

# 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 2016  
No. 98

## From the Director's Desk

Robert Stapleton

### ELDERS

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Guy Elliott  
David Hamrick  
Bobby Watts

### DIRECTOR

Robert Stapleton

### DEAN OF ADMISSIONS/ STUDENTS

Tavaris Armstrong

### FACULTY

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Gerald Ball  
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Ken Hope  
Jaime Luna  
Jesse Martinez  
Pat McIntosh  
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2016 is rapidly passing as each day flies by and we will soon be graduating another class. When students first arrive for classes, two years seems like an “eternity” for them. However, it is not long until they start asking where the

time has gone. Relationships are often made that will stay with them through their entire careers as preachers of the gospel. Please, especially, pray for the students that will graduate in December, and for the new families that will arrive to begin classes in early January.

## An Urgent Appeal

Last year at this time we made mention of “An Urgent Appeal” for funds to get the School back in the black. Due to our not receiving large donations like we had in the past, our funds were running short. Because of the love that many of you have for the training of men to preach the gospel, the funds were raised to get us out of the red and into the black. Please know that we deeply appreciate what was done. Thankfully the necessary funds are still coming in, allowing us to be on top of our expenses. However, I do want to ask you that, with budgets being made for 2017, to please keep us in mind, so we can continue to complete the goal before us. Much good has been done this year due to the efforts of **BTSOP** and each of our supporters as we share in those efforts. Of course, with new students coming in, if you can add a little additional to what is being sent that would be appreciated too!

## Personnel Change

In the previous issue of *Fulfilling the Ministry* it was mentioned that **Marco Arroyo**, upon his graduation in December, would be working with the **Spanish Department** as the Field Representative. However, after further consideration and prayer, **Marco** has decided to seek full time work with a congregation as their evangelist. When he came to me informing me of the change of direction, I told him that as long as he was serving God then Godspeed to his efforts. Please keep **Marco** and **Maggie** in your prayers as they prepare for this new direction in life.

## Spanish Department

The efforts of the **Spanish Department** continue to go well. As often mentioned, **Willie Alvarenga**, **Jesse Martinez**, and **Obed Rodriguez** have been doing a great job in seeing that all that is needed to make this Department a success is accomplished. However, with only three men to teach all the courses, this has really caused some to have to work “overtime” to get everything done. In view of this, we are happy to inform you that beginning in January 2017 **Jaime Luna**, a 2012 graduate of **BTSOP**, will begin teaching one class a quarter. **Jaime** is excited about this opportunity and we are excited for him.

If you would like information about supporting **Jaime** or any other area of the **Spanish Department**, please call the School and ask to speak with **Willie**.

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.” (Romans 1:16)

## 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.

## 2016 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. and Ronnie Fisher, Sr.)	Monday	7:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
Behold, I Thought (Dale Choate, Carlos Tario and Michael Windham)	Tuesday	4:30 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Life in the Son (Brandon Ferguson and Greg James)	Wednesday	6:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m.
Contending for the Faith (Marco Arroyo and Billy Palmer)	Thursday	4:00 p.m. 8:00 p.m.
Foundational Principles (Rickey Brown and Joe Nimock)	Friday	7:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.
In Search of the Truth (Cody McCoy and Brayden Shelley)	Friday	4:00 a.m. 8:00 p.m.

## Web Site

Please be aware of the School's web site address and share it with those that are interested in knowing more about us, how to enroll, etc.

***www.browntrailsofpreaching.com***

## 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.

## Campaigns/Gospel Meetings

We are thankful for the number of Campaign/Gospel Meetings that we have been able to participate in this year. Thousands of doors have been knocked with many thousands of pieces of literature on the Lord's church having been distributed. A large number of people have learned the gospel and have become Christians due to these efforts. If the congregation that you attend would be interested in such an event in 2017 or even later than that, please get in touch with **Tavaris** so he can add you to the schedule.

## 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.***

## Spanish Lectureship

This year's lectureship will take place on November 5th at the ***Brown Trail*** building starting at 8 a.m. with breakfast and the first lesson starting at 9 a.m. Following the morning sessions lunch will be served at noon, with an open forum following at 2 pm. In total, there will be 8 lessons presented. There will also be a lectureship book available at a reasonable cost.

The lessons will be broadcast over the internet on the Brown Trail congregation's web site at <http://btcoc.com/index.php> If you speak Spanish, I am sure you will benefit from tuning in to this lectureship.

## 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. When calling, please ask for **Tavaris**. If he is unavailable please give your name, congregation name, dates when someone is needed, and a call back phone number and email address. He will get back to you as soon as possible.

## 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.

# 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.

## FLOY BIGGS

Julia Bridges  
Bob & Marcia Stapleton  
Bobby & June Watts

## VICTOR CARDENAS

Julia Bridges  
Bob & Marcia Stapleton  
Bobby & June Watts

## GARY CONNER

Gary Sanders  
Bob & Marcia Stapleton

## MYRON CORNWELL

Carl & Doris Powell  
Gwen Woodard

## CARL GARNER

A.T. Dawson &  
Barbara Wesley

## J.J. JACKSON

Larry & Pat Benedict

## MARIE PENNINGTON

David Pennington, Sr.

## MAXIE B. BOREN

Dick & Margaret Atkins  
Larry & Pat Benedict  
Mary Ellen Boren  
Kevin & Kathy Carroll  
Bob & June Carrothers  
Scott & Annette Carrothers  
John & Ann Drago  
Tommie Greer  
Henry & Nancy Hart  
Hut & Kim Hutto  
Elaine Lane  
Larry & Vicki McWilliams  
Bob & Marcia Stapleton  
Jack & MaryLea Stephens  
Bobby & June Watts

## MILDRED GARLISH

Jean Cearley

## EDDIE HILL

Jay & Donna Vanous

## PANSY McCLENDON

Larry & Pat Benedict  
Ida Kelley Family

# Sermon Starters

## THE RESULTS OF OBEDIENCE

Luke 6:46-49

### INTRODUCTION:

1. People do not like to speak about obedience today, especially when it comes to the Scriptures and religious matters.
2. Nearly everyone seems to be going about seeking to obtain heaven by doing their own "thing".
  - A. And their "thing" usually omits obedience.
  - B. Much like it was with Israel as they went about doing what was right in their own eyes - Judges 17:6; 21:25.
3. But whatever we have to say about the subject, it pales in light of what the Bible has to say - Luke 6:46-49.
4. In this lesson we want to look at what the New Testament has to say about the results of obedience.

### BODY:

1. **OBEDIENCE HAS BEEN AND WILL ALWAYS BE REQUIRED**
  - A. The need for man's obedience is first seen in Genesis 2:16, 17.
  - B. Prior to the giving of the Ten Commandments Moses instructed the Israelites relative to the necessity of obedience - Deuteronomy 5:1.
  - C. One cannot help but to see several New Testament passages that speak relative to obedience - John 14:15; Romans 6:16, 17; Philippians 2:12.
2. **GOD HAS AND WILL ALWAYS BLESS THE OBEDIENT**
  - A. He blessed Enoch - Genesis 5:24; Hebrews 11:5.
  - B. He blessed Israel - Deuteronomy 28:1-6.
  - C. He blesses the church - Hebrews 5:9; Revelation 2:10, 11.
3. **GOD HAS AND WILL PUNISH THE DISOBEDIENT**
  - A. The world - Genesis 6:5-8.
  - B. Sodom and Gomorrah - Genesis 19:24, 25.
  - C. Nadab and Abihu - Leviticus 10:1, 2.
  - D. Israel - 2 Chronicles 36:13-21.
  - E. Ananias and Sapphira - Acts 5:1-11.
  - F. The Corinthian church - 1 Corinthians 5:1-5.
  - G. In 2 Peter 2:4-10 we see God punished :
    1. The angels - v. 4
    2. The old world of Noah's time - v. 5
    3. And He delivered the righteous - v. 9
4. **GOD HAS PREPARED THE FINAL CONSEQUENCES FOR**
  - A. The obedient - Revelation 2:7; 3:5, 12; 1 Peter 1:9
  - B. The disobedient - Romans 2:8, 9; 2 Thessalonians 1:6-9; Revelation 20:15.

### CONCLUSION:

1. There can be no doubt that God demands obedience.
  - A. The question is, "Are we willing to comply with His wishes?"

*"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)*

### This Form Is Provided For Your Convenience

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

Send Acknowledgement To:

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City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Donated By \_\_\_\_\_

*"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. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry." (2 Timothy 4:1-5)*

## News from Alumni

### *Heiner Montealto (2014)*

**Heiner** is the preacher for the Iglesia de Cristo, Bagaces, Costa Rica. They recently held the first lectureship for the churches of Christ in Costa Rica. The theme was "The Real Work of the Church." Brethren were scheduled to come from Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama and the US to support this effort.

If you would like to have updates posted here please email them to me. Thanks!

## Graduation

Although a few weeks away, graduation weekend is quickly approaching. The Banquet will be Friday, December 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room of the Brown Trail building. The cost for the meal will be \$5.00 for ages 12 and up, \$3.00 for ages 3-12, and free for those under 3 years of age. Graduation will follow on Sunday, December 11th at 2:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Brown Trail building.

All are invited to attend one or both of these activities to encourage the graduates and their families as they leave **BTSOP** and enter full time work for the Lord.

## Incoming Students

Presently, we have seven new students lined up to start classes January 2, 2017 with three of them coming from **El Salvador** and **Mexico**. All of them, of course, will be looking for financial support to be able to attend classes. If your congregation or family budget will allow you to assist one or more of these men and their families, it would be greatly appreciated. You may contact **Tavaris** (English speaking students) or **Willie** (Spanish speaking students) for information on one or more of them.

## 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](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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