

Communication I: *God-Centered Preaching & The God-Centered Preacher* **Syllabus - January, 2010**

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Course Purpose

The purpose of this course is to help students cultivate a Biblical / Reformed understanding of the preaching of the Word of God.

Course Goals

1. To foster confidence in the Word of God to save, sanctify and comfort God's elect.
2. To understand the relationship between preaching and worship (Liturgy).
3. To consider the profound benefits of *lectio continua* preaching.
4. To introduce the rich history of Biblical preaching throughout the ages.
5. To learn the biblical qualifications for the calling and preparation of the preacher.

General Course Outline

1. Introduction to Course: An Overview Of What Biblical Preaching Is ... and Is Not.
2. Preaching & Scripture, Part I: Inerrancy, Authority, Efficacy, & Sufficiency.
3. Preaching & Scripture, Part II: Inerrancy, Authority, Efficacy, & Sufficiency.
4. Preaching & the Reformed Confessions
5. Seminar One: Essay & Book Reviews, discussion, etc.
6. How Shall We Then Preach? A Brief Look at Different Styles of Preaching With a Specific Focus Upon Systematic Expository Preaching (*Lectio Continua*).
7. The History of *Lectio Continua* Preaching, Part I
8. The History of *Lectio Continua* Preaching, Part II
9. Seminar Two: Essay & Book Reviews, discussion, etc.
10. Preaching As Worship Part I: Exploring the themes of covenant renewal and the relationship between preaching and the various elements of a Reformed liturgy.
11. Preaching As Worship, Part II: Exploring the themes of covenant renewal and the relationship between preaching and the various elements of a Reformed liturgy.
12. Preaching As Worship, Part III: Exploring the themes of covenant renewal and the relationship between preaching and the various elements of a Reformed liturgy.
13. Seminar Three: Essay & book reviews, discussion, etc.
14. The Call of the Preacher: Understanding the internal and external call.
15. The Preparation of the Preacher, Part I: Biblical qualifications, theological education, personal piety, a heart for Christ's flock, etc.
16. The Preparation of the Preacher: Part II: Biblical qualifications, theological education, personal piety, a heart for Christ's flock, etc.

17. Seminar Four: Essay & book reviews, discussion, etc.
18. Review / Final Lecture / Exam

Required Reading

1. D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Preaching & Preachers* (Edinburgh: Banner of Truth, 1971) 325 pgs
2. Hughes Old, *The Reading And Preaching Of The Scriptures in the Worship of the Christian Church, Volume 4: The Age of the Reformation* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002) 514 pgs
3. Jon D. Payne, *In the Splendor of Holiness: Rediscovering the Beauty of Reformed Worship for the 21st Century* (White Hall, W.V.: Tolle Lege Press, 2008) 120 pgs
4. T. David Gordon, *Why Johnny Can't Preach* (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R, 2009) 108 pgs.

Essay Topics

1. Preaching as a Means of Grace
2. A Modern Preaching Crisis & an Ancient Solution
3. The Foolishness of Preaching
4. *Lectio Continua* Preaching & the Protestant Reformation
5. *It Shall Not Return Void*: The Sufficiency and Efficacy of Faithful Preaching

Grading Scale

Essay: 50%
Seminars: 10%
Final Exam: 25%
Required Reading: 15%