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PR 610 Servant as Proclaimer

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PR610 Servant as Proclaimer

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PR610 is a prerequisite to other preaching courses. It is intended to be an integrative approach to the theory and practice of preaching. The emphasis and goal: effective biblical preaching.

The course, as taught in these sessions, includes lectures, discussion, and laboratory. The laboratory experience occurs when you and your colleagues preach. The critiquing of these sermons is as much a part of the learning experience as are the lectures, and you should expect to take notes during these experiences - not only when you yourself have preached, but also as you learn from comments made to your colleagues following their sermons.

TEXTS: Demaray, Introduction to Homiletics
Kalas, Old Testament Stories from the Back Side
Craddock, Preaching

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS:

1. Due October 8th: A paper of 5 or 6 pages, double space, analyzing six representative preachers, chosen not on the basis of their theology, but for their place in the recent history of preaching:
   - Washington Gladden (century exemplar of the social gospel)
   - Harry Emerson Fosdick (probably century pulpiteer, with influence far beyond the church)
   - Ralph W. Sockman (one of the most popular preachers in New York City in a time of outstanding preaching)
   - Martyn Lloyd-Jones (major exponent of verse-by-verse expository preaching; British, 20th century)
   - Fleming Rutledge 20th / 21st century
   - Gardner Taylor (outstanding 20th century African-American preacher)

   You will find these sermons in books on reserve, as follows:
   Volumes 6, 9, 10, 11, 20 Centuries of Great Preaching
   Rutledge, Fleming, The Bible and the New York Times
   Taylor, Gardner C., The Scarlet Thread: Nineteen Sermons

2. Due October 24th: A two to three page paper on Old Testament Stories from the Back Side. These sermons are in narrative style. Examine them from what has been said in class about
this form of development. Don't summarize the sermons, but consider these questions, giving examples from the sermons: Do they deal with the text? Do they evoke interest? Are they likely to be remembered? To what degree are they expository?

3. Due November 19th: A paper of six to seven pages on a work of literature from the list below. Substitutions are allowed, but must be specifically approved by Dr. Kalas. Begin by analyzing what this reading has done for you as a preacher. Then, give two sermon ideas (summarized, with a title and a Scripture lesson reference), three illustrations, and four quotes, all with page references. The illustrations and quotes can "stand alone"; that is, they need not be related in any way to the sermon ideas.

Poetry:
T.S. Eliot, The Complete Poems and Plays

Plays:
Arthur Miller, Death of a Salesman AND Archibald Macleish, J.B.

Novels:
Georges Bernanos, The Diary of a Country Priest
Fyodor Dostoyevsky, Crime and Punishment
George Eliot, Middlemarch
Graham Greene, The Heart of the Matter
Sinclair Lewis, Babbitt
Alan Paton, Too Late the Phalarone AND Cry The Beloved Country
John Steinbeck, East of Eden
John Updike, In the Beauty of the Lilies
Robert Penn Warren, All the Kin2's Men
Charles Williams, All Hallow's Eve OR Descent into Hell
Thomas Wolfe, The Web and the Rock OR You Can't Go Home Again
(Please note the AND and OR in the above list, lest you err on this assignment.)

4. On October 17 22 or 24th you will give a 5-6 minute homily in class, without notes or manuscript, on an assigned passage. You will not be graded on this assignment, but it will give you an opportunity to speak, acclimate yourself to the experience, and begin the critiquing process.

5. On October 29 31 or November 5th you will give a 9-10 minute homily in class, without notes or manuscript, on an assigned passage.

6. On November 12, 14, 19, 21, or Dec. 3rd, you will give a sermon of 15-19 minutes, without notes or manuscript, on a text of your own choosing, in a style that is most comfortable for you.
7. Due December 5th: A paper of 6-8 pages, giving your theology of preaching. This paper will be a product of your semester's work, reflecting a) classroom lecture; b) reading from both the Demaray and Craddock texts; c) insights that have appeared during the critiquing process; and d) your own personal thinking - - with emphasis on the latter. I want more than a term paper of research materials - - rather, a personal declaration of faith as it relates to why and how we preach.

**BASIS FOR GRADING:**

Written work: roughly 60 percent weighted according to the length and complexity of the papers.

Oral sermons, roughly 35 percent. I watch especially for evidences of care in preparation, and signs of growth. Getting an 'A' in PR61O does not mean that you are, or will be, a great preacher; or will a lower grade suggest that you will not someday be a pulpit giant. On to perfection!

Classroom participation, roughly 5 percent.