

Communications 1 - 2PT508

Course Syllabus - Summer 2008

Instructor: Larry Kirk
Reformed Theological Seminary, Orlando Florida
E-mail address:Lkirk@cccdaytona.org

Phone Number:(386) 238-1956

Course description.

This course addresses communication for pastors with an emphasis on preaching philosophy and style, textual exposition, and sermon structure. Written and oral, verbal and non-verbal communication are included. 2 hours.

Course distinctives.

This is not primarily a course on the philosophy of preaching but rather a practical introduction to the task of preaching in particular and of public speaking in general. *Because of its introductory nature certain standards of sermon preparation and construction will be taught in this class. These standards should be considered foundational and not universal. There is more than one right way or style with which to approach the task of preaching and public speaking. However students in this course will be held accountable to learn the standards and principles taught in this course.*

Course objectives.

Knowing.

- To understand the biblical and theological principles of homiletics.
- To understand basic sermon components and their functions.
- To understand the fundamentals of sermon preparation and delivery.
- To understand the priority and practice of Christ-centered preaching.

Being.

- Increased confidence in preparing and delivering Christ-centered expository sermons.
- Deepening commitment to and experience of Christ-centered life and ministry.
- Clear conviction of the power and importance of Christ-centered preaching.

Doing.

- Increased competence in public speaking in general and sermon delivery in particular.
- Increased ability to construct and deliver biblically sound, Christ-centered sermons.

Required Reading.

Chapell, Bryan. *Christ-Centered Preaching: Redeeming The Expository Sermon*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1994. Piper, John. *The Supremacy Of God In Preaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1990. Selections from Keller, Tim. *Preaching The Gospel In A Post-Modern World*. Dr. Keller has given permission for the use of certain course material from the Doctor of Ministry course by the same name. This material is included in the class notes for this course, which are available through IQ web at rts.edu.

All of the required reading mentioned above will need to be completed prior to the beginning of the class. **A reading report on Chapell, and Keller will be due the first day. This report must adhere to the attached "Reading Report Form"**. The Piper Reading Report can be turned in with the final sermon product.

Other brief readings may be required during the course of the class. Students are encouraged to read all of the photocopied articles included at the end of the class notes.

Class Quizzes, Exercises and Assignments.

Various homework assignments will be given during the class to prepare for class sessions. Evaluation will be based on written submissions, classroom participation and presentations. Several quizzes and or a mid term may be given during the course. These tests will cover the reading assignments and lecture material and will be announced before hand.

Completed Sermon Manuscript.

One of the goals of this course is to construct an entire sermon applying the different elements learned in the course. Various portions of this sermon will be due at different points during the class. Requirements for the sermons manuscript will be discussed in greater detail during the course. These requirements in general terms are as follows:

- The sermon must be turned in no later than four weeks after the last day of class.
- The sermon must be expository and reflect about 30 minutes length.
- The sermon must be Christ-centered (i.e. must draw a connection to the person and work of Christ whether it is central to your particular sermon or not.
- The sermon must be submitted typed and double-spaced with outline points clearly delineated and other selected features noted in the margins.
- The sermon will be evaluated on the basis of content and conformity to the standards taught in this class.

Reading Reports.

To repeat what was stated earlier, under required reading, all of the required reading mentioned will need to be completed prior to the beginning of the class. The Piper Reading Report can be turned in with the final sermon product. **A reading report on Chapell, and Keller will be due the first day. This report must adhere to the attached "Reading Report Form".**

Course Requirements And Grading.

1. Attendance and diligence. Grade reductions will occur as a result of late or unprepared assignments and/or excessive absences or tardiness.
 2. Occasional Tests On Reading Assignments And Lecture Content. 15% of final grade
 3. Written Assignments from Reading and Lectures. 25% of final grade
 4. Sermon Component Assignments And Presentations 20% of final grade
 5. Completed Sermon Manuscript 40% of final grade
- Total 100%

COMMUNICATIONS 1 READING REPORT FORM

Professor: Larry Kirk

Your Name:

Date:

Title And Author of Book:

Report:

(Limit your report to one page and write approximately one paragraph per topic.)

1. Overview - Give a brief overview of the book, including its theme, perspective and approach.

2. Critique - Offer a brief critique of the book, including elements of strength and weakness.

3. Application - Offer some specific application to your own ministry demonstrating the value and relevance of the material in this book.

4. Best Quote - Be sure to include the page number where the quote can be found.

