's Word and who He has called them to be.



### **STEVE PITRE, FACULTY**

Steve Pitre is a native of Houma, LA. Steve has been married to his high school sweetheart, Pamela, for over 50 years. They are the parents of six adult children and many grandchildren. Steve, Pamela and their sons own an environmental company.

Steve served in various leadership positions at Reserve Church in LA before moving to Jackson, MS in 1992 and becoming members at Relate Church. Steve and Pamela serve on the GO TEAM as greeters, parking lot attendant, after service prayer team members and small group leaders. Steve teaches the Bible in a unique way that helps the believer have a greater understanding of the meaning behind the scriptures.



## **LONDA WILDER, FACULTY**

Londa Wilder is a Jackson, MS native. She began her relationship with the Lord in junior high school at a church youth meeting. Londa holds a degree in education as well as being a certified Life Coach. She is a graduate of Rhema Bible College and has taught in a variety of settings, that include local churches, as well as college graduate classes. Londa's passion is seeing believers grow stronger in the Lord through the teaching of God's Word.

### **Withdrawal Policy**

It is the desire of the staff at Relate University for each student to finish all course work, labs, and graduate, but sometimes that is not possible. Please call and schedule an appointment with the director to discuss any issues or problems.

### **Termination Policy**

#### **Some areas that could lead to student termination:**

1. Cheating on tests/Plagiarism
2. The use of drugs or other illegal substances
3. Stealing
4. Outbreaks of violence
5. Any other activities that cause harm physically, emotionally, or mentally to oneself or others
6. Consistent tardiness/absences
7. Unmet Tuition Obligations

## Dress Code Policy

**Relate University adheres to a dress code that exemplifies excellence. Here are some dos and don'ts.**

### ***Allowed:***

Boys: Dress pants, khakis, jeans, polos, dress shirts, T-shirts with minimal design, socks, shoes, boots, loafers, tennis shoes

Girls: Dress pants, jeans, skirts, tops, dresses, T-shirts with minimal design, hills, sandals, boots, tennis shoes

### ***Not Allowed:***

T-shirts with secular graphics, tank tops, flip flops, shorts, hats

## Graduation Requirements

**Completion of all courses, average or above average grades, completion of all assignments and serving on Go Team, Small Group Leadership or Serve Team.**

## Accreditation

**Relate University is accredited through Transworld Accrediting Commission International out of Riverside, CA.**

