

# 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 ————

October 2013  
No. 86

## From the Director's Desk

Robert Stapleton

### ELDERS

Maxie Boren  
Kevin Carroll  
Guy Elliott  
Larry Rice  
Bobby Watts

### DIRECTOR

Robert Stapleton

### DEAN OF STUDENTS

Pat McIntosh

### FACULTY

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

### FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

J.J. Hendrix

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The work of training men to serve the church as Gospel Preachers is one that is often filled with challenges. About the time you start to get to understand your students, it is time for them to graduate. However, no other work can be more rewarding than this work. Please continue to pray for the efforts that are being put forth here, and for the other sound schools in our brotherhood.

Recently we have “lost” two of our adjunct instructors. **Charles Billingsley**, who served for several years, recently retired from full time work with the **Las Vegas Trail** congregation in Fort Worth and moved to south Texas. Due to the distance from his new home to the school, **Charles** had to step down from the work here. **Hardeman Nichols**, who also had worked with us for a number of years, reached the point where it was no longer possible for him to fill the demanding schedule he was filling, and will no longer be serving here. We will miss both of these men, and deeply appreciate their efforts and sacrifices on behalf of the work done at **BTSOP** over the past several years.

On Saturday, October 5th, **Pat McIntosh**, full time instructor and Dean of Students, suffered a “mild” heart attack and was out of the classroom for a week. We are happy to report that the treatment he received, and the program he is now on, is helping him regain his strength and leaving him feeling better than he has in some time.

Please continue to pray for our staff and the efforts that are being put forth here by all.

## MTSM Program

If all works out in January as planned, our **Moving Toward Spiritual Maturity Program (MTSM)** will see the largest number of students attending classes since the inception of the program. I remind you that the design of this program is for recent High School Graduates to attend one year of classes that helps to solidify their faith before they go to college. Tragically, 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.

If you are interested in knowing more about this program, please contact us for further information.

## Spanish Department

We are happy to report that we have a good number of potential students for the **Spanish Department** that will be coming in January of 2014. **Willie Alvarenga**, Director of the Spanish Department, has done his normal good job in recruiting new students both from the US and from locations outside the US.

For those that are coming from outside the US, paperwork has been filed with SEVIS, preparing the way for their arrival in early January. Your continued financial support is necessary for these men to be able to attend school at **BTSOP**.

If you would like to have **Willie** or **Jesse Martinez** come to speak to your congregation, as to how you may assist with this effort, please call the school and ask for either of them. One or both would be more than happy to provide you with additional information, or come visit your congregation and provide firsthand information.

Your prayers are coveted for this area of the work of **BTSOP** also.

## School Events - 2013/2014

Thanksgiving Holiday - November 27th (noon) - December 1st

Graduation Banquet - December 13th at 6:30 p.m. at the Brown Trail Building

Graduation - December 15th at 2:00 p.m. at the Brown Trail Building.

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

School Resumes - January 6th, 2014 at 8:00 a.m.

## BTRADIO.NET

**BTRADIO.NET** is producing sound live gospel preaching five days per week from the facilities of the **Brown Trail School of Preaching**. Please note that the full schedule (see page 4 of this publication) is aired over the Internet at **www.btradio.net** while certain programs are aired over the Internet at **www.KnowTheTruthRadio.org** at the same time.

Since the beginning of the work in both English and Spanish we have reached approximately 60 countries with the gospel. Information is available on our web site for those that have "smart phones" or notepads that allows you to download an "app" for their device.

Please help us spread the word by posting information in your local church bulletin. Thanks!

## New Students Needed

The Apostle Paul well summed up the need for gospel preachers when he penned the words found in Romans 10:12-15, "For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon him. 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? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!"

It is painfully evident that over the past several years we have seen 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.

If you know of someone that has shown ability and interest, please have them contact us, or do so yourselves, and our **Field Representative, J.J. Hendrix**, will get in touch with them. It is important that we recognize the urgency in this as people are passing from this life, and souls are being lost at a staggering rate.

## 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.

## Fill In Preaching

Please know that we are happy to assist congregations in the area as often as possible 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**.

## Class Material

We have class outlines available in both English and Spanish on a number of books of the Bible. These make excellent sources of information for those that may have a class to teach. The average cost per outline book is \$5.00 plus shipping.

We, also, have a number of sermon outline books available. One couple I know uses these for their personal study of the Bible, studying one outline a day. There are 50 outlines in each book, and the cost is the same as the class outline books.

## 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.

### BOB BLACKBURN

Julia Bridges  
Carl & Doris Powell  
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

### VIRGINIA DAVIS

L.C. & Jean Cearley

### MARGIE GERMANY

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

### TYLER MORSE

Julia Bridges  
Bob & Marcia Stapleton  
Jack & MaryLea Stephens

### EUGENE RASMUSSEN

Danny Cornish

### JACK SMITHSON

Julia Bridges  
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

### AUSTIN TOLNAY

Julia Bridges

### JAMES BOREN

Mary Ellen Boren

### PAT CLEMENTS

L.C. & Jean Cearley

### ROSE EKLUND

Verna Cage

### ROLAND HADEN

Bob & Marcia Stapleton

### SALLY MILAN

Julia Bridges

### BUTCH RAINEY

Julia Bridges  
Kathy Brewer  
John & Ann Dragoo  
David & Sharon Robinson  
Bob & Marcia Stapleton  
Jack & MaryLea Stephens  
Bobby & June Watts

## Sermon Starters

### WHAT JESUS SAID ABOUT THE WORD OF GOD Matthew 5:17-19

#### INTRODUCTION:

1. Many deny or doubt that the Bible is the Word of God.
  - A. Others claim that it is the Word of God, but they never bother to study it.
    1. They do not form their opinions or govern their decisions by it.
2. There is not a dime's worth of difference between denying the Bible and ignoring it.
  - A. The only difference is in what people say they believe.
3. Neither those who deny nor those who ignore the Bible believe it is God's Word to them as far as it being the standard they are to follow.
  - A. If they did, they would search it to see what is to be done - John 5:39.
4. Jesus did not surround himself by those who denied or ignored the Word of God.
  - A. He lived among those who counted God's Word as being of great importance in their lives.
5. Today, even among many who claim to be God's people, the Word of God suffers greatly.
  - A. People tend to either circumvent the Word of God, or they practically worship it.
6. Let us look at how Jesus looked at the Word of God, and come to a better understanding of how we should do so.

#### BODY:

1. **JESUS SAW THE WORD AS ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY**
  - A. Jesus taught that the Word of God is absolute and final and that it could not possibly fail - Matthew 5:17-19.
  - B. He took the Scriptures very seriously.
    1. He considered them to be the Word of God, and the "smallest" detail to be inspired.
    2. His confidence was so great in the Word of God, that He laid an eternal claim to them - John 10:35.
2. **JESUS SAW THEM TO BE SPIRITUAL TRUTH**
  - A. While the Word of God is absolute and binding, it is not a dead letter.
    1. We hear people talk about the "spirit of the law" instead of the "letter of the law".
      - A. This seems to suggest that the "spirit" and the "letter" are somehow antagonistic.
        1. Yet this is not true.
    - B. Jesus saw the spiritual value of the law of God as revealed through the Word of God.
      1. Jesus brought to attention the spiritual truth found within the words of the law and the prophets.
        - A. Jesus often took Old Testament commandments and revealed their meaning - Matthew 5:21, 22; 5:27-29; 5:31, 32; 5:33-33-37; 5:38-42; 5:43-48.
      - B. He showed the positive principle behind the commandment.
        1. Take the command against murder, for example, as seen in Matthew 5:21.

### This Form Is Provided For Your Convenience

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

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## 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.

## Future Campaigns

If you are interested in having us help with a campaign 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**.

## Sermon Starters - Continued

- A. The positive principle behind this is good will toward others.
- B. Murder results from hatred, malice, and ill will toward others.
- C. But there would be no murders if no one harbored ill will toward another.
- 2. The spirit of the law is broken when one has ill will toward another.
  - A. The letter of the law is broken when one is guilty of murder.
- 3. The same principle is seen in each of the texts that we have read.
- C. Jesus stated that His words are "spirit and life" - John 6:63.
  - 1. If we take the time to see the purposes in the commands of God, and not just what is said, His commands won't be grievous - 1 John 5:3.
- D. God's Word gives us underlying principles that, when overlooked, rob us of the meaning of the Word.
- 3. HE SAW THAT WHEN USED RIGHTLY THEY BECOME A FOUNTAIN OF LIFE**
  - A. Jesus made it clear that the Word of God provides indispensable guidance for living - Matthew 4:4.
    - 1. He was quoting from Deuteronomy 8:3 here.
      - A. We see Him quoting Scripture when tempted by Satan.
    - 2. It is important to see that Jesus used the underlying principles of the Scriptures, while Satan misused the words.
  - B. Jesus knew that the truth of God's Word resulted in life - John 17:17.
- 4. JESUS SAW THAT MORE THAN KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORD WAS NECESSARY**
  - A. The parable of the sower clearly teaches this valuable lesson - Matthew 13:1-9.
  - B. When one carefully studies this parable they will see that proper application of God's Word is important.

### CONCLUSION:

- 1. We can learn so much from Jesus.
  - A. Every aspect of His life teaches us better how to live as God would have us.
- 2. In endeavoring to follow in His footsteps, we must look upon the Scriptures in the same way He did - 1 Peter 2:21.

## News from Alumni

### Ed Stover (2007)

Ed is now working with the Pine Street church of Christ in Vivian, Louisiana. Their new address is 706 W. Georgia Ave., Vivian, LA 71082. His cell phone # is 903-752-1167 and his email address is ed.stover@att.net.

## BTRADIO.NET Schedule

R. Stapleton	Searching the Scriptures	M-F	<u>6:00</u>
	Replay		12:00
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.

**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.

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