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PR 610 Servant as Proclaimer

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I. Course Description

This course equips students to prepare and deliver sermons with servant motivations based on their growing biblical, theological, historical and cultural foundations. The students will learn from servant/proclaimer’s past and present. They will begin to develop their own workshops, claim their chief source book and other resources. The course will present the components of preaching with multiple styles and effective contemporary practices. This will be done by lectures, modeling, videos, class discussions and critiques. The students will prepare, preach, evaluate and be evaluated. All of this will be focused to serve persons and their needs, to make servants of the people of God.

II. Course Objectives

A. A clear understanding of the gospel with regard to content and delivery as Servant/Proclaimer.
B. A profound appreciation of an integrative syntheses of biblical, historical, theological and ethical disciplines in preparation of the content of sermons.
C. Exposure to effective preaching in the past and to multiple styles of preaching employed and valued today.
D. A Servant/Proclaimer model presented to students that can call Christian disciples to servant ministries with personal ownership and collective motivation.
E. Multiple styles and blueprints presented as options for our own formation. This will flow from required texts, videos of servant/proclaimers, and practiced in class presentations via professor and students.
F. Sermon building with sermon components, personal preparation and delivery, critiquing and being critiqued will begin or continue Servant/Proclaimer formation.
G. All of this will, hopefully, be done with servant spirits in the professor and students intended to meet the real needs and equip the People of God.
III.  Topic Listings and Sequence (Subject to modification)

Each class will begin with Scripture, Devotional and Prayer

Week 1  **Course Overview and Introduction**
The Servant Heart and Proclamation
Learning from Great Preachers
Proclamation as Witness

Week 2  **Beginnings**
My Call to Preach: Testimonial – by students
Toward a Theology of Preaching and Final Paper
Preaching: Its importance, Price and Power
Integrative Syntheses: Biblical, Theological, Historical and Ethical

Week 3  **The Servant/Proclaimer’s Workshop:**
The Bible, Chief Source Book
The Servant/Proclaimer’s Other Books
The Workshop of People and Life Experience
   Out of the Overflow: W.E. Sangster
“Overflow” option: Worship and Preaching

Week 4  **The Proclamation of Word and Servanthood**
What shall we Preach and when? Christian Year
(Inductive / Deductive; Series; Biblical / Thematic
Textual / Topical; Prescriptive / Lectionary;
From text to Sermon: Planning
“Overflow” option: Prayerful, Prophetic, Consensus and Preaching

Week 5  **The Body of the Sermon**
Optional Blueprints plus Lowry and Lacour
Seeing and Styling the Sermon:
   Development and Mystery/Perspiration and Gift
Optional Bodies of the Message
“Overflow”: Preaching to Motivate Ministry

Week 6  **Sermon Introductions / First Sentences / Conclusions**
Assignment”
For Week 7, write an introduction of up to ½ page,
An outline or summary of the body of the sermon in one page,
And a conclusion in up to ¾ of the page. Length does not necessarily
enhance effectiveness!
“Overflow” option: Pastoral Preaching and Counseling
Week 7  **Sermon Illustrations and Invitation: For**  
Pastoral, instructional, motivational, and evangelistic sermons assignment:  
For week 8, write two illustrations and two invitations, selecting and  
identifying in each of the two categories two of the four types taught in the  
week 7 classes.  
“Overflow” option: Varied, Creative Invitations

Week 8  **The Preparation for Delivery and**  
**The Delivery of the Sermon: “Out of the Overflow”**  
“Overflow” option: Pastoral Preaching – Grief and Healing

Week 9  **Preaching / Critiquing**  
Sermons one” 12-15 minutes (5-6 students)  
*Evangelistic Preaching  
“Overflow” option: Preaching and Dramatic Arts

Week 10  **Preaching / Critiquing**  
Sermon one: 12-15 minutes (5-6 students)  
“Preaching to Motivate the People of God  
“Overflow” Preaching in the First Person

Week 11  **Preaching / Critiquing**  
Sermon two: 17-22 minutes (5-6 students)  
“Pastoral Preaching: Grief and Healing

Week 12  **Preaching / Critiquing**  
Sermon two: 17-22 minutes (5-6 students)  
*Preaching in the First Person

Week 13  **Other Options for Continual Study**  
*Preaching Jesus’ Parables  
*Narrative Preaching and Story Telling  
“Overflow” option: If You Could Preach Until Age 70!

Week 14  **Preaching That Instructs and Inspires:**  
*Preaching that Teaches  
*Expository / Extemporaneous Preaching  
Final Paper due: “My Theology of Preaching” a work in progress

• These classes consisting of lectures, videos and discussion also explore additional  
study beyond this Core Course for future courses and life-time learning. With 10-12  
students we should complete all of these. With more than 12 students the time  
required for their preaching and critiquing may make the last topics optional except  
for little more than summary. This is the stretch factor to adapt to an enrollment up  
to eighteen students.
IV. **Course Requirements and Evaluations**

A. Attend and participate in class sessions.

B. Do parallel readings required texts in preparation for classes.

C. Complete the reading of approximately 1200 pages, 740 from the required Texts and the rest from collateral texts.

D. Do a book critique on reading from the collateral texts, limited to one single-spaced, typewritten page. See Outline of Critiques enclosed. A reading report of authors, books, and total pages must be signed and turned in no later than the final class date. Include any make-up credit pages needed for absences.

E. Students are required to record their own attendance on an attendance sheet passed in class. Missing more than one class period of one hour will require 100 extra pages read for each class missed up to two. Further absences will reduce the grade for the course, one point per hour for each additional absence.

F. For week 7, the student will write an introduction and conclusion with an outline or summary of the body of the sermon as described in the Topic Listings and Sequence pages.

G. For week 8, the student will write two illustrations and two invitations as described in the Topic Listings and Sequence pages.

H. Each student will prepare and preach a sermon, 12-15 minutes in length, on either 4/15/04 or 4/22/04 for the class to critique.

I. Each student will prepare and preach a sermon, 17-22 minutes in length, on either 5/6/04 or 5/13/04 for the class to critique.

J. Due for the final class, 5/20/04, is the semester paper of 6-8 pages on the topic “My Theology of Preaching”. Lectures, reading, written assignments personal reflections and processes of growth should all be integrated in this final paper.

**Grading scale for the course:**

- Class Discussion and Critiques: 10%
- Readings: 15%
- Book Critique: 5%
- Written introduction & conclusion: 5%
- Written illustrations & invitations: 10%
- 1st Sermon Preparation & Delivery: 10%
- 2nd Sermon Preparation & Delivery: 15%
- Final Paper: 30%
V. Bibliography

Required Texts:

Collateral Texts:
Street, F. Alan, *The Effective Invitation*, Kregel Publishers, Grand Rapids, 1984

Recommended Reading:
Blackwood, Andrew W., *Planning a Year’s Pulpit Work*, Abingdon, Nashville, 1942
Jackson, Edgar N., *How to Preach to People’s Needs*, Abingdon, Nashville, 1956
Johnson, Ronald, *How Will They Hear if We Don’t Listen*, Broadman/Helman, Nashville, 1994
Jones, Ilion T., *Principles and Practice Preaching*, Abingdon, Nashville 1956
Strobel, Lee, *Inside the Mind of Unchurched Harry and Mary*, Zodervan, Grand Rapids, 1993

**Parallel Reading from Required Texts in Preparation for Classes**

**To be read before the class dates listed.**

**Week 2**
- Long, pp. 9-59; Craddock, pp. 16-30; 31-65;
- Demoray, pp. 21-40; Webb, pp. 19-33

**Week 3**
- Craddock; pp. 69-83; 84-98; Demoray, pp. 45-62;
- Webb, pp. 35-56

**Week 4**
- Craddock; pp. 99-150; Demoray, pp. 71-86;
- Long, pp. 60-91; Webb, pp. 57-75

**Week 5**
- Craddock; pp. 153-203; Demoray, pp. 103-121;
- Long, pp. 92-155

**Week 6**
- Demoray, pp. 89-100; 125-136

**Week 7**
- Craddock; pp. 203-209; Demoray, pp. 139-153;
- Long, pp. 156-180

**Week 8**
- Craddock; pp. 210-222; Demoray, pp. 157-158;
- Long, pp. 181-198; Webb, pp. 97-131
HOW TO DO A BOOK CRITIQUE

1. This book critique should contain the following:
   A. Analysis of content (more objective 50-60%).
      ▪ Describe: What is it? Was it achieved?
      ▪ Strengths: What does the book do, contribute, etc.
      ▪ Weakness: What is missing, etc.
   B. Application (more subjective: 50%).
      ▪ What do find helpful, not so helpful, etc.
      ▪ How does this information impact my ministry?

2. Use a writing resource manual.
   Some resources to keep in mind.

3. Assignment grading information.
   Each assignment will be evaluated on the following basis:
      ▪ Perception: Did you understand the material?
      ▪ Thoroughness: Did you cover the main elements?
      ▪ Clarity: Did you clearly communicate your ideas?
      ▪ Objectivity: Did you represent the author’s view?
      ▪ Mechanics: Did you use a proper writing technique (see above)?
      ▪ Application: How did this material impact you?
      ▪ Integration: Can you incorporate what you learned into your life and ministry (most important)?