

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 2013
No. 85

From the Director's Desk

Robert Stapleton

ELDERS

Maxie Boren
Kevin Carroll
Guy Elliott
Larry McWilliams
Larry Rice
Bobby Watts

DIRECTOR

Robert Stapleton

DEAN OF STUDENTS

Pat McIntosh

FACULTY

Willie Alvarenga
Gerald Ball
Charles Billingsly
Bill Burk
Robert Dodson
Ken Gardner
Ken Hope
Jesse Martinez
Pat McIntosh
Randall Morris
Hardeman Nichols
Obed Rodriguez
Robert Stapleton
Richard Stevens III

FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

J.J. Hendrix

Contact Info:

P.O. Box 210667
Bedford, TX
76095
(817) 268-3222



Summer is over, and classes have resumed for the third quarter of 2013. I am sure the students appreciated the time off, which allowed them time to catch up on some things and to visit family and supporters out of state. We are happy that all had a good summer, and are excited about getting back to work in preparing themselves to preach the gospel to a lost and dying world.

This past June was the first one in many years for which we did not have a graduation. The change was made a couple years ago where we only have one enrolment per year. In 2013, we finally arrived at the place where we had no mid-year students completing their studies. If you are interested in attending **BTSOP**, please keep in mind our January enrolment schedule.

The first weekend of August the **Brown Trail School of Preaching** is to host the **4th Annual Brown Trail School of Preaching Alumni Lectures** at the Brown Trail building. The speaker list for this year's lectures has a wide range of speakers from the first graduation class of 1967 to the more recent graduates from the 2011 class. It will be good to have these men participate, and we appreciate the efforts of **J.J. Hendrix** in putting all of this together!

We continue to be thankful for those who support this effort. The gospel is still the “power of God unto salvation,” and there remains the necessity of preparing men to go forth with this gospel to a world full of people outside of Christ.

MTSM Program

We want to remind you of the **MTSM** (Moving Toward Spiritual Maturity) **Program** that we have at **BTSOP**. The design of this program is for recent High School Graduates to attend one year of classes that will help to solidify their faith before they go off to college. History has shown that we lose a number of young people once they leave home for “higher education”, as they are unprepared for the constant barrage of atheistic teachings that come their way while away at school. All indicators also show that once they fall away, few ever come back.

There is no tuition. The only cost is for living expenses and books (approximately \$100.00 a quarter), which is a small investment in our children's spiritual future, don't you think?

Spanish Department

The efforts of the **Spanish Department** here at **BTSOP** are always efforts worthy of our commendation! **Jesse**, **Obed** and **Willie** can always be counted on to do their utmost in preparing those that “sit at their feet” to do the work of the evangelist.

The efforts they have been putting forth via the Spanish section of **BTRADIO.NET** is reaching people all over the world. If you speak Spanish, I would encourage you to check out this program. I am sure you will be glad you did. You can access it from either the web address at the bottom of this page or from the School's web site.

Knowing the need to have men prepared to preach the gospel to those of the Spanish speaking world, we encourage you to continue your support of this effort, along with helping **Willie** find additional students for the 2014 enrolment. If you have any questions as to how you might help, please give us a call and we will provide you with the information needed.

School Events - 2013

McClish Avenue church of Christ Campaign, Ardmore, Oklahoma - September 1st-4th

Fall Break - September 22nd - September 29th

Spiritual Sword Lectureship - Memphis, Tennessee - October 20th - 24th

Winter Break - December 16th - January 5th, 2014

Director's Schedule

Alumni Lectureship - Brown Trail church of Christ, Bedford, Texas - August 3rd

Men's Day - Graceton church of Christ, Gilmer, Texas - August 10th

Summer Series - Beltline church of Christ, Irving, Texas - August 21st

Gospel Meeting - McClish Avenue church of Christ - Ardmore, Oklahoma - September 1st - 4th

Sunday Preaching - Blooming Grove church of Christ

Wednesday Bible Class - Brown Trail church of Christ

New Students Needed

If you know of someone that has shown an interest in becoming a preacher, let us hear from you, or have them contact us. We will be glad to meet with them and see how we can help them in preparing themselves to do the greatest work on earth.

Over the past several years statistics have indicated that there is a deficit in the number of preachers in respect to the number of congregations here in the US. This does not address the matter of missionary works that are in need of families to serve both abroad and in remote locations here in the US. Please keep your eyes and ears open, and let us know of anyone you run across that is looking in the direction of serving in this way.

Fill In Preaching

We want to assist as often as possible congregations in the area that are in need of fill in preaching. However, when we are contacted at the "last minute" it may be difficult for us to have someone to send because our students are in high demand. We understand that some times this cannot be helped. But if you know you are going to need someone well in advance, please contact us as soon as possible, and we will do what we can to help. When you call, please ask to speak with **Pat McIntosh**, Dean of Students.

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.

BTRADIO.NET

BTRADIO.NET is in full operation, with the first lesson, "**Our Responsibility to the Truth**" having been delivered April 30th by **Robert Stapleton**. Since then we have had new lessons delivered daily, Monday - Friday, with replays of lessons at different times during the day. In addition to this, congregational singing fills the void between lessons. So far, we have had listeners in 32 countries.

Information is available on our Web Site for those that have "smart phones" or notepads that allows them to download an "app" for their device (see bottom of front page).



Robert Stapleton in the Recording Room

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.

PERRY B. COTHAM
Berry & Shirley Willcox

EARL DeWOODY
Julia Bridges

AUDIE GOLDEN
Dave & Paula Pennington
& family
David Pennington
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

CARMEN HILLIARD
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

LEONA HYCHE
Gary & Mary Murphy

PAUL McCLUNG
Julia Bridges
Carl & Doris Powell
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

MARIE PENNINGTON
Berry & Shirley Willcox

MARVIN RANKIN
Julia Bridges
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

JANE SKAGGS
Gary & Mary Murphy

DOROTHY WHALEN
Julia Bridges
Dave & Paula Pennington
& family
David Pennington
Bob & Marcia Stapleton
Jack & MaryLea Stephens

DAVID WOOD
Julia Bridges
Bev Pratt & Family
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

HONORARIUM:

ROBIN SWEET
Gary & Mary Murphy

This Form Is Provided For Your Convenience

In Honor Of/Memory Of _____

Send Acknowledgement To:

Mr./Mrs./Miss _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Donated By _____

Future Campaigns

Please note, that all our openings for 2013 have been filled. If you are interested in having one in 2014, please contact us as soon as possible as we are making appointments for then. When you call, ask to speak with **Pat Mcintosh**.

Email Copy Available

If you would like to receive your copy of **Fulfilling The Ministry** via email rather than "snail mail," we would be glad to add you to our list.

Sermon Starters

THE BIBLE 2 Timothy 3:16, 17

INTRODUCTION:

1. Within my hand I hold the greatest collection of books that has ever been, or will ever be written.
 - A. This collection of 66 books composes that which we refer to as the Bible.
 - B. The reason that it is referred to as the Bible is not a "religious" reason, but because the word Bible simply means a collection of books.
2. The reason that I say that is not to cast a reflection of doubt upon the Bible.
 - A. But to cause us to realize that the word Bible is not a God given name to this collection of books.
3. It could just as easily and just as rightly be called "The Books," with no damage being done.
4. As far as this collection of books that we call the Bible is concerned, there are some things that we need to be doing with it.
 - A. In this lesson we want to consider these things.

BODY:

1. BELIEVE IT

- A. It claims to be from God - 2 Timothy 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21.
 1. Because of this claim, it should either be believed or proven to be wrong.
- B. Its unity in diversity proves it to be from someone other than man.
 1. A book that has been written over a period of 1500 to 1600 years, by approximately 40 writers, yet without contradiction, suggests that we believe it or prove it wrong.
- C. Fulfilled prophecy proves it.
 1. Within the Old Testament there are over 300 prophecies concerning Christ that have been fulfilled.
 2. This suggests that we either believe it or prove it wrong.
- D. Archaeology and history prove it.
 1. Many archaeologists and historians have proven the Bible.

2. INVESTIGATE IT

- A. Sometimes people act as if they are afraid to have the Bible investigated.
 1. But they shouldn't be.
 2. If we really believe it to be what it claims for itself, why fear an investigation?
 - A. The Bereans of New Testament times were not afraid to investigate - Acts 17:11.
 3. We find that Paul instructed Timothy to "rightly divide the word of God" which would require investigation - 2 Timothy 2:15.
 4. We should use whatever aides that are available to study the Bible, but we should be sure to use them as such, and not as replacements for the Bible.

3. BUILD UPON IT

- A. We should remember the two builders in Matthew 7:24-27.

Sermon Starters - Continued

1. We should be using the Bible to build our Christian lives - Romans 10:17; 2 Peter 1:5.
- B. We can build our Christian lives through keeping the commands that are found in the Bible.
4. **LIVE ITS PRECEPTS**
 - A. There are numerous precepts that are found within the Bible that we should be living by.
 - B. Precepts such as:
 1. Romans 12:1, 2
 - A. Think how the world could be changed if all would live this precept.
 2. Titus 2:11, 12
 - A. In this one, too, think of how the world would change.
 3. 2 Peter 1:5-11
 - A. In what is called the "Christian Graces", if each child of God lived by them how his life would change.
 4. Revelation 3: 15, 16
 - A. This precept offers warning.
5. **ENJOY ITS PROMISES**
 - A. The Bible is filled with promises for those who remain faithful to God after obedience to the gospel.
 - B. Some of these promises are:
 1. 2 Peter 1:3, 4
 2. Matthew 6:33
 3. Romans 8:28
 4. Philippians 4:13
 5. Matthew 25:46

CONCLUSION:

1. Indeed the Bible is the greatest Book ever put together.
 - A. Let us believe it, investigate it, build upon it, live its precepts, and enjoy its promises.

I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. - 2 Timothy 4:1, 2

News from Alumni

Spencer Ross (2008)

Spencer is the new youth and family minister at the Keller church of Christ in Keller, Texas. His address is 380 Country Lane, Haslet, TX 76052. and his email address is spencerross1@hotmail.com.

Paul Delgado (2010)

Paul is the new youth and family minister at the Northwest church of Christ in Fort Worth, Texas. His address is 6312 North Hill Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76135 and his email address is paul.delgado90@gmail.com. We, also, want to extend congratulations to Paul and Kelsie Gonzales who were married July 12th.

BTRADIO.NET Schedule

R. Stapleton	Searching the Scriptures	M-F	<u>6:00</u>
	Replay		<u>12:00</u>
T. Armstrong/	What Is Truth?	M	<u>7:00</u>
C. Johnson	Replay		1:00
J. Manor/	Insight and Encouragement	M	6:00
D. Philips	Replay		8:00
P. McIntosh	Biblical Foundations	T-TH	<u>7:00</u>
	Replay		<u>11:00</u>
J.J. Hendrix	The "Swish"	T-TH	<u>10:00</u>
	Replay		1:00
R. Connor/	Life in the Son	T	5:00
B. Weaver	Replay		7:45
T. Anderson/	Contending for the Faith	TH	4:00
J. Jones	Replay		7:45
M. Bransford/	Do You Know the Truth?	F	<u>7:00</u>
J. Smith	Replay		1:00

Underlined times are a.m. times In addition to the live broadcast, each program will replay the same day as indicated above and a number of times over the next several days. Please tune in, as I am sure you will be glad you did.

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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