

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 ————

July 2006
No. 58

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From the Director's Desk

Robert Stapleton



It hardly seems possible that it is time for another issue of Fulfilling the Ministry. It seems like it was only yesterday that the last issue went to the printer. I guess, as they say, “time flies.” We are now starting our third

week of the new quarter that will end September 22nd.

As you will see, there are so many things that need to be reported on in this issue. Please read carefully and prayerfully the various needs of the school. BTSOP has existed for over 40 years. Gospel Preachers are serving in several states and foreign lands who trained here at the school. Souls have been brought to the Lord, and congregations have been strengthened by men who have studied here. Our future depends on the continued support of the efforts being put forth.

Plans are moving forward in order that **Kenny Gardner** can come on board as a full time instructor effective January 1, 2007. He is still in need of additional support, and would be happy to speak with you concerning this. He can be reached at (469) 323-6017 or at kengardner@planochurch.com

We are happy to report that **Jeff Jenkins** has joined the staff of adjunct instructors here at Brown Trail. Jeff preaches for the church in Lewisville, Texas. I am sure he will help to make our program even stronger.

We would like to remind you that we have a Power Point Presentation that we would

be happy to come to your congregation to show on the work of the school. It is our belief that those who support the efforts here need to know what is being done. Just give us a call, and we will be happy to set up a time to do so.

We want to encourage you to be on the lookout for potential students for both the English and Hispanic Departments. Our next intake of new students will be January 2nd, 2007. We would be happy to contact any potential students whose names you send us. We, also, call your attention to our Web Site as it includes all information that is available on the school, its courses, and additional information that we think you will find interesting.

Hispanic Department

At our graduation we saw the first of, what we hope, will be many graduating from the Hispanic Department. It is exciting to see this work as it progresses.

We are happy to report that a new adjunct instructor has been added to the teaching staff of the Hispanic Department. He is **Daniel Gonzalez** from the Mesquite, Texas area. I am sure **Obed** and **Willie** are glad to see him come on board as this helps them with the load they are bearing. I continued to be amazed at the determination of these brethren to see that this program is a success.

Please continue to be mindful of the need to raise the funds in order that **Willie Alvarenga** might be able to work full time with the school. He remains desirous of doing so, and we are desirous of getting him here by January of 2007. Any amount that you can pledge would be gratefully received.

Graduation—June 2006

June 11th, 2006 saw seven men graduate from Brown Trail School of Preaching. They were **Shane Coleman**, who is working with the church in Justin, Texas. **Miguel Garcia**, who is working with the Hispanic Department at the Northeast congregation in Fort Worth, Texas. **Daniel Haynes**, who is working with the 4th and Stewart congregation in Brownwood, Texas. **Martin Ibarra**, who has plans to work with a new Hispanic work in Tyler, Texas if funds become available. **Jesus Montoya**, who is working with the North Side congregation in Houston, Texas. **Tommy Taylor**, who is serving as one of the elders of the Rylie, Texas congregation. And **Clarence Walker**, who is working with the Heritage congregation in Denton, Texas. **Ubaldo Herrea** received a Certificate of Completion, and is assisting with the work at the congregation in Everman, Texas.

It is exciting to see men such as these go forth taking with them the gospel. Please keep them in your prayers.



L-R Bob Stapleton, Daniel Haynes, Shane Coleman, Martin Ibarra, Tommy Taylor, Jesus Montoya, Ubaldo Herrea, Clarence Walker, and Miguel Garcia

Student Enrichment Fund

October will soon be upon us, and it will bring our student body another wonderful opportunity to attend the **Spiritual Sword Lectures** in Memphis, Tennessee. For the past several years we have been able to do so, and the students are looking forward to this year with great anticipation. It is a time when our students are able to “sit at the feet” of learned brethren as they impart unto those who are attending the lectures messages from God’s inspired word.

With the increase in travel and accommodation expenses over the years it has become necessary for us to turn to our supporters to assist our students in these areas. Normally, it costs around **\$1,200.00** for all of our students to be able to attend. The good Getwell congregation has assisted us with this amount each year, and we surely appreciate their doing so. However, what they can assist with still leaves us short by, at least, half of the necessary funds. If you can help in this area it would be greatly appreciated. Please mark your check **Student Enrichment Fund**. Thanks!

Student Campaigns and Gospel Meetings

Each year we make every possible attempt to hold, at least, two student Gospel Meetings and as many additional campaigns. On August 26th the students will conduct a door-to-door campaign at Cresson, Texas in preparation for the Gospel Meeting that will begin the next morning. The following students will present lessons during the Meeting on the subject of The Church, The Falling Away, and The Restoration: **Gary Murphy, Ed Stover, Courtney Henderson, Jeramie Sweet, Aren Haggard, and David Bell**. If you are in the area, why not plan to attend?

On September 7th—9th students will be holding a door knocking campaign for the University church of Christ in Tyler, Texas. This is in preparation for a Gospel Meeting that the church there has planned.

Each of these activities are part of the overall program of studies that our students take part in. If you would like for us to assist you in this way please let us hear from you, and we will see how we might help.

New Student Intake

School resumed on July 10th with 28 full and part time students. Once again, it was a day of excitement as we “kicked” off the new school term. The first day or two of school are always a little over whelming for the incoming students as they begin to get an upfront and personal understanding of what is going to be required of them. However, they soon settle in after a few days.

We are unable to fully express in words our continued appreciation to those who financially support the work here at **BTSOP**. Your continued sacrifices for the efforts of the school and individual students is what makes all of this possible. Were it not for those who support us, we would soon have to stop what we have been doing for so long. It is our prayer that God will bless each of you as you have sacrificed for Him and His Cause.



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, goes a long way in training men to be gospel preachers.

ALAN BRYAN

Carl & Doris Powell
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

SHARON BOYD

Bob & Marcia Stapleton
Bobby & June Watts

JESSE FONVILLE

Kevin & Kathy Carroll
Bob & Marcia Stapleton
Bill & Vivian Wren

EDDIE LANE

Larry & Pat Benedict
Bobby & June Watts

LEROY MURPHY

Carl & Doris Powell
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

PERRY ROSE

Ben & Minnole Goodrum

HONORIUM

BTSOP ELDERS

Tommy & Bobbie Taylor

BTSOP INSTRUCTORS

Tommy & Bobbie Taylor

CLASSMATES

Tommy & Bobbie Taylor

CARL & LINDA HOUNSHELL

Bob & Marcia Stapleton

CHARLES & JOAN RHEA (50th Anniversary)

Kyle & Lesley Johnson
John & Mary Nelson

ROBERT & MARCIA STAPLETON

Tommy & Bobbie Taylor

BILL & VIVIAN WREN

Tommy & Bobbie Taylor

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Sermon Starters

FIRST CENTURY CHRISTIANITY

Jeremiah 6:16, 17

INTRODUCTION:

1. 21st century Christianity must hold before itself the image of 1st century Christianity.
2. World has strayed from the "old paths."
3. First century Christians is...

BODY:

1. **...NOT THE PRODUCT OF MAN'S INGENUITY**
 - A. Man had no part in development - 1 Cor. 1:19-24
 - B. Man failed to provide a way - Rom. 1:21, 22
 - C. Man's mind too feeble to do so - 1 Cor. 2:9; Jere. 10:23
 - D. Christianity is a walk of faith with God - 2 Cor. 5:7
 - E. Faith is from God and by His word - Rom. 10:17
2. **...A RELIGION OF GOING**
 - A. Propelled by the Great Commission - Mt. 28:19, 20
 - B. Propelled by concern - Acts 5:42; 8:4
3. **...A RELIGION OF SACRIFICE**
 - A. Christ gave himself - Phil. 2:6-11
 - B. Disciples gave themselves - Phil. 2:17
 - C. We are called upon to give ourselves - Rom. 12:1; Gal. 2:20
4. **...A VICTORIOUS RELIGION**
 - A. Vast numbers embraced it - Acts 2:40; 4:4; 4:32; 5:14
 - B. Early church carried gospel to entire world - Col. 1:23
5. **...A RELIGION OF KNOWLEDGE**
 - A. Judaism failed due to numerous reasons, of which the lack of knowledge was one - Hos. 4:6; Isa. 1:3; Rom. 10:1-3
 - B. Christianity sought to instill in man knowledge of God and His will - 1 Thess. 4:13; 2 Tim. 2:15; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 2 Pet. 1:3
6. **...A RELIGION OF CONVICTION**
 - A. Early church understood concept of conviction.
 1. Consider persecution of early church.
 - B. Examples of this conviction:
 1. Stephen - Acts 6:9-7:60
 2. Aquila and Pricilla - Rom. 16:3, 4
 3. Epaphroditus - Phil. 2:25-30
 4. Paul - 2 Cor. 11:23-28
7. **...A RELIGION OF EXCLUSIVENESS**
 - A. Church composed of those who no longer were of the world - 1 Jhn. 2:15-17; 5:4, 5
 - B. Citizenship in heaven - Phil. 3:20
 - C. Distinct and unique - Tit. 2:11-14
8. **...A RELIGION OF REFLECTION AND EXAMPLE**
 - A. Christianity was evident in their lives - 2 Cor. 3:2
 - B. A fundamental teaching of Christ - Mt. 5:13-16
 - C. Also of the Apostles - Phil. 2:14-16

CONCLUSION:

1. It is imperative that we practice these in our lives.

"For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?" - Romans 10:13-15

News from Alumni

Pat McIntosh (1989)

Pat recently graduated from Southern Christian University in Montgomery, Alabama with a Doctor of Ministry degree. He is currently serving as the Assistance Director of Extensions with the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver, Colorado. He is also presently working on the next doctorate program at SCU.

Landon Rowell (2005)

Landon and Kristin are expecting their first, second, third, and fourth child later this year (all at the same time). Please keep them in your prayers.

Shane Coleman (2006)

Shane, Mary Sue, and children's address is 324 S. Snyder, Justin, TX 76247. Telephone is (817) 551-5744. Email: shane777coleman@yahoo.com

Daniel Haynes (2006)

Daniel and Jackie's address is 4611 River Oaks Circle, Brownwood, TX 76801. Their home phone number is (325) 643-3795 and their cell is (281) 352-7764. Their email is: danielhaynes@sbcglobal.net

Martin Ibarra (2006)

Martin, Cynthia and children's address is 11872 Sycamore St., Tyler, TX 75704. Their home phone number is (903) 533-9755 and their cell is (903) 570-9127. Their email is: ibarras05@sbcglobal.net

Ways To Help

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

Kenny Gardner's Support _____ Monthly
_____ One Time

Willie Alvarenga's Support _____ Monthly
_____ One Time

English Department _____ Monthly
Student Support _____ One Time

Hispanic Department _____ Monthly
Student Support _____ One Time

Hispanic Instructor _____ Monthly
Support _____ One Time

Amount: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone or email: _____

Class Ring/Pendants

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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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