

## Winning Life Theological Seminary (Winning Life Prayer Ministry)

### MASTER'S THESIS.

ADOPTED DATE: 06-06-2012

#### Applicability

The policy applies to all master students. Nevertheless, writing a thesis is optional.

All master students may choose to write a thesis or a research paper ranging from 50 to 80 pages for 25 credit hours. Candidate's topic must be related to his or her program. All theses are worth 25 credit hours, reducing the coursework to 13 only. Thesis helps to prepare the candidate to meet the 21<sup>st</sup> century intellectual, philosophical, theological, and Biblical challenges in the area of research and publications.

#### Policy

##### What is a master's thesis?

The master's thesis is a meticulous, in-depth scholarly paper of approximately 12,000 – 13,000 words (roughly 40 to 80 pages). The thesis must present its argument in well-documented primary, secondary or tertiary sources of a scholarly work designated for the readership of scholars and academicians. The thesis must contain a wealth of research components and a focus that falls within theology or program area. It must be written under the auspices of an academic advisor. As the final element in the master's degree, the thesis gives the student an opportunity to demonstrate expertise in the chosen research area.

In other terms, it usually represents the final work of academic Master degree program in which the candidate seeks to synthesize his or her graduate work. It is an initial attempt of the candidate to demonstrate his or her ability to conduct research in the area of his or her specialty or interest under the close guidance of an academic advisor, a mentor or professor. It must be noted that a thesis is first-level research work, and as such, it requires the candidate to follow all procedure demanded. The thesis could be used as a pilot study for later doctoral study if the student so desires it in that manner. Nevertheless, in theological schools and seminaries, a master's thesis usually represents a scholarly work of high standard in the candidate field of specialty. It may take anyone of the following forms:

- a) **An exegetical study on a certain portion of the Bible in which the candidates tries to demonstrate his or her dexterity in mustering certain theological problems through the exercise of hermeneutical principles.**
- b) **A Historical Research study in which the candidate tries to explore a specific perspective, Christian thought, doctrinal belief, or event in the context of Church History.**
- c) **A theoretical study on a specific theological subject centered upon a doctrine or an apologetical or moral problem, a theological thought, or an important theologian. It may take the form of comparative study of selected thoughts or theologians by way of synthesis or critique.**

**gy. It represents the best of the candidate's intellectual dexterity, academic discipline, and scholarly impetus in the final stage of his or her graduate study. The candidate**

**must rewrite his dissertation if he desires to publish it for public readership. Writing a book for public readership in lieu of a dissertation is forbidden in scholarly work.**