

# 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 2015  
No. 93

## From the Director's Desk

Robert Stapleton

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David Hamrick  
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### FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

Tavaris Armstrong

\*\*\*\*\*

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It hardly seems possible that 2015 is already more than half way over! We easily see the brevity of time as each month “flies” by, ushering in yet another month.

Classes resumed July 13th, following the summer break for the students. While away, several of the students took part in camp sessions, mission trips, and visits with their supporters, besides preaching at a number of locations. Much was accomplished for the kingdom due to their efforts.

Over the summer break the facilities of the school were spruced up even more with the addition of new carpet. Previously, during the Spring Break, the entire facility was painted. It had been several years since things had been updated, and we are thankful to be able to do this, making the facilities much brighter and attractive. If you would like to contribute to help off set the expenses, it would be appreciated!



## Newly Carpeted Classroom

## Spanish Department

So many opportunities to serve the kingdom are afforded the students of **BTSOP** in both the English and Spanish Departments. On July 18th, the Spanish Department took part in a door knocking campaign assisting the Northwest congregation in Fort Worth. In September (10th–13th), they will be assisting the 77th Street Iglesia de Cristo in Houston, Texas with a similar campaign.

If you are searching for good Bible materials in Spanish may we recommend **La Palabra Publisher**, a recent venture begun by **Azael Alvarez, Juan Garcia, Juan Luna** and **Roger Medina**, all graduates of **BTSOP Spanish Department**. You can see what is available at [www.lapalabrapublisher.com](http://www.lapalabrapublisher.com).

You may, also, be interested in knowing that these brethren have established the **La Palabra Publisher Lectureship** that will be conducted each July. It is great to see them reach out as they are doing with efforts such as these that glorify God!

## 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.

Over the past two years we have had three students begin this program, with two of them eventually switching to the full two year preacher training program. All three of the young men did quite well, and will be great assets to the kingdom so long as they stay the course set before them!

## Btradio.net

We need your assistance in passing the word 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.

## 2015 Btradio.net Schedule

Searching the Scriptures (Robert Stapleton)	Mon.-Fri.	6:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m.
Do You Know the Truth? (Elves Hadley, and Travion Saxton)	Monday	6:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
Biblical Foundations (Pat McIntosh)	Mon.-Fri.	7:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
What is Truth? (Tavaris Armstrong)	Tue.-Thur.	10:00 a.m. 2:00 p.m.
Behold, I Thought (Marcus Teske and Carlos Tario)	Tuesday	4:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Life in the Son (Marcus Washington and Greg James)	Wednesday	6:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
Contending for the Faith (David Westbrook and Marco Arroyo)	Thursday	4:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
In Search of the Truth (Casey Shawver and Brayden Shelley)	Friday	4:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.

## BTSOP Graduate Program

Please be reminded that the ***Graduate Program*** is up and running, and we would be happy to have you take part in this effort to further your education. If interested, please contact ***Pat McIntosh***, Dean of Students, at 817-268-3222.

## Fulfilling the Ministry

Please let us know if you would like to receive your copy of ***Fulfilling the Ministry*** via the Internet.

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

## 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.

*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)*

## Specific Financial Needs

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

Jesse Martinez Support \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly  
\_\_\_\_\_ One Time

Tavaris Armstrong 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.

## 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.

For those that speak ***Spanish***, ***Willie Alvarenga*** has a list of books available to help you in your study of God's Word. Please contact him for further information on the following:

Exegesis of the New Testament Through the Greek Language

Handling Aright the Word of Truth (Hermeneutics)

Preaching the Word (Homiletics)

Problems Facing the Church

Reasoning Correctly (How to use logic in studying the Bible)

On the Tablet of My Heart (Memorization techniques)

Growing in Doctrine (Topical reference)

Fundamentals of the Faith

Knowing the Truth to Be Saved

Practical Sermons for Your Spiritual Growth

No Other Gospel (A verse-by-verse commentary on Galatians)

Seeking the Lost (Practical principles on evangelism)

# 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.

## BONNIE BELLOWS

Julia Bridges  
Donna Brinkley  
Bob & June Carrothers & family  
Beverly Hentz  
Carl & Doris Powell  
Mark & Gwenda Selby  
Bob & Marcia Stapleton  
Jack & MaryLea Stephens  
Gwen Woodard

## CARLA CARLSON

Bob & Marcia Stapleton

## JOANN HATCH

Bob & Marcia Stapleton

## LOUIS HOSEK

Henry & Nancy Hart

## CECIL HUTSON, SR.

Bobby & June Watts

## MICHAEL KEY

Julia Bridges  
Bob & Marcia Stapleton  
Jack & MaryLea Stephens

## REX OWENS

Donna Brinkley

## EDDY RAY PARKER, JR.

Larry Benedict

## DELORES PETTY

Larry Benedict  
Julia Bridges  
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

## MELANIE RANKHORN

Bob & Marcia Stapleton

## LESTER REAGAN

Julia Bridges  
Carl & Doris Powell  
Bob & Marcia Stapleton  
Jack & MaryLea Stephens  
Gwen Woodard

## GARY WALKER

Gary & Mary Murphy

## HERMAN WALKER

Gary & Mary Murphy

# Sermon Starters

## THE CROSS CENTERED RELIGION

### 1 Corinthians 15:1-4

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. Christianity centers on the cross.
  - A. Without the cross, and that which took place thereupon, there would be no Christianity.
2. In this lesson, we will be considering some things that are centered around the cross of Jesus Christ.

#### BODY:

##### 1. THE CHURCH

- A. The blood that was shed on the cross purchased the church - Acts 20:28; 1 Peter 1:18, 19.
  1. It was through the shedding of the blood of Jesus that the church was bought and paid for.
- B. It was on the cross that Jesus gave Himself for the church - Ephesians 5:25.
  1. If man can be saved out of the church, he can be saved without being blood bought.
    - A. The Apostle Paul wrote that man has redemption through the blood of Christ - Ephesians 1:7.
- C. As in the time after the events of the cross, so it is today.
  1. That which is preached by the church is the gospel which grew out of the cross - 1 Corinthians 1:18.

##### 2. REDEMPTION

- A. As we have already noted, the Apostle Paul wrote that we have redemption through the blood - Ephesians 1:7; 2:16.
- B. But how is it that we are saved by the blood?
  1. In order to understand this we must first realize that Christ's blood was shed in His death, and that we are baptized into His death - Romans 6:3, 4.
    - A. It is in baptism that we reach or contact the blood and our sins are forgiven.
    - B. When we are forgiven, we become a part of the blood-bought church by being added to it by the Lord - Acts 2:47.

##### 3. OBSERVANCE

- A. Our weekly observance of the Lord's Supper shows the death of Him that died on the cross - 1 Corinthians 11:26.
- B. Jesus could have insisted that we build a cross on every corner to remind us of Him; but He did not.
  1. Instead, He instituted the Lord's Supper as a memorial - 1 Corinthians 11:24, 25.
- C. Had Jesus not died on the cross there would have been nothing to set up a memorial for.
  1. Thus, our partaking of the Lord's Supper centers around the cross.

##### 4. SEPARATION OF GOD'S COVENANTS

- A. The Law of Moses "died" when Jesus died on the cross - Colossians 2:14.
  1. Let me quickly add, I did not say the Old Testament died, but the Law of Moses did.
- B. At the cross we have the old being taken away, and the new being added.
  1. The old that was contrary to us was removed - Colossians 2:14.

### This Form Is Provided For Your Convenience

In Honor Of/Memory Of \_\_\_\_\_

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## Web Site

Please be aware of the School's web site address and share it with those that are interested in knowing more about the School, how to enroll, etc. Also, take note that we have a location on the Web Site where sound congregations and preachers can place their ads as they are searching for preachers or churches to work with. These are free and have a wide distribution. We do ask that once the position has been filled, or the preacher locates a congregation to work with, that we are notified so we can remove the ad. The Web Site address is:

[www.browntrailsschoolofpreaching.com](http://www.browntrailsschoolofpreaching.com)

## Sermon Starters - Continued

2. And the new that was built upon better promises was added - Hebrews 7:19-22; 8:6.
  - C. The whole of the Mosaic Law, including the commandments written on stone, was taken out of the way and is no longer in force - 2 Corinthians 3:7.
    1. Now, under the new covenant, many laws that were under the old were re-enacted and are to be obeyed, not because they were a part of the old, but because they are part of the new.
  - D. This separation came about because the old was contrary to us, and was intended to be a temporary covenant - Galatians 3:19.
    1. The seed has come and gone, taking with Him the Law, and establishing a new and better law - Hebrews 9:16, 17.
      - A. All of this centers on the cross.
5. SALVATION
- A. Jesus died on the cross for the sins of mankind - 1 Corinthians 15:3.
  - B. Jesus' death on the cross relates to several facts.
    1. Without the cross, there would have been no death.
    2. Without the death, there would have been no salvation.
    3. Thus, salvation centers on the cross.
  - C. Man becomes free from sin when he obeys the gospel - Romans 1:16.
    1. The gospel is the message concerning the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ - 1 Corinthians 15:1-4.
  - D. In order for one to become a Christian, or to obtain salvation, one must obey the form of death, burial, and resurrection.
    1. Die to sin.
    2. Be buried in baptism.
    3. Raise to walk in newness of life - Romans 6:3, 4.

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

**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](mailto: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.

## News from Alumni

### Charles Tatom (1977)

Charles passed away June 17, 2015. His wife May continues to live in Hurst, Texas.

### Eddy Ray Parker, Jr. (1979)

Eddy Ray passed away April 4, 2015. His wife Lela continues to live in Arlington, Texas.

### Melanie Rankhorn (1994)

Melanie passed away June 13, 2015. James, Melanie's husband, continues to preach for the Sunrush church of Christ in Chillicothe, Ohio.

## Campaign

The students in the *English Department* will conduct their last scheduled campaign for 2015 on September 8th -10th with the *Brown Trail Congregation*. With 2015 quickly wrapping up, we need to look to 2016 in view of possible campaigns. At the present, we have one already on the books, which leaves us space for three more. If interested, please contact us as soon as possible.

## Present Student Body



Return Service Requested

FULFILLING 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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