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PR 610 The Servant as Proclaimer

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PR 610 “The Servant As Proclaimer”

Fall Semester 2003: Tuesday, 9 – 12

Riley P. Short, Adjunct Professor

The purpose of this course is to assist people in getting excited about the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and proclaiming Him to be the help and the hope of the world. Phillips Brooks said, “Preaching ...is the bringing of truth through personality” and with that in mind, this course is designed to help preachers to claim that “Truth” with an authority and to proclaim it with all their heart, mind, soul and strength.

The class will be interactive and participatory. We will learn what one must know and have before we can be effective in the pulpit. We will share ideas and discuss the text, “The Witness of Preaching” by Dr. Thomas G. Long . It will be important for the class to develop as a trusted group of future professionals as we will share our story and will kindly critique each other.

One of the aims of the course will be to discover that the preaching of the sermon is the significant part of the ministry of a called pastor. Preaching is the main thing for our ministry and must be an outgrowth of daily devotion, pastoral care, constant study and life experience. Preaching is a delightful responsibility and deserves our main focus as a preacher in a local church.

REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Class attendance is a must.
- 2 Reading the text, “The Witness of Preaching” by Thomas Long.
- 3 Outside Reading of at least 1200 pages to be selected from the reading list. A short review of each book read should be turned in as each book is finished.
- 4 Preach at least two sermons to the class. One sermon on a text of your choosing and one on an assigned text.
- 5 A research paper on sermons that are “Timeless and Timely”.

Required Reading List

“Lectures on Preaching” Phillips Brooks
“The Homiletical Plot” Eugene Lowery
“The Practice of Preaching” Paul Scott Wilson
“The Four Pages of the Sermon: A Guide to Biblical Preaching” Paul Scott Wilson
“The Witness of Preaching” by Thomas Long
“The Preaching Life” by Barbara Brown Taylor

Additional Reading List

“Preaching As A Theological Task” Thomas Long
“Lectures To My Students” by C.H. Spurgeon
“The Senses of Preaching” Thomas Long
“Servant of the Word” H.H. Farmer
“Black Preaching: The Recovery of a Powerful Art” Henry H. Mitchell
“Building and Delivering the Sermon” G. Ray Jordan

TEACHING PLAN FOR PREACHING CLASS

Sept. 2

Introductions:

“What Minister had the greatest effect on your life and why?”
“Will anyone say that about you in the future?”

What is the worst thing that has happened to you?
“My Losing Season” quote.

What is the most embarrassing thing to happen to you?

May run over to Sept. 9

What you need to know before you can preach.

Jesus
A Call
The Bible
Your people.

Assignment for semester.

Term paper:

Find two sermons 50 years old or older – one that could be preached today and one that could not and tell me why.

Find two sermons 3 years old or less – same thing.

Read 1200 to 1500 pages from reading list.

Preach any sermon you want starting on Sept. 16. Four sermons preached each week – Sept. 16, 23 and 30.

Explain: Practice preaching is not real preaching. Preaching out of the context of worship is not real preaching. Preaching to impress a class, teacher or friends is not real preaching. I know that it isn't – cause I've been there and done that. But we have no choice, except where there are those serving a church and can video their sermon. Choice is up to you.

Questions: If I had come to the church for the first time, what would be my reaction to the sermon?

If I had just lost my spouse, child or parent?

If my wife had just run away with my best friend?

If I was lonely, broken, hurting?

Oct. 7

Assignment of Lectionary for their sermon.

Each student to write an outline for all four scriptures to be preached on.

Construction of a sermon.

Start with the Lectionary.

Conclusion.

Preaching for a commitment. Altar Call, etc.

Oct. 14

The Importance of Illustrations – gathering illustrations.

Dangers of illustrations – use of stuff on internet. The great tool.

The Introduction

The Body.

Oct. 21

Three sermons preached. Discussion of what others did with the same scripture.

Oct. 28

Three sermons preached. Discussion of what others did with the same scripture.

Nov. 4

Three Sermons preached. Discussion of what others did with the same scripture.

Nov. 11

Same as above.

Nov. 18

How to use the Power Point in preaching. Guest teacher.

Nov. 25

How to put a funeral sermon together.

Dec. 2

The Wedding Sermon

Dec. 9

Final Exam