

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 2017
No. 100

From the Director's Desk

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As each second ticks off the clock we draw closer to the judgment that awaits all mankind. Tragically, as seen by the words of Jesus in Matthew 7:13, 14, the number of those that will be saved will be “few” in contrast to the “many” that will be lost. Paul’s words to the Roman brethren in Romans 10:13-16 remind us of the need to send forth those that will “preach the word” (2 Timothy 4:2). **Brown Trail School of Preaching** has existed for over fifty years with that purpose in mind. The continued support of faithful brethren has allowed us to do so and, prayerfully so, will allow us to continue with these efforts for many years to come. The “commission” has been given (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:15) and our constant desire is to diligently work to see that men are prepared to be “**men of the Book**”, taking its message to the lost and dying of this world while they still have the opportunity to do something about it. Please know that your support of our efforts is never taken for granted! Regardless of how “small” or how “large” the donation may be, it is appreciated!

During the month of April two campaigns were conducted by **BTSOP**. First, the **Spanish Department** conducted a bilingual campaign/Gospel Meeting with the **Valley View church of Christ** in Valley View, Texas. Second, the **English Department** students conducted a campaign in conjunction with a Gospel Meeting with the **Caddo Mills church of Christ**, Caddo Mills, Texas. Both of these efforts were successful as word was spread through the communities and the gospel was preached.

Although January 2018 is still several months away, we are looking forward to a new enrolment of students to add to those that will wrap up their first year in December of this year. If you are aware of “a few good men” that want to attend classes that will assist in the preparation of their being preachers, we would love to hear about them in order that we can touch base with them.

Spanish Department

We give thanks on a regular basis for the efforts of **Willie, Jesse, Obed** and **Jaime** in respect to their efforts to make the **Spanish Department** what it is. I am confident that the brotherhood is blessed by having men of their caliber overseeing and teaching in the program here! Only eternity will eventually reveal what a blessing it was to have men trained to be “**men of the Book**” by these highly qualified men!

Your continued support of these efforts is to be commended! We realize that without the efforts of good brethren that support us, we would not be able to accomplish what we do.

Recently, **Willie** took part in the **Spanish Lectureship** that was hosted by the **Channelview church of Christ** in Channelview, Texas. The highest attendance for the Lectureship was 630, resulting in eight precious people being baptized into Christ for the remission of their sins! Such opportunities allow our staff to assist with good works. Please know that if we can assist you with such an effort we would welcome the opportunity.

If you would like information about supporting any area of the **Spanish Department**, please call the School and ask to speak with **Willie**, who will be happy to set up an appointment for someone to visit with you.

Btradio.net

Please help us in passing the word to congregations and individuals, that our regular programming is aired over the Internet at:

www.btradio.net and
www.KnowTheTruthRadio.org.

For those of you that have a smart phone or tablet, you can download the ***TuneIn Radio App*** and access our programs this way. Once you have downloaded the App, search for ***Brown Trail Radio*** and select it. You can then save it and be able to access our programs whenever and wherever you are, so long as you have phone service.

Please note our schedule for 2016 below. Some changes have been made with the speakers and the times the programs are aired.

2017 Btradio.net Schedule

Searching the Scriptures (Robert Stapleton)	Mon.-Fri.	6:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
What is Truth? (Tavaris Armstrong)	Tue.-Thur.	10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
Let the Truth Be Told (Ronnie Fisher, Jr., Ronnie Fisher, Sr. & Victor Miles)	Monday	7:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
Behold, I Thought (Michael Windham & Adrian Sampson)	Tuesday	4:35 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Life in the Son (Brandon Ferguson & DuJuan Johnson)	Wednesday	6:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
Contending for the Faith (Dale Choate & Charles Murrell)	Thursday	4:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Foundational Principles (Rickey Brown, Joe Nimock & Joe Harris)	Friday	7:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
In Search of the Truth (Cody McCoy, Nathan Boyd & Joe Moon)	Friday	4:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.

Campaigns/Gospel Meetings

Each year we endeavor to conduct four door knocking Campaigns by both the **English** and **Spanish Departments**. Two, Sunday through Wednesday Campaigns and two Friday through Sunday Campaigns. As already indicated, we have conducted the first of the two longer campaigns. Also, we are wrapping up plans for the second longer **English Department** campaign this Fall with the Lone Grove, Oklahoma congregation.

If the congregation that you attend would be interested in such an event later in 2017 or even later than that, please get in touch with us so your name can be added to the upcoming schedule for 2017, 2018, or beyond.

MTSM Program

Our ***Moving Toward Spiritual Maturity*** program continues to reap great benefits for those that take part in it. This program is for students that have recently graduated from High School, and who may be planning to attend college. If interested, please call us to set up an appointment to visit with you.

Fill In Preaching

We want to remind you that students and staff are available for fill in preaching. If your congregation is in need of someone to do so, please contact us as early as possible, so we may be able to assist you. If you cannot reach us by phone, please leave a message giving your name, congregation name, dates when someone is needed, and a call back phone number and email address. We will get back to you as soon as possible.

Class Material Available

Class notes are available on a number of books of the Bible. Each outline costs around \$5.00, plus shipping. If you would like a list of what is available, please let us know, and we will email you the list. Also, we have a number of sermon outline books available. There are 50 outlines in each book, and the cost is the same as the class outline books.

We, also, have a number of similar outlines and books in Spanish, most of which have been written by **Willie**. You can contact him through the School and he can provide you with the information as to how to purchase them.

Fulfilling the Ministry

Please let us know if you would like to receive your copy of ***Fulfilling the Ministry*** via the Internet. We would be more than happy to add your name to our email list!

Also, please, if you are relocating, send us an update for your new mailing address as we have to pay First Class postage for each one that the Post Office returns.

Additional Spanish Department Activity

Our **Spanish Department** students will attend the ***Spanish Back to the Bible Lectures*** hosted by the ***White Rock church of Christ*** June 2, 3. Then, they will be conducting a door-knocking campaign/gospel meeting in DeLeon, Texas, August 9-13 with **Willie** doing the preaching. There will be another door-knocking campaign with the ***Brown Trail Spanish*** congregation September 8, 9. And to wrap things up, the ***BTSOP Spanish Department Lectures*** will be November 4 at the Brown Trail building.

Please keep all of these activities in your prayers so that much good can be accomplished.

“For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!”
(1 Corinthians 9:16)

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.

JAMES BAILEY

Julia Bridges

GEORGE CRANK

Henry & Nancy Hart

DELLA MAE CROAN

Jamestown church of Christ

BOB FINLEY

Julia Bridges

GENE HUMPHREY

Julia Bridges
Bob & Marcia Stapleton
Bobby & June Watts

MICHAEL GUNLOCK

Gary & Mary Murphy

PEGGY LOU JONES

Julia Bridges

JENNIE KESSEL

Julia Bridges
Henry & Nancy Hart
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

KATHY MILLS

Gary & Mary Murphy

LEWIS MOORE

Bob & Marcia Stapleton

RUTH MOORE

Bob & Marcia Stapleton

ROSEMARY PAPIILLION

Gary & Mary Murphy

BARBARA SHOFNER

Julia Bridges
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

JACK STEPHENS

Johnnie Adams & Sons
Julia Bridges
Kevin & Kathy Carroll
Scott & Lindy Colter
Virginia DeWitt
David & Judy Hall
Henry & Nancy Hart
Dina Nichols
Sharon Palmer
Joyce Rushing
Bob & Marcia Stapleton
Bob & Delma Thornton
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Thornton
Robert Paul Thornton

IRENE TAYLOR

Gary & Mary Murphy

ANDREA & TERI TOBLIN

Merlene Day & Family

HELEN WRIGHT

Don & Renee Cunningham
Jamestown church of Christ

Sermon Starters

IT IS GOOD TO KNOW

Acts 17:20-31

INTRODUCTION:

1. Someone coined the phrase, "Curiosity killed the cat."
 - A. I guess if I were a cat, I would have been dead a long time ago since I am a curious person.
2. But being curious or even nosy is not all that bad in certain areas.
 - A. The reason I say this is that it is good to know certain things which is what I want us to concentrate on with this lesson.
 1. Some things that it is good to know.

BODY:

1. **IT IS GOOD TO KNOW THAT GOD'S WORD IS TRUE**
 - A. There are numerous reasons that could be given as to why it is good to know that God's Word is true.
 1. But the best reasons are found in God's Word.
 - B. It is good to know that God's Word is true so that we can have faith in God - Romans 10:17.
 1. If the Word of God is not true, where would our faith come from, if there was a reason for faith?
 2. It is good to know that God's Word is true so that we can obtain the kind of faith that He wants us to have.
 - C. It is good to know that God's Word is true so that we might be sanctified - John 17:17.
2. **IT IS GOOD TO KNOW THAT GOD NEVER CHANGES**
 - A. As we consider this, let's be sure to keep it in proper perspective.
 1. God does not change, but it is in His dealing with man that this is true - Malachi 3:6; James 1:17.
 - A. It is good to know that God does not change His mind or attitude about us from hour to hour or day to day.
 1. Instead, He is constant in His love and concern - 2 Peter 3:9.
3. **IT IS GOOD TO KNOW THAT CHRIST'S BLOOD HAS NOT LOST ITS POWER**
 - A. We sometimes sing, "There is power in the blood."
 1. And it is good to know that it is still there.
 - B. Since man must be washed free from their sin by the blood of Christ, it is really good to know that it still has the power to do so - Revelation 1:5.
 - C. Can you imagine what it would be like to not know that our sins are washed away by the blood of Jesus?
 1. What inward conflict there would be to say, "Well, Lord, we've done your will, but is there any power left in the blood?"
 - D. It is really good to know that the blood hasn't lost its power to save, isn't it?
4. **IT IS GOOD TO KNOW THAT WE HAVE AN ETERNAL COVENANT**
 - A. I like having the knowledge that I have an eternal covenant made with God - Hebrews 13:20.

This Form Is Provided For Your Convenience

In Honor Of/Memory Of _____

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Mr./Mrs./Miss _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Donated By _____

***"Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine."
2 Timothy 4:2***

News from Alumni

Please forward to us any news you would like posted in this section.

Sermon Outline Continued

- B. I like having the knowledge that if I do what God tells me to do we have an eternal agreement - Matthew 7:21; 1 John 1:7.
- C. I like knowing that I have an eternal covenant, and I am glad you do too if you are remaining faithful to God and His Word.

5. IT IS GOOD TO KNOW THAT GOD IS STILL IN CONTROL

- A. I shudder to think at what stage of utter chaos we would be in if God was not at the controls of the universe - Acts 17:20-31.
- B. I am happy to have the knowledge that God is at the helm and is doing a super job.

6. IT IS GOOD TO KNOW THAT THERE IS LIFE AFTER DEATH

- A. When we speak of death, we speak concerning the physical separation of the soul, that never ceases to exist, from the body - James 2:26.
- B. It is good to know, as we sometimes sing, "I'll live on and on, through eternity, I'll live on" - John 5:24, 25.

7. IT IS GOOD TO KNOW THAT WE HAVE A PLACE PREPARED

- A. I am glad that there is "life" after death in heaven - 1 Corinthians 15:19.
- B. I am, also, glad to know that the Lord has prepared a place for His children to spend this time - John 14:1-4.

CONCLUSION:

1. There is so much for us to be thankful for, knowing the goodness of God in providing us with knowledge of these and other important matters.

Specific Financial Needs

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

Willie Alvarenga Support _____ Monthly
_____ One Time

Tavaris Armstrong Support _____ Monthly
_____ One Time

Jaime Luna Support _____ Monthly
_____ One Time

Jesse Martinez Support _____ Monthly
_____ One Time

General Fund _____ 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.

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.

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