Instructor: Bob Orner, Guest Lecturer of Practical Theology.
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Office Hours: I am generally on campus Monday through Thursday 9 to 4. If the door is open, you are free to come in.

Class Meeting: Thursdays 3-5PM

I. Course description: This communications lab course will focus on developing the practical skills and values needed for effective, Christ-centered, biblical preaching.

II. Course objectives
A. 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
   ✓ To understand the specific challenges of preaching in the present culture
B. 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
   ✓ Increased sensitivity to cultural issues as they relate to the task of preaching
C. Doing
   ✓ Increased competence in public speaking in general and sermon delivery in particular.
   ✓ Increased ability to construct and deliver biblically sound, culturally relevant Christ-centered sermons.

III. Course Assignments
A. Preaching Assignments
   1. Student will be required to preach at least one expository sermon. In addition to this the student will be given at least two or more smaller "sermon component" assignments.
   2. All assignments will be based on one Scripture text and may be chosen by the student. This means you will study one passage of Scripture, but use it in multiple assignments
   3. All texts must be approved by the instructor. You may ask permission to adjust the verse selection of your assigned text by adding or deleting a few verses but any adjustments must receive prior approval.
   4. After speaking/preaching each time in class the student will receive critical feedback from the instructor and your fellow students. This feedback will help the student develop a plan for improving both sermon preparation and delivery.
   5. For all assignments you will submit a complete manuscript to the instructor unless otherwise instructed.
B. **Sermon Criteria:**
   1. The sermon will be an expository sermon.
   2. The sermon will begin with an introduction that creates interest, identifies a need and leads into the text and topic.
   3. The sermon will contain a main idea, thought or proposition that can be clearly stated in a single sentence. (This must be identified in the manuscript)
   4. The sermon must contain a clear outline that includes main points expressed in complete sentence statements.
   5. Each main point must be clearly demonstrated as derived from the text and must be clearly developed in the exposition.
   6. Each main point must be developed, illustrated and applied. The exposition must display thoughtful study of the Scripture that is faithful to the text.
   7. The illustrations must be well chosen and appropriate.
   8. The application must be biblical, clear, culturally relevant, and Christ-centered.
   9. The conclusion of the sermon must be crafted to bring the sermon to a purposeful ending.
   10. The sermon delivery must demonstrate good delivery values and skills, such as dependence on the Holy Spirit, heartfelt passion, and the ability to engage with the listeners in a meaningful way.

C. **Critical Interactions And Discussions**
   As part of the class you may be required to listen to, critique and discuss sermons from outside preachers. This will be done during class time. You will also be required to interact critically but constructively with each student’s preaching.

D. **Other Assignments**
   Depending on the size and needs of the class, students may also be given other assignments designed to improve their speaking ability. The professor will determine these assignments during the course. There is no advance reading required for this course.

IV. **Grading**

A. **Grading Scale**
   Grades will be assigned according to the RTS grading system: 100-97=A, 96-94=A-, 93-91=B+, 90-88=B, 87-86=B-, 85-83=C+, 82-80=C, 79-78=C-, 77-75=D+, 74-72=D, 71-70=D-, below 70=F.

B. **Late Assignments Policy**
   Please do not ask me for permission to turn in an assignment late. All late assignments will automatically be penalized. If you have truly been providentially hindered from completing an assignment on time (such as a death in the immediate family) please turn in a written request.

C. **Grading Percentages:**
   - Class Attendance Participation 20%
   - Sermon Component assignments 30%
   - Sermon assignment 30%
   - Other Assignments* 20%
Personal Student Information

Please fill this out and turn it in during the first class.

Name: ________________________________________________________________

Spouse name: __________________________________________________________

Children, name(s) and age(s):

1. __________________________________________
2. __________________________________________
3. __________________________________________
4. __________________________________________
5. __________________________________________
6. __________________________________________

RTS degree program/emphasis: ____________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________________

Years at RTS Orlando: _____________________________________________________

Church presently attending: ________________________________________________

Denomination background (Southern Baptist, PCA, etc.): _________________________

I have preached in an actual church worship service approximately _____ times.

I have taught or spoken in a public setting _____ times.

As of today:

☐ I have a strong call to a preaching/teaching ministry.
☐ I do not believe preaching/teaching will be the primary focus of my ministry.
☐ I am still seeking what role God has for me in His Kingdom.
Desired future ministry role (pastor, church planter, missionary, counselor, etc.): ____________
___________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________

What role do you believe Preaching/teaching will play in this ministry? _________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

What is the hardest part of preaching for you? _______________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

What are your expectations of the course? What would you like to learn? _________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________

What is one subject/topic that you will like to discuss in class this semester? ______________
______________________________________________________________________________

What is a specific, personal prayer request you would like the professor to be remembering in
prayer for you this semester? ______________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________________________