

Fulfilling the Ministry

“Do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry” (2 Timothy 4:5)

———— Faculty and Student Newsletter of the Brown Trail School of Preaching ————

April 2012
No. 80

From the Director's Desk

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It seems as soon as we mail out one issue of *Fulfilling the Ministry*, it is time to begin putting together the next issue. As is often said, “time flies”! By the time you receive this, the Student held Campaign/Gospel Meeting in

Sedalia, Missouri will be over. This effort was a combined effort involving both the English and Spanish Departments. The schedule of lessons and speakers was as follows.

April 22 - Bible Class - The Word of God - Charles Page

April 22 - A.M. Service - The church of Christ - Bob Lewis

April 22 - P.M. Service - What Must I Do To Be Saved? - Jamie Luna

April 23 - The Great Commission - Mark Alvarenga

April 24 - Proper Worship - Roger Medina

April 25 - The Whole Duty of Man - Jonathan Maner

Following the Sedalia Campaign and Gospel Meeting the students in the English Department conducted a similar one in Alba, Texas. The schedule of lessons and speakers is listed here.

May 4 - P.M. Services - One In Prophecy - Jonathan Maner

May 5 - P.M. Services - One In Promise - Mike Rushton

May 6 - Bible Class - One In Doctrine - James R. Jones

May 6 - A.M. Services - One In The Plan of Salvation - Bob Lewis

May 6 - P.M. Services - One In Worship - Charles Page

Such activities as these are great opportunities for our students to get practical application experience and assist local congregations with the work they are doing in their communities. Over the next several months we will have other such opportunities, and we are always looking ahead for similar opportunities for the future. If you might be interested in hosting such an activity in the future, please contact us.

Spanish Department

So much good is being accomplished by the work being put forth by **Willie Alvarenga**, **Jesse Martinez** and **Obad Rodriguez** as they labor together as the “staff” for the Spanish Department. I am sure that they, at times, feel as if their “plates” are more than full, but they keep on with the efforts here and their respective works with the congregations that they are assisting. Please keep these good men in your prayers, and look for ways to assist them in this endeavor.

As we have indicated before, we continue to need additional financial assistance to provide these men with the support needed to keep them at **Brown Trail School of Preaching**. We would remind you that even a small monthly donation is valuable to the work here.

If you would like for either **Jesse** or **Willie** to visit your congregation and bring you up to date on what they are doing, I am sure that can be worked out.

As Director of the School, it is a privilege to work along side these men on a daily basis!

School Events - 2012

Campaign/Gospel Meeting - Alba, Texas - May 4 - 6, 2012

Memorial Day - No Classes - May 28, 2012

Finals - June 5 - 7, 2012

Graduation Banquet - June 8, 2012, 6:30 p.m.

Graduation - June 10, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

Summer Break - June 11 - July 8, 2012

Classes Resume - July 9, 2012, 8:00 a.m.

Campaign/Gospel Meeting - Andover, KS, August 5th - 8th, 2012

Labor Day - No Classes - September 3, 2012

Heidenheimer, Texas Campaign/Gospel Meeting - September 7 - 9, 2012

Finals - September 18 - 20, 2012

Fall Break - September 21 - 30, 2012

Classes Resume - October 1, 2012

Spiritual Sword Lectures - October 21-25, 2012 (This is a revision from the last issue.)

Thanksgiving Holiday - November 21 - 23, 2012 (classes dismissed at 12:00 on the 21st)

Finals - December 11 - 13, 2012

Graduation Banquet - December 14, 2012, 6:30 p.m.

Graduation - December 16, 2012, 2:00 p.m.

Winter Break - December 17, 2012 - January 6, 2013

Please note that some of these are subject to change.

FILL IN PREACHING

If you know that you are going to be needing assistance in this area, please let us know as far in advance as possible. Even though our number of students has increased, many of them have full time responsibilities at their home congregation or some other area.

We would like to assist as many as possible, but when we get a late notification we are often unable to help.

Please, also, keep in mind that over the summer our students are on break, and it is more difficult for me to get in touch with them.

Future Campaigns

All of our Campaign/Gospel Meeting openings are filled for 2012. If you would like to have us come in 2013 or at some time later, please get in touch with us as soon as possible. At the present, we have a couple openings available for 2013. If you have any questions on having such an activity, please contact us so we may be able to provide you with the necessary information to assist you in planning one.

Specific Financial Needs

Yes, I would like to financially assist with the work of BTSOP.

Jesse Martinez Support _____ Monthly
_____ One Time

J.J. Hendrix Support _____ Monthly
_____ One Time

Willie Alvarenga Support _____ Monthly
_____ One Time

English Department _____ Monthly
Student Support _____ One Time

Spanish Department _____ Monthly
Student Support _____ One Time

Amount: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone or email: _____

We, also, have students who come to school who do not have computers. If you have a computer, laptop or desktop, that is in good working order, and you are not using it, we would appreciate you donating it to the school. We will be happy to supply you with a Tax Donation Receipt.

Director's Schedule

Briar church of Christ, Briar, Texas, Gospel Meeting - May 16, 2012

Beltline church of Christ, Irving, Texas, Summer Series - August 22, 2012

Heidenheimer, Texas, Gospel Meeting - September 7 - 9, 2012

Las Vegas Trail church of Christ Fort Worth, Texas, Gospel Meeting - September 23, 2012

In Honor * In Memory

The following have recently made a donation to BTSOP as a memorial or honorarium. Please keep in mind that your financial donations to BTSOP, as a honorarium or memorial, go a long way in training men to be gospel preachers.

BILL BOLLER, SR.
Bob & Marcia Stapleton
Bobby & June Watts

MIKE CRANSTON
Julia Bridges

A.V. ISBELL
Allen C. Isbell

ALON GAINES
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

BEN MCINTOSH
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

VANESSA MATTHEWS
Carmon & Vivian Pigg

CURTIS RAMEY
Bobby & June Watts

ODIS PORTER
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

HONORARIUM

KENNY GARDNER
Bob & Marcia Stapleton in appreciation of Kenny's friendship and work with Brown Trail School of Preaching.

This Form Is Provided For Your Convenience

In Honor Of/Memory Of _____

Send Acknowledgement To:

Mr./Mrs./Miss _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Donated By _____

CLASS MATERIALS AVAILABLE

We presently have class material available in both English and Spanish for most of the courses taught in the school, along with additional materials. On average, an outline book costs in the range of \$5.00 plus postage. We would be happy to provide you with a list of the outlines, etc., that are available. Give us a call, or email us, and we will get the list to you.

We, also, have several of our courses on DVD. The cost varies on these due to the number of DVDs required to record the class. We can provide you with an updated list of the courses that are available in this format, also.

There are also 11 Sermon Outline Books that are available. The average cost of each of these is \$5.00.

We will soon be putting together a new booklet that will include 50 bulletin articles and 50 sermon outlines.

Sermon Starters

HOW TO GLORIFY GOD Psalm 86:12

INTRODUCTION:

- David, in the 86th Psalm, wrote that he would glorify the name of God forever.
 - Of course, this meant that he would glorify God and not just His name.
- With this lesson, I would like us to consider some ways by which we might glorify God.
 - I see no reason in trying to prove the necessity of doing so, as I am sure we realize this.
 - However, I sometimes fear that the realization of this does not always cause us to do.
 - Perhaps if we had a better understanding of how we might be effective in our glorifying God, we may be more prone to do so.

BODY:

1. BY BEARING FRUIT

- In John 15:8 we find Jesus giving the disciples a way in which they might glorify the Father.
- From these words, we see that in order for us to effectively glorify God we must be in the fruit bearing business.
 - This fruit bearing, of course, is the winning of souls to Jesus.
- And in bearing fruit, we become the kind of disciple that God wants us to be.

2. BY PROPER USE OF OUR MOUTH

- There are several ways in which we might use our mouths.
 - By using them the proper way, we glorify God - Romans 15:6.
- It is evident from Paul's words that God's children will use their mouths in His service.
 - And in doing so, they will bring glory to God.
- Of course, using our mouths in any other way will bring the opposite of glory to God.

3. BY OUR DAILY LIVING

- One of the greatest ways by which we might glorify God is through the way we live our daily lives.
 - Every one of us must be aware of the fact that through our lives, and the way we are living, people either see God's influence in us, or they see the world's influence in us.
 - The fact is, they cannot see them both at the same time - Matthew 6:24.
- The Apostle Paul wrote that the Corinthian Christians should glorify God in their bodies - 1 Corinthians 6:20.
 - We should follow that example today.
- It is only when we do that which God would have us to do in our daily living that we will be effective in glorifying God - Matthew 5:16.

3. BY SUFFERING FOR CHRIST

- Another way by which we might glorify God is through suffering for Christ.
 - Some might ask, "Why should I suffer for Christ?"
 - To which I might ask, "Why should He have suffered for you?"

News from Alumni

Michael Hildreth (2010)

Michael and his family have moved to Escondido, California and is working as the associate minister with the Palomar church of Christ. Their address is 1051 E. El Norte Pkwy., Apt. # 192, Escondido, CA 82026. Their email and phone number remain the same.

John Ratliff (2011)

Congratulations is extended to John and his wife Ashley on the birth of their daughter Haniah Marie on March 6th. Haniah weighed in at 6 lbs. 11 ounces, and was 18 1/2 inches long.

I am sure either of these men would appreciate hearing from those with whom they attended school.

New Students Needed

Brown Trail School of Preaching is nearing its 50th year of existence. Over the years, nearly 400 men have graduated, with many of them entering full time work for the Lord and His church. Students have gone to a number of States in the US, along with having worked in a number of countries outside our boundaries. As with every other school like us, not every graduate has stayed faithful, but that is not the fault of the school any more than Judas' denial of Jesus was Jesus' fault! For those who have stayed the course, we "applaud" them and their determination. For those who have turned their face from the Lord and His kingdom, we grieve for them!

Looking to the future, there is nothing that is needed more than gospel preaching! It remains the "power of God unto salvation" (Romans 1:16). It is still the message whereby man might be set "free from condemnation" (John 8:32; Romans 8:1; James 1:21). As such, we are looking for those "good men" in the brotherhood who aspire to take the truth

Note to all alumni: If you have a change of address, family news, work news, unusual experience or anything else that you would like to share with other alumni, please let us know. You may e-mail the information to Bob Stapleton at chimalabob@yahoo.com, or fill out the form on our Web Site. Either way, be sure to include name, address, graduation year, congregation you work with and the news item you would like to have included in the newsletter.

Sermon Starters - Continued

- B. If we are not willing to suffer for Christ, then there is something wrong with our Christianity.
 - 1. This doesn't mean that we are going to have to suffer all the time, but if the occasion arises as a child of God it is a way of glorifying Him - 1 Peter 4:16.
 - C. We should never be ashamed to suffer for Christ since He suffered to a far greater degree than will we ever be required to do.
4. **BY WORKS OF LOVE**
- A. As Jesus glorified God through His works of love, so can we - John 17:4.
 - 1. There is no doubt that this work that Jesus finished was a work of love - John 15:13.
 - 2. And there is no doubt that His work of love brought glory to His Father.
 - B. Since His works of love brought glory to God, so can ours.
5. **BY DEMONSTRATING LOVE TOWARD ALL**
- A. Jesus brought glory to God by a demonstration of love towards all - John 3:16; Romans 5:8.
 - B. Likewise, when we love one another the world will know us to be the disciples of God and thus we glorify God - John 13:34, 35.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. We need to be glorifying God every day of our lives - Romans 15:6; 1 Corinthians 6:20.
 - A. What we have just considered will assist us in doing so if applied to our lives.

to a lost and dying world. The Apostle Paul's questions to the Roman Christians seen in Romans 10:13-15 should haunt each of us if we are doing nothing to prepare men to "bring glad tidings of good things" to those about us!

If you know of someone who is interested, please contact our Field Representative, **J.J. Hendrix**, at 817.255.0060 so that he might follow up on them.

Return Service Requested

FULLFILLING THE MINISTRY is a publication of THE BROWN TRAIL SCHOOL OF PREACHING, P.O. BOX 210667, BEDFORD, TX 76095. A work of the Brown Trail Church of Christ.

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