

Homiletics and Preaching Syllabus

Pleasantville Center for Training and Renewal

‘Effective Preaching for Today’ – Mark Lutchter – pastordude86@verizon.net

Course Description:

Homiletics is the study of sermon preparation. However, it is a bit artificial to talk about homiletics without talking about preaching. Homiletics deals with the ingredients and preparation that go into a good sermon.

In this class we will look at ‘Why We Preach’, how to ‘Prepare Ourselves Before We Preach’, and then how to ‘Write a Sermon and Deliver it in an Effective Way’ that leads our listener’s to make life transforming decisions.

Pre-course Assignments:

1) READ prior to the first weekend:

- “Communicating for a Change.” By Andy Stanley & Lane Jones (*Multnomah Books. 2006*) – If you do not have time to read it in its entirety – **PART II IS REQUIRED to read (chapters 11 – 17).**

Additional Texts: (to read on your own – but not required)

- Demaray, Donald E. “Introduction to Homiletics” (*Light and Life Press. 1990*)
- Maxwell, John C. “Everyone Communicates Few Connect.” (*Thomas Nelson. 2010*)

2) WRITE prior to the first weekend:

- **WATCH SHORT VIDEO on how to write/deliver a Sermon Introduction** – When you sign up for this course, you will receive this syllabus with a Video Attached (if you did not receive video please email Mark Lutchter – email address above).
- **WRITE A 5 MINUTE SERMON INTRODUCTION** – After completing the video on ‘how to’ write an introduction – Write out a SHORT (no more than 5 minutes) sermon introduction (you can use this for the sermon you will write for the 2nd weekend, or just a random one – I just want to see that you understand the ‘goal’ of the first 5 minutes of a sermon) – **A few of you will Deliver your Introduction to us Live and in person on the first weekend.**

Mid-Course Assignments:

1) WRITE A SERMON:

- For the second weekend you will bring a **Written Sermon with you** (topic of your choice) using the ‘Relational Outline’ / ‘Main Point Sermon’ that will be taught in class. **PLEASE BRING 2 PRINTED COPIES** (one for the teacher and one for you).

2) DELIVER THAT SERMON LIVE:

- For the second weekend you will **Deliver your Sermon in front of the class** for the purpose of feedback, encouragement, and teacher’s knowledge that you have obtained and grasped the concept taught from the material, and to help guide you into being an ‘Effective Preacher for Today’.

Post-course Assignments:

- 1) To be handed in within 30 days of 2nd weekend – **Write another Sermon** (topic of your choice) **USING ANY STYLE that we discussed;** Topical-Main Point Sermon (*Lesson 1, Appendix B*), Bible Storying Sermon (*Lesson 1, Appendix C*), Verse by Verse, Thematic, or Narrative Expository – Whatever ‘Style’ you choose, **I will be looking for ‘some’** (you don’t have to use all) **of the sermon writing/preaching elements that we learned in our time together;** Introduction, Connection, Body, Application, Next Steps, etc... The point: **Create a ‘FLOW’ that LEADS people to a ‘DECISION’**

Additional Texts: (to read on your own – but not required)

Stott, John R.W. “Between Two Worlds”. Eerdmans. 1982.

Craddock, Fred B. “Preaching”. Abingdon. 1985.

Robinson, Haddon W. “Biblical Preaching” Second Edition. Baker. 2001