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PR 610 Servant As Proclaimer

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PR 610 SERVANT AS PROCLAIMER

3 units

Fall Term, 3 September - 13 December 2002

Class meets 2:30-5:15 p.m. Tuesdays

Donald E. Demaray, Professor

COURSE AIMS: Competencies to be developed by students:

- 1) Acquaintance with bibliography in the field of preaching.
- 2) Growing familiarity with great preachers past and present.
- 3) Working knowledge of basic preparation principles and procedures.
- 4) Growing facility in public preaching.
- 5) A keen awareness of the spiritual dynamics of Gospel proclamation.
- 6) Progress toward personal identity as a preacher and minister of the Gospel.

COURSE PROCEDURES: How to develop competencies:

- 1) Bibliography: As a class, we will study the book lists in both *Introduction to Homiletics* and *Proclaiming the Truth: Guides to Scriptural Preaching*.
- 2) Preachers: In the flow of our work, both in and out of class, we will confront the great Gospel communicators, learning from them the working dynamics of their profession.
- 3) Preparation: We will examine the steps of careful sermon preparation, making assignments on such crucial procedures as research and exegesis of the text, producing introductions, crafting outlines or flow charts, finding and creating pictures, producing conclusions.
- 4) Public preaching: Each student will have practicum. Experiences, using video and benefiting from critique by professor and class.
- 5) Spiritual dynamics: We will establish the essentiality of the devotional life and show its out-workings in the life of the minister in terms of spiritual power, ethical behavior, Christian courtesy, and professional demeanor. Doberstein's *Minister's Prayer Book* will assist in this endeavor.
- 6) Personal identity: Students and professor will talk about developing one's own "voice," about discovering creative potential, about leaving one's own mark on the prepared and delivered sermon, about the Spirit's work unique to each preacher. All this cuts right across the current culture of plagiarism.

COURSE SCHEDULE: Implementing aims and competencies:

Tuesday 3 September: Orientation.

Tuesday 10 September: Chapter I of *Introduction to Homiletics*. In addition to the textbook, read 30 or more pages on each of the following: 1) The Call to Preach, 2) The Anointing for Preaching and 3) *Kerygma* and *Didache*. See Bibliographies at the close of Chapter I of the text

Tuesday 17 September: Chapter 2 of *Introduction to Homiletics*. Please read 30 or more pages on your own growing edge discipline. See Bibliography on pp. 63ff. Do this in addition to the textbook assignment.

Tuesday 24 September: Chapters 3 and 4 of *Introduction to Homiletics*. Read at least 30 pages, in addition to the textbook reading, on planning (see p. 87). Also read 30 or more pages on making introductions (in addition to textbook).

Tuesday 1 October: Write an introduction. Prepare to deliver it in class. Record it on your own audiotape in class.

Read Chapter 5 of *Introduction to Homiletics* and do at least 30 pages of outside reading. After that, shape a sermon outline or flow chart. Put your outline on an overhead transparency and prepare to walk us through it in class.

Tuesday 8 October: Read Chapter 6 in the text on Conclusions, then read at least 30 pages on making conclusions. After that, write a conclusion and prepare to talk about how you did it.

Tuesday 15 October: Deliver your conclusion, recording it on your own audiotape. Read about pictures (Chapter 7 in the text), then do your 30 or more pages in outside books. Write out an illustration (about one third of a page) and talk about the process you went through finding and painting the word picture in your own language.

Tuesday 22 October: Read the Foreword, Preface and Chapters 1 and 2 of *Proclaiming the Truth*. Then do outside reading on a biography (or biographies) of great preachers. Suggest reading enough really to get into the life of a pulpit person.

Tuesday 29 October: Read the rest of *Proclaiming the Truth* and do another reading in a preacher biography.

Up to three students will preach video-taped practicum sermons.

Tuesday 5 November: Please read the last two chapters of *Introduction to Homiletics*, then do 30 or more pages relative to each of the chapters 8 and 9.

More practicum sermons.

Tuesday 12 November: Practicum sermons.

Tuesday 19 November: Practicum sermons.

25-29 November: READING WEEK. No class.

Tuesday 3 December: Practicum sermons,

Tuesday 10 December: Practicum sermons if not all finished.
Term review.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS: Coming to grips with our aims.

1) **Required books:**

Donald E. Demaray, *Introduction to Homiletics* (2nd edition). Available through the seminary's bookstore.

Donald E. Demaray, *Proclaiming the Truth: Guides to Scriptural Preaching*. Available in the seminary bookstore.

Gary Smalley and John Trent, *The Language of Love*. Purchase from the seminary's store.

John W. Doberstein, editor, *Minister's Prayer Book* Purchase at the seminary bookstore.

For fun and developing a pleasing manner: A. A. Milne and Ernest H. Shepherd, *Pooh's Little Etiquette Book*

2) Please submit a 300 word reaction to Smalley and Trent's book on 17 September.

Keep in mind the aims of this exercise:

- Economy of language. If your reaction comes to over 300 words, you must re-do the assignment.
- Awareness of the principles articulated in the book and how to apply them to the pulpit.

3) Once well into the course, produce a theology of preaching paper (three to five pages). Isolate the theological components such as your belief about the Bible, the Holy Spirit in anointed preaching, the place of Christ, etc. This paper due Tuesday November 5.

- 4) Through the term, read The Minister as Preacher section, pp. 395-437, in Doberstein's *The Minister's Prayer Book*. You may also wish to read in other parts of this rich devotional book.
- 5) Attendance: Required. If you must absent yourself from class, please talk to the professor. Make-up requires two hours of outside reading or listening for each hour of class time missed.
- 6) Please bring your own tape recorder (or borrow one if necessary) and tape for the brief audio practicum experiences: introduction, conclusion, picture. Keep tapes on hand for marking your progress at the end of the course.
- 7) On the final day of the course, 10 December, we will share, on overhead transparencies, our progress. Listening once more to your tapes and watching again your video of the complete sermon, chart your growth as a preacher.

First chart your growth in terms of the six competencies outlined in the syllabus; then, chart your development in terms of other personal growing edges (such as controlling language, sequencing, crafting a sermon, body language, tonetics, etc.).

COURSE GRADING: Measuring student progress based on the following:

- 1) Practicum experiences, sermon parts and the full sermon. Components include such matters as one's own "voice," language management, body language, vocal projection, exegesis (staying true to the text), etc.
- 2) Reading reports.

Please keep a record of the pages you have read and turn in totaled at the close of the course.
- 3) Papers graded according to comprehension of material, economy and precision in the use of language, originality and creativity.
- 4) Faithfulness in attendance.
- 5) Contribution toward the family spirit of the class; i.e., student contribution to *koinonia*.

NB: At the conclusion of the course, the professor will make a chart of each student's work, recording all course components. He will then factor the grade averages.