

**THIRD YEAR**  
PRE-CLASS WRITTEN ASSIGNMENT - 2016  
**PERKINS COURSE OF STUDY SCHOOL**

**324 - Preaching**  
(PRACTICE OF PREACHING 214)

**Due to a new appointment, Rev. Dr. Barry Hughes [hughesb@mail.smu.edu](mailto:hughesb@mail.smu.edu) is no longer able to teach this course. However, the pre-class assignments and coursework remain the same. The new instructor is Rev. David Mosser, he can be reached at [dnmosser@arlingtonmethodist.org](mailto:dnmosser@arlingtonmethodist.org).**

This course focuses on preaching the gospel from the Old and New Testaments.

Students will be able to:

1. Articulate a theology of proclamation.
2. Exegete a variety of biblical passages for preaching.
3. Evaluate sermons for biblical integrity, theological soundness, internal logic, and delivery, and appropriate insights gained from the evaluation of their own sermons.
4. Develop plans for ordering and delivering sermons in their congregational and communal context.

**Textbooks:**

- Long, Thomas G. *The Witness of Preaching*, Second Edition (ISBN 0664229433)
- Thomas, Frank, *They Like To Never Quit Praisin' God* (ISBN 0-8298- 1181- 8)

**Articles below are located on COSS pre-class website.**

Furnish, Victor, "Practical Guidelines for New Testament Exegesis (RECOMMENDED)  
McKenzie, Alyce M. "Biblical Exegesis for Preaching" (REQUIRED)

**Assignment #1 (Responding to Four Questions based on Your Reading of Long's book)**

The Identity of the Preacher

1. Long discusses four images of the preacher in Chapter 1 of *The Witness of Preaching*. Where do you find yourself with regard to each? How does your current preaching ministry already reflect this model? Do you perhaps need to incorporate some aspect of it more fully into your preaching ministry? What are the most important strengths of each model and the most dangerous weakness in your opinion? (4 pages)

The Use of Illustrations

2. Long lists three basic types of illustrations in Chapter 8: the example, the analogy and the metaphor. Which type do you use most often in your preaching? Which type would you like to use more often? Suppose you only used one type and never any others? What would be the drawbacks? (2 pages)
3. Long also lists several sources of illustrations in Chapter 8: the preacher's own life, preacher's imagination, the surrounding world, and the media. Which of these sources is your favorite, judging from its frequency in your sermons? Which would you like to use more, and what do you think the benefits would be for your congregation? (2 pages)

4. What, in your opinion, makes for an effective use of personal example? An ineffective use? Give an example of each that you have heard or preached yourself. (Please keep negative examples anonymous). (2 pages)

**Assignment #2: Exegetical Work and Sermon Manuscript based on Dr. Alyce Mckenzie's Method**

Choose from one of these texts.

Mark 14:1-11

Mark 10:46-52

Mark 10:32-45

*This assignment includes the submission of:*

- Cover Sheet: Your Name, Sermon Title, Text, Sermon Form you've Chosen, Date, Course and Professor
- Exegetical Process Paper(see instructions below)
- Sermon Manuscript: Using one of the 4 Forms from *How to Preach a Parable*

**Instructions**

Exegete your passage using "Biblical Exegesis for Preaching" by Alyce M. McKenzie. Consult 4 sources in doing your exegetical work. No more than 1 can be an online resource. Use commentaries written after 1975. Give brief answers to the steps in the process. Be alert for the Spirit's working in your mind and heart and allow hunches and "sacred sparks" to develop as you move through the process. Include a bibliography at the end. (5-6 pages)

Sermon Manuscript: Double spaced, corrected for typos and spelling and grammatical errors. (Length may vary, but aim for a 15 minute sermon, which would be about 4 ½ -5 pages.).

**Assignment # 3: Exegetical Work and Sermon Based on Frank Thomas' book *They Like to Never Quit Praisin' God* based on one of these texts**

Choose from one of these texts.

James 1:19-26

Isaiah 55:6-13

Genesis 32:22-32

*This assignment includes the submission of:*

Cover Sheet (your name, sermon text, sermon title, class and professor)

- 4 page Account of Your Sermon Preparation Process using Thomas' method (see instructions below for details)
- Preaching Worksheet (answers to questions Thomas asks on p. 75 for your sermon)
- Sermon Manuscript (Double spaced; edited for grammar and spelling; 5-6 pages in length)

**Instructions:**

Use Thomas' method of sermon preparation (*They Like to Never Quit Praisin' God* pp. 63-83) to prepare your sermon.

Submit a 4 page account of your work with the text based on Thomas' 3 categories

- Prayer
- Free association
- Homiletical research (use at least 4 sources, only 1 online resource, commentaries written after 1975)

Prepare a sheet (like his Preaching Worksheet p. 75) that answers his questions with regard to your sermon on this text.