



BROWN TRAIL SCHOOL OF PREACHING HISPANIC DEPARTMENT

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE HISPANIC DEPARTMENT

Where The Old Paths Are Still New

Donde Los Senderos Antiguos Todavía Son Nuevos

THE ESTABLISHMENT

The Brown Trail School of Preaching Hispanic Department was established in August of 2004. Plans were presented to the school director and the Brown Trail elders about the possibility of starting a new Hispanic Department, where the same number of courses from the English Department could be presented to the Hispanic students. The elders, along with the school director agree to proceed with the plans that were presented. Thanks to God, the Hispanic Department started with three students who were able to study in a full time capacity. These three students were able to finish the two years of study at Brown Trail. They are now preaching in different parts of Texas. God has blessed this Department in many ways since its establishment.

THE ELDERS

The Brown Trail School of Preaching is under the oversight of the elders of the Brown Trail church of Christ and receives primary funding from the congregation, supplemented by other interested churches and individuals. Only eternity will reveal the great good that has been accomplished by the sacrifice and dedication of so many to the task of training gospel preachers. The elders are: Maxie Boren, Guy Elliot, Eddy Parker, Larry Rice and Bobby Watts.

THE DIRECTOR

Our school director is brother Robert Stapleton. He was born at Orient, Ohio and was baptized at the Grant and Summit church of Christ building in Portsmouth, Ohio in February 1972, by Philip Curtis.

Presently serves as Director of Brown Trail School of Preaching. Received a Ph.D. from Theological University of America. Has served in Ohio and Indiana. Also served seven years+ of full-time missionary work in Tanzania, and East Africa, where he established the Chimala School of Preaching in 1987. Served as stateside "Coordinator" of Chimala Mission Hospital & Schools, located in Tanzania. He and his wife Marcia, have four children. Two sons, along with their wives, serve as missionaries in Tanzania. Their oldest son now serves as the Chimala Coordinator. Their daughter completed her studies at UTA and is an accountant.

In December 2003 he began full time work with the Brown Trail School of Preaching as Director. In that capacity his responsibilities include directing the school and its activities, along with raising funds, recruiting students, and teaching numerous classes each quarter.

Robert is available for presentations on behalf of Brown Trail, along with fill in preaching appointments for congregations in need of such. We appreciate very much the support brother Stapleton gives to the Hispanic Department.

THE DEAN

Our Dean for the Hispanic Department is Willie Alvarenga. He attended the Brown Trail School of Preaching in 2000, having graduated in 2001. He has served as a Dean for the Hispanic Department since August of 2004. In January of 2007, he began working full time with the Hispanic Department. He preached 5 years for the Hispanic congregation in Lufkin, TX, where he also did radio work for 3 years. Willie used to drive 8 hours each week to the school (2004-2006). Willie received his BA in Biblical Studies from the Theological University of America. His responsibilities include being the Dean of students, admissions, and also instructor for the Hispanic Department. He will be involved in seeking prospect students, as well as raising support for students. He is originally from San Salvador, CA. Willie and his wives Maria have two daughters.

THE CURRICULUM

The curriculum for the Hispanic Department is the same as the one in the English Department. 58 courses are being offered to the students in the Hispanic Department. Additional courses such as ESL are being offered to the students who don't speak very much English.

The curriculum is design to help the students become effective gospel preachers. Courses such as Homiletics, Hermeneutics, and others help the student to present the Word of God in a powerful way. We try to always teach sound doctrine to our students (Titus 2:1; 2 Tim. 1:13). We believe that the power to save the lost is in God's Word and not in ourselves (Rom. 1:16; 2 Cor. 4:5).

The Brown Trail School of Preaching affords the unique opportunity and privilege of intensive investigation of the Holy Scriptures. Unlike seminaries and schools of theology, the school of preaching curriculum remains unencumbered by an emphasis upon "theology." Instead, students are able to concentrate upon the text itself, literally covering the entire Bible in a period of two years. Due to the intense and demanding workload, students must devote full time to their studies and refrain from secular employment while enrolled in the school.

For more information on the courses that are being taught at the school, please visit our school website at www.browntrailsofpreaching.com

THE PURPOSE OF THE SCHOOL

The primary purpose of the Brown Trail School of Preaching Hispanic Department is to produce preachers of the gospel who engage in a full-time church work (2 Tim. 4:1-5). However, other individuals, both men and women, can attend the school simply to enhance Bible understanding and improve skills for other areas of Christian service.

We also have several other sub-purposes that can be noted: (a) to deepen respect for the inspiration, authority and all sufficiency of the Bible; (b) to develop individuals who possess a breadth of Bible teaching, having been exposed to the entire Bible to a significant degree; (c) to inspire a genuine love for people and a genuine commitment to influencing them with the truth; (d) to enhance personal spiritual and emotional maturity and deepen one's awareness of the need for God in one's life; (e) to prepare individuals to meet the challenges and threats posed by current culture and false religion within and without the church.

THE INSTRUCTORS

The instructors for the Hispanic Department are Willie Alvarenga & Obed Rodriguez. These instructors have been in charge of the teaching program at Brown Trail. Obed Rodriguez preaches full time for the Hispanic congregation that meets in Everman, TX. Brother Rodriguez is also a graduate of the Brown Trail School of Preaching (2001). He drives every morning to the school, and teaches several courses. Our instructors in the Hispanic Department are sound in the faith. They work very hard so that the school can continue to hold to the pattern of sound words (2 Tim. 1:13).

THE FACILITIES

The facilities of the Brown Trail School of Preaching are housed within the Brown Trail church building. The school is in the process of building more classrooms. The school contains a student break room, a study room, a spacious chapel and faculty offices. The school enjoys a first rate library currently containing more than 8,000 volumes. The library is staffed by several Brown Trail members who spend many hours contributing to the quality of the library facility. In addition to these books, we now have the books of the late Dr. Thomas B. Warren. We have them housed in a separate room as the Faye and Thomas B. Warren Reference Collection. At the present time, we don't have as many Spanish books as we would like. If you would like to donate Spanish reference books to the school, we would be more than happy to take those off your hand. These books will be of great help to the students from the Hispanic Department.

THE STUDENTS

At the present time, the Hispanic Department has 10 students who are studying the Word of God in a full time capacity. They study the Bible from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm. The students come from different parts of the country and also from Mexico.

ENTRANCE DATES

Students who wish to study at BTSOPHD may do so in January or July of each year. Classes begin on that day, following the registration assembly.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISION

Students who plan to enroll in the Brown Trail School of Preaching Hispanic Department should complete the application and mail it to the school. Please arrange to get all application materials to the school no later than one month before the enrollment of school. It is strongly recommended that the applicant initiate his application much earlier since several weeks are needed to complete the processing of the application.

ADMISSION

Admission is extended to any person of any race who is a member of the church of Christ and who is serious in his intent to prepare himself to serve the Lord more effectively. Admission is an individual matter and the Brown Trail School of Preaching reserves the right to admit or decline applicants upon the basis of personal qualifications. When all the application requirements have been met by the student and acted upon the Brown Trail elders or their representatives, the applicant will be notified of his acceptance or rejection. A personal interview may be required as a part of the application process.

No person who has been convicted of a crime and who has been incarcerated will be permitted to enroll until at least 2 years after their release from prison. They must then meet all the usual criteria for admission including possessing an unquestioned Christian character and they must demonstrate a serious and sustained desire to serve the Lord. A personal interview will also be required as a part of the admission procedure.

GRADUATES

The Hispanic Department has had the privilege of graduating two generations. The first generation had three students completing the two year program. The second generation had one student and his wife. These graduates are now preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ in different parts of Texas.

OUR PRESENTE NEED

The Hispanic Department cannot continue unless congregations and individuals support the efforts that are taken place at this fine institution. We are in great need of brethren that are willing to support the school. There are many ways of how you can help us. Consider the following options.

1. You can pray for the school
2. You can support an instructor financially
3. You can support a student for two years
4. You can make a one time donation to the school
5. You can recommend a student to the school
6. You can give us the opportunity to visit your congregation to inform you about our work
7. You can support the Dean of Students financially so that he may continue to help in the school

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE HISPANIC DEPARTMENT

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PLEASE INCLUDE THE SCHOOL OF PREACHING IN YOUR PERSONAL BUDGET