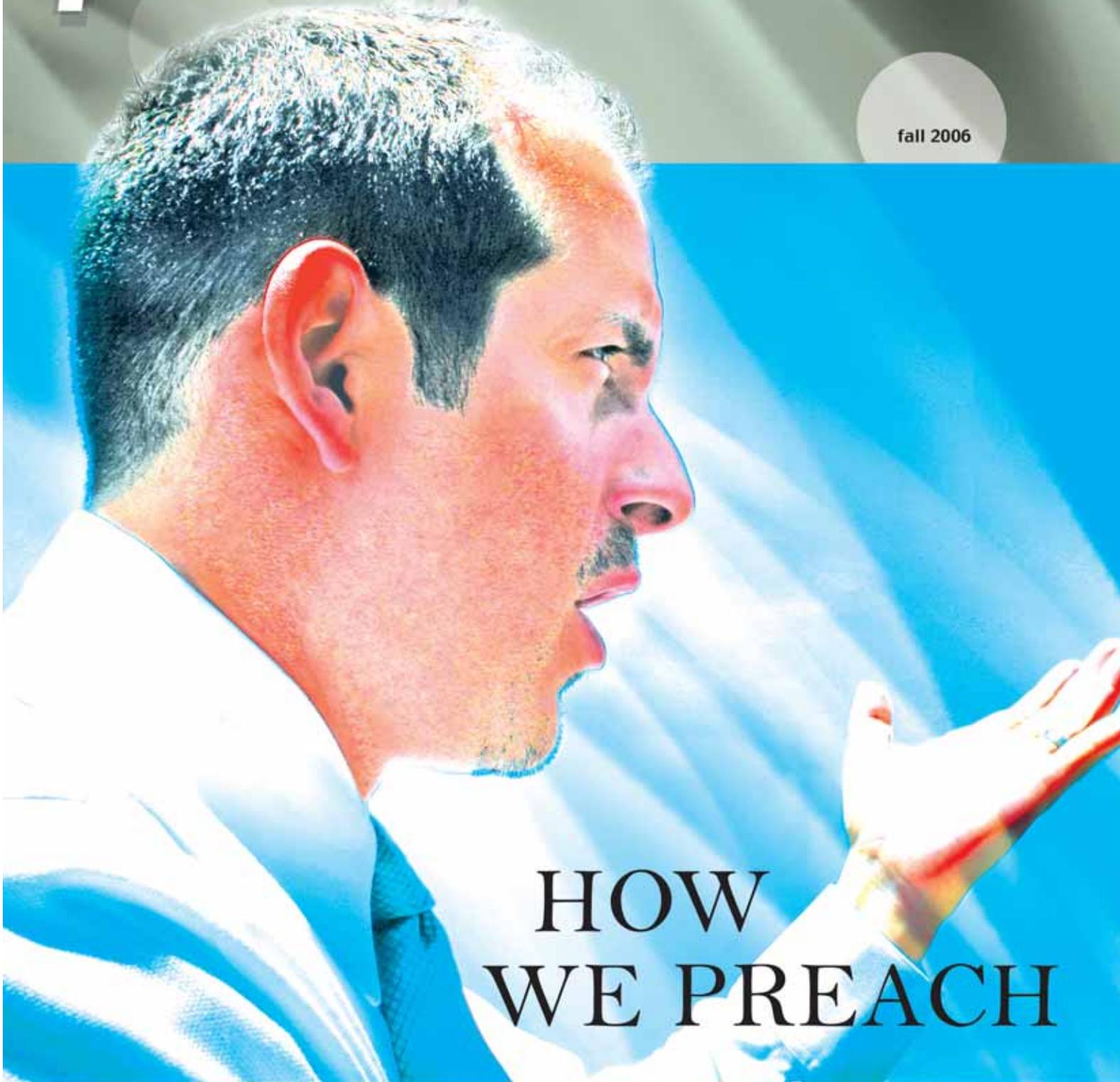


the evangelists'

perspective

fall 2006



HOW
WE PREACH

C H U R C H O F T H E N A Z A R E N E

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Fall 2006

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from the editor



CHUCK MILLHUFF

HOW I PREACH

I was 16 years old and was about to preach my first sermon at the North Side Church of the Nazarene in Chicago. In my left hand were a number of three-by-five cards on which were written my notes. In the other hand was my Bible. As I was laying my Bible on the pulpit and arranging my cards, I dropped the whole sermon on the carpeted platform. All I could do was pick them up, try to arrange the unnumbered cards and thank God for the patience of the people. It took me longer to arrange them than it took me to preach the sermon. I never used that style of preaching again. A young girl after the sermon said, "The card thing was tough, but you were really good." She will never know what that meant to me. What I am sure that she has since learned, and what I surely know, is that I am never good—God is good.

Yet I was to learn much about what the Spirit had to teach me as I was building the wagon in which I was riding. What we preach is of no small importance. I grieve, for instance, when I read endless articles or hear wonderful sermons about holiness expressing the glories of the joy and power in the believer, but never a word about how to enter into the experience. But the moment of the personal baptism and driving to this in preaching following the conversion or sanctifying moment is for another issue and time.

I ask myself, "Why do I preach the way I do?" I mean the *how* of it. I know I have been influenced by those whom I have heard in the pulpit and under whose classroom teaching I have sat and, frankly, been changed. But one characteristic of my preaching stands out: I have for my entire ministry started my sermons with an illustration. I feel it grabs the attention and sets up the focus of the text and the message. Some would say that I have placed a mere story over the Holy Bible in preparation for the message. I seldom have the folks stand as I weave the message and text into the story that I feel makes the text relevant to the day or even a current event. Well, that is the way I do it and it has worked for me all of these years. I am a bit chagrined when years later folks remember the story and not the text, and to that I have given a lot of thought over the years; but I have not changed.

Let me give you the preachers and their styles that have most influenced me.

How Do We Preach?

By Shawn Siegfried



We often judge the way our sermons were received by the comments of the folks who heard them firsthand. It was a banner day when a young man who was the image of what we consider an “emergent” generation person said, “I really liked your talk today.” It meant that the sermon had connected and maybe inspired him, but most of all he had listened to what I had to say. On another day, at the comfort of my kitchen table enjoying Sunday dinner with my family, my 14-year-old daughter turned to me in between bites and said, “Daddy, what were you trying to say up there today?”

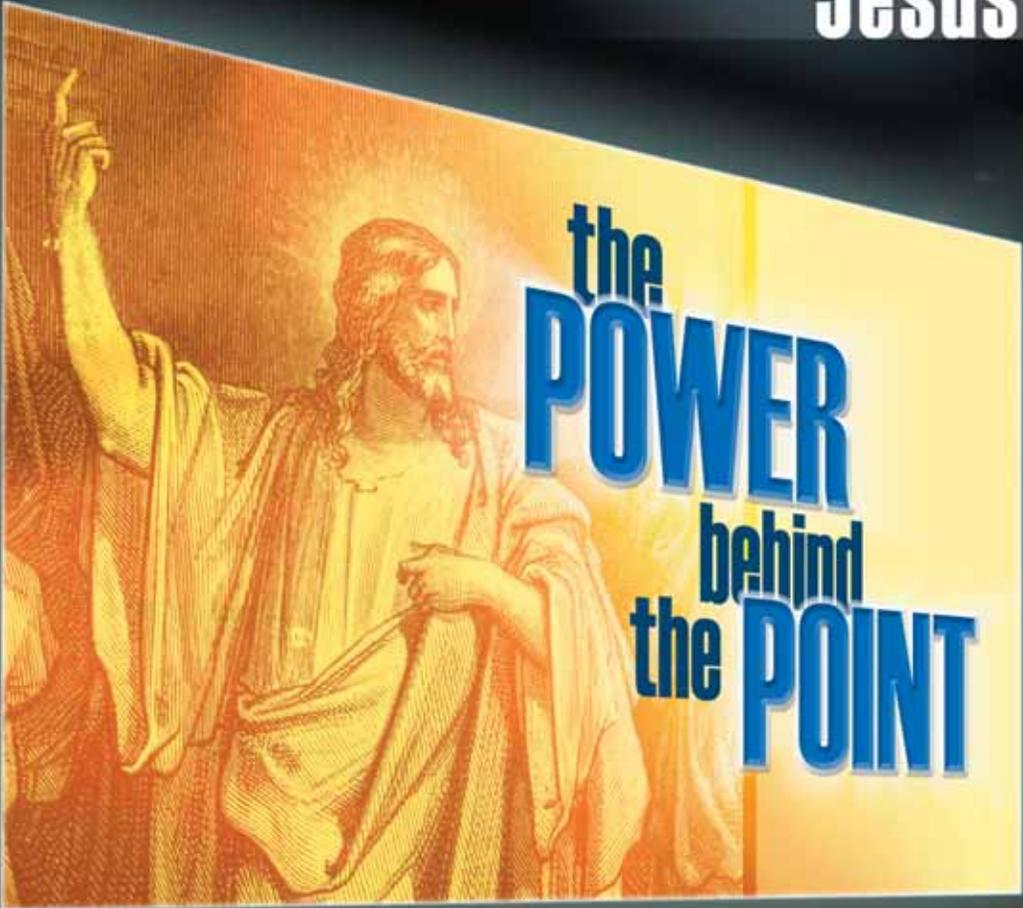
I wonder how many of those who attend our churches go home and say, “What was he or she trying to say?” Now there’s a good place to start a discussion about preaching. What *are* we trying to say? What is the *goal* of my sermon? I learned very early on in preaching that I should have one major theme of what I believe God would say through me and through the text of that day. We must believe that God has something to say! We should approach the pulpit in confidence that in spite of our inadequacy, we believe God wants to speak to people. We are not preparing a sermon for our District Superintendent or for those who may be listening to it online or to impress that board member who seems to harp on our particular style. We simply believe that God, through us, has something to say to that audience in front of us.

There is a sense of excitement when I sit down on Monday morning and begin to type from my outline for the next Sunday’s message. I usually prepare a simple outline and theme for several months. Of course, in our day and time, we have themes throughout the year. So I will take Scripture and apply these texts to the several themes that we may have on the calendar. There are also themes that our staff and I deem important for the life of our church. In the life cycle of any church, there are times of special emphasis whereby we must devote our attention. As I enter the week, I always have a text and a theme and a simple outline already planned for that particular week.

I asked several people what they thought my preaching style was, and I received several answers. I thought to myself, “Is this good or bad?” One comment that I hear often is that people like stories. We live in a day and time when people have been trained to listen for four- to seven-minute segments. If we are reaching to our generation, we cannot ask them to sit through a 40-minute session about Paul’s theology of the cross. It may be interesting to us and some of the longtime attendees, but for our target audiences we must engage

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Jesus Tells Of



The Power Behind The Point

utilizing presentation software to reinforce your preaching ministry

by *Tim Hancock*

One contemporary songwriter asked, “Would Jesus wear a Rolex on his television show?” I don’t know that Jesus would have been so ostentatious as to own a Rolex wristwatch, but I do know that He utilized the available technology of His day to more effectively communicate His message.

Would Jesus have used presentation software on a laptop computer via a video projector and screen to communicate? I believe He used the most up-to-date methods available to communicate the Gospel. In an age of oratory, Jesus was a master storyteller. To hear Him, you may not have liked what He said, but you could not remain the same.

For example, according to Luke 15:3, “and Jesus told them *this* parable...” We call them the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the Lost Boy. We’ve preached them as separate stories, and though they do make sense on their own, Jesus was using a common oratory practice of His day—reinforcement by repetition.

In Matthew 13, we find that Jesus “got into a boat, where he sat and taught as the people listened on the shore.” This was not to get away from the crowd, (though many times I’m sure He would have liked to) but rather to allow the natural reflective quality of the water to amplify His voice so as to be better heard and understood. Jesus was utilizing the available technology to more effectively communicate His message.

Continuing in Matthew 13, Jesus describes a farmer sowing seed. The sowing of seed was a very familiar action in the agrarian Middle East. The story would have resonated with the crowd. We know that the Word of God is not *really* seed to be thrown by a farmer; Jesus was using this simile to encourage us to “broadcast” His truth. In other words, find a way to get the message out as effectively as possible.

In His preaching, Jesus used reinforcement by repetition, natural amplification and “broadcasting” to share the Good News. He used the most up-to-date methods possible to effectively communicate the Gospel. We should follow His example.

As preachers and teachers we use the most modern study and commentary sources available. We rely on modern scholarship to help us more effectively understand and communicate the truths of God’s Word.

Most churches have grasped the importance of quality sound reinforcement. If you can’t hear and understand the Word, why bother with the message? In addition, many have even installed electric lights in their sanctuaries because they understand the importance of illumination.

Face it, we live in a visual society—billboards, television, video iPods (If you don’t know what an iPod is, then ask a 10-year-old). To fail to recognize this aspect of the world in which we live is to bury one’s head in the sand.

One of the easiest ways to follow Christ’s example in our preaching is to embrace the technology of modern computer presentation software programs. These programs not only are for displaying the lyrics to our songs, but also are powerful tools to help communicate the Gospel.

I have been using Microsoft PowerPoint in my preaching for several years and have found it to be an extremely helpful tool in enabling me to better convey the truth of God’s Word. Many times people have told me how much they appreciate the closed captioning during the message. One of our retired district superintendents told me that with his hearing aids, the ambient noise in the room sometimes



*Timothy Hancock,
Mount Vernon, OH,
Tenured Evangelist,
Church of the Nazarene*

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**Do I think Jesus
would have
used modern
presentation
software such as
PowerPoint had it
been available?
Yes. In terms of
communication,
Jesus was way
ahead of the curve.**

evangelists give witness to...

The Call

GOD GAVE SOME TO BE EVANGELISTS

by *Duane Smith*

I experienced God's thrill of victory until the age of 12, then I experienced six years of agony and defeat. I was the prodigal son sowing my wild oats. I did not want to obey God's call, but after six years I returned home to God.

Several months had passed and that Sunday night I was sitting on the back row at church with some other teens. I knew God wanted me to go forward during the invitation, but I found myself saying, "God, you have already forgiven me!" With God's help I obeyed and made that long trip down the center aisle of the Winchester, Indiana, church. As I knelt and prayed I began to sense bodies gathering around me and the warmth of the saints and the wind from their prayers. I

was already a Christian but I had further business to do with God. The songwriter says it best.

***"I yielded myself to His tender embrace,
and faith taking hold of the Word,
My fetters fell off and I anchored my soul:
the haven of rest is my Lord."***

My prayer was simply,

***"All the talents I have I have laid at Thy feet;
Thy approval shall be my reward.
Be my store great or small, I surrender it all
to my wonderful, wonderful Lord."***

That sanctifying moment made the call of God stronger than ever. After three months of praying, "Please Lord! Let me know definitely what you want me do," God spoke. Twice He spoke the words, "evangelist/song evangelist." The call was as definite as the peace that came with it. As my heart welled up with praise and gratitude my eyes looked down at my watch. God called me to be an evangelist and song evangelist at 1:30 p.m., January 23, 1967, at Lynn, Indiana.

Today the God-called evangelist is a threatened species much like the spotted owl. In many North American churches, people seem to think that the itinerant evangelist was a frontier North American phenomenon that has now

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Duane Smith,
Randolph, KS,
Evangelist, Church of the Nazarene
Secretary, Committee on the Interest of
the "God-Called Evangelist"

BARBARA ROACH SIGNS WITH EDDIE CROOK

Goodlettsville, TN

The Eddie Crook Company is honored to announce the signing of Barbara Roach of Camden, Tennessee, to recording and promotion agreements for their legendary MorningStar label! Mrs. Roach and her husband, the Reverend Jerry Roach, have served as Senior Pastors for the First Church of the Nazarene in Paris, Tennessee, for several years.

Eddie and his wife Janice have been friends with Barbara and her family since the late 1960's when Barbara would attend gospel music concerts through out the Mid South! Their friendship has remained strong through the years. Mr. Crook states, "Barbara is singing better than ever! She is a wonderfully talented lady, and I look forward to producing her new album!" Plans are for a late spring recording with a mid summer release of Barbara's album!

The Eddie Crook Company is one of Gospel Music's most storied companies, having revolutionized gospel music with their recording and promotion concepts during the past thirty years. They have discovered and launched a virtual who's who in the traditional Christian music world, including The McKameys, Martins, Crabb Family, Bishops, Perrys, Mid South Boys, Carroll Roberson and numerous other household names.

The Eddie Crook Company houses publishing, recording, management, promotion and manufacturing divisions as well as specialty events such as cruises and Gatlinburg Holiday events. For more information on any ECC service you may contact the company by writing to P.O. Box 989, Goodlettsville, TN 37070-0989; by calling 615-851-1360 or by visiting them on the web at www.eddiecrook.com.

The Eddie Crook Company welcomes Rev. and Mrs. Roach to their recording family!



PREACHING AS AN ACT OF WORSHIP

by Barth Smith

Preaching should always be an act of worship. If it is not, then the church will end up worshipping the preacher and what he says rather than worshipping God.

A true sermon is an act of God and not a mere performance by man. In real preaching, the speaker is the servant of the word, and God speaks and works by the word through the preacher's lips.

If preaching is an act of worship, then the preacher must not present to God that which costs him nothing (II Sam. 24:24). Malachi reprimanded the priests of his day because they were not giving God their best. They put defiled food on God's altar and brought sacrifices that were lame and sick (Mal. 1:6-8). Before we criticize them too much, we had better examine our own "spiritual sacrifices," particularly our sermons.

Preaching as an act of worship should not be academic preaching. Too often the sermon does not lift up the Lord. Instead of seeing the Lord, we see the preacher. Or we may see only an outline. The emphasis is often on content and "teaching," which is good, but there is much more to preaching than passing along religious information. When preaching, we must reveal, not just facts about God, but the Person of God Himself.

The benefits of expository preaching should not be an inflated head but an ignited heart. Oh that our hearts would burn within us when the Word of God is preached. There must be a flame in the preacher's heart before there can be a fire in the hearer's heart.

Because we have lost sight of preaching as an act of worship, we are now suffering the consequences. Preaching and worship must be joined together. What God has joined together, we have put asunder and we are paying for it.

For one thing, much preaching today is very academic. We think we have to explain everything and outline everything. The purpose of preaching is not to explain a subject, but to achieve an objective. We get so wrapped up in the "content" that we forget the "intent." The most important thing about a sermon is not what we can write in our notebooks, but what God writes on our hearts as we see Him in the Word.

An outline is not a message from God any more than a recipe is a meal or a blueprint is a building. How easy it is for us to perfect a homiletical method that enables us to manufacture sermons. But the real test of our preaching is the response of the listeners. If all they do is comment on our outline and content of the message, we have failed miserably. Why? Because we must lead them beyond the content to see God and worship Him.

Listening to a sermon is often just an intellectual experience rather than the worship experience of the total person.

When preaching is an act of worship, the listener's heart is moved by God more than being moved by the minister.

Preaching as an act of worship contains mystery. We tend to analyze everything to death. We feel compelled to explain everything and leave out the mystery that must always belong to God. Since true worship involves wonder, there is always some mystery in preaching.

When Paul completed his section in Romans on the sovereignty of God, he did not say, "Now I have explained everything to you." What he did say in Romans 11:33 is "Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God. How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out." There is mystery. We tend to tie up the truth in nice neat little theological packages and dispense it to our hearers. I wish it was that simple, but let me ask you to keep the mystery of God in your ministry. If you do, God will open up new vistas of truth to you every day. The more you *continued on page 15 >*





GOD CHOSE PREACHING

by *G. Stuart McWhirter*

“The highest service that men may attain to on earth is to preach the word of God,” so wrote John Wycliffe. In the opening lines of his classic book, “Positive Preaching and the Modern Mind,” P.T. Forsyth said, “It is, perhaps, an overbold beginning, but I will venture to say that with its preaching Christianity stands or falls.” On the other hand, eloquent British preacher, W.E. Sangster described preaching as “a task which angels might envy and for which archangels might forsake the courts of heaven.”

Today, in sharp contrast to these lofty words about preaching, there is widespread doubt about the validity and effectiveness of preaching. Present critics charge preaching with lacking relevance. There is certainly some justification for this criticism. Emphatically, the competent preacher needs to be well informed concerning the moods, thoughts and culture of the people who hear him preach.

But a warning is needed here. The preacher may become harmfully obsessed with the pursuit of what an unchristian world may wrongly define as relevance. Donald McLeod, formerly professor of preaching and worship at Princeton Theological Seminary, wrote, “The remark, ‘making the word of God or the gospel relevant to the world,’ makes no sense. The New Testament is evidence that the word has already been made relevant to the world, and it is our business as preachers to explain and interpret it so that its meaning for the people

becomes clear.” Preaching, under the cloak of false relevance, that caters to the interests of the ungodly is not preaching. It is pathetic opportunism and ruinous compromise. Such a preacher is a ludicrous caricature of the prophet of God.

Currently, for many people, preaching is synonymous with boredom and innocuous irrelevance. Far from this, true preaching, more than any other communication known to mankind, speaks to the greatest questions and deepest needs of humanity.

A dim or absent awareness of the Holiness of God may be the cause of the low regard for preaching that seems to prevail, even within the church. If we are awestruck by the Holiness of God, we should take God’s word with utmost seriousness. Here then is the bedrock authority for the priority of preaching. In 1 Cor. 1:21, Paul states, “For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know Him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe.” Clearly and unmistakably, God chose preaching. Its primacy is divinely bestowed.

It is a fearful thing for preaching to be moved from the central place God has given it in the church. It is sinfulness of the worst kind to supplant the word of God with a sideshow. To disdain preaching is to ignore God’s choice.

How can the people of God remain silent when tacky fads and religious vaudeville displace the word of God or give it a secondary

place? Without biblical preaching at the center of Christian worship, the church may become nothing more than a somewhat religious hulla-baloo. The church will have no recovery from deadly disarray and emaciating ambiguity until there is a return to robust priority for biblical preaching.

A clear understanding of what actually happens in preaching is vital. True preaching is the continuation and contemporizing of the death and resurrection of Christ. The very act of preaching has cosmic meaning now and eternally. P.T. Forsyth declared, “Preaching is the gospel prolonging and declaring itself.” In his book, “The Essential Nature of New Testament Preaching,” Robert Mounce wrote, “As the preacher proclaims the divine act of redemption, the barriers of time are somehow transcended and that supreme event of the past is once again taking place.” These are soaring, breathtaking claims. Grasping them will surely invigorate every approach to worship and preaching.

May the people of God pray for an illuminating, transforming realization of the biblical authority for preaching and the divine activity in true preaching to spread throughout Christianity. [EP](#)



Rev. G. Stuart McWhirter,
*Corydon, IN,
Evangelist,
Church of the Nazarene*

**ADAMS, DAVID AND CHARLENE
ADAMS VOICE**

Oct 1, Hamilton, OH, Millville Avenue
Oct 4-8, Indianapolis, IN, Southwest
Oct 12, Anderson, IN, New Horizon
Ministries
Oct 21-22, Greenfield, IN, Trinity Park
United Methodist
Oct 24-26, Kansas City, MO, District
Leadership Conference
Oct 29, Churubusco, IN
Nov 11, Middletown, IN
Nov 19, New Castle, IN, Mt. Zion Wesleyan
Dec 3, Venice, FL
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering
Jan 7, Roanoke, VA, First
Jan 14-17, Birmingham, AL, Birmingham
First

**ADAMS, GERALD
THE JERRY ADAMS FAMILY**

Oct 1, Grant City, IN, Wesleyan
Oct 8, Fishersburg, IN, Wesleyan
Oct 15, Bloomington, IN, Country Store
Oct 28, Danville, IL, Morey Chapel
Nov 18, Greensboro, IN
Nov 24-25, Indianapolis, IN, Southport
Dec 3, Vermillion Grove, IL, Friends Church
Dec 3, Danville, IL, Northside
Dec 31, Indianapolis, IN, Southwest

ADAMS, MICHAEL

Oct 1-4, Sherrodsville, OH, Wesleyan
Oct 6-8, Houston, TX, S. TX District Lay
Retreat
Oct 15-18, Springwater, NY
Oct 22-25, Youngstown, OH, Grace
Oct 29-Nov 1, West Columbia, SC, Central
Nov 5-8, Carlsbad, NM, Church Street
Nov 10-12, Roswell, NM, Central
Nov 12-15, Bridgeton, MO, Gateway Central
Nov 15-19, Tijeras, NM,
Nov 28-Dec 3, Nolota, TN, Beulah Chapel
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

**ARMSTRONG, B. (T)
ARMSTRONG FAMILY MINISTRIES**

Sep 26-Oct 1, Oakland, MD
Oct 4-8, Royalton, IL, First
Oct 11-15, Kewanee, IL, Grace
Oct 18-22, Arcola, IL, First
Oct 25-29, Macomb, IL
Oct 31-Nov 5, Ellisville, IL
Nov 8-12, Wyoming, IL
Nov 15-19, Dexter, MO, First
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

ARNOLD, DANIEL

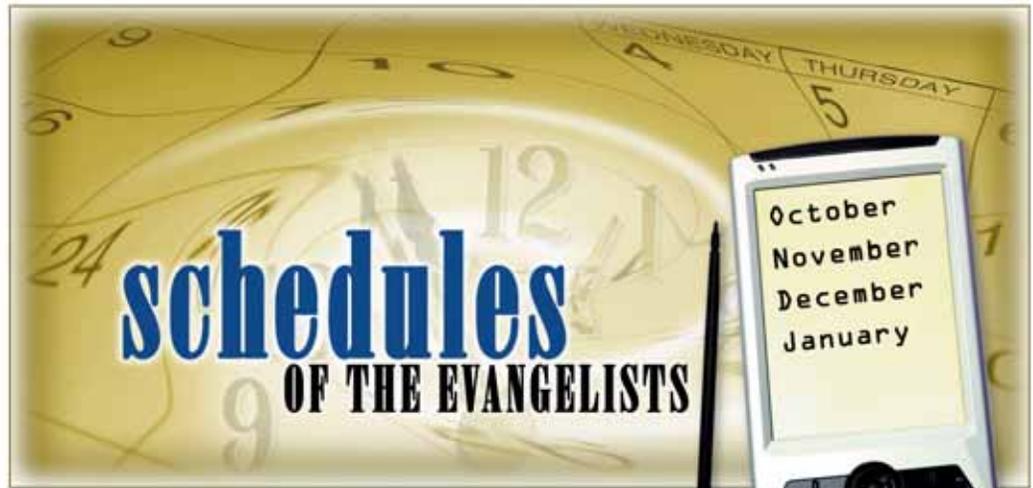
Oct 8-12, Chariton, IA
Oct 18-22, Clinton, IA, First
Nov 5-9, Grinnell, IA
Jan 19-21, Rogersville, MO, Harvest
Community

**BAKER, JUDITH
JUDITH BAKER MINISTRIES**

Oct 14-15, Goose Creek, SC, Charleston
Calvary
Oct 15, Goose Creek, SC, Sunrise Christian
Nov 19, Nashville, TN, Grace
Nov 26, Nashville, TN, Grace
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

BELZER, DAVID

Oct 3-8, Dana, IN
Oct 17-22, Sun Valley, AZ
Oct 29-Nov 5, Murphy's, CA, Wesleyan
Camp



BENDER, TIMOTHY (T)

Oct 3-8, Harrisonville, PA,
Oct 10-15, Fostoria, OH, Trinity United
Brethern
Oct 25-29, Ironton, MO
Nov 14-19, New Hampshire, OH

BEVILLE, W.

Oct 3-8, Connersville, IN, First
Oct 18-22, Decatur, IL, Trinity
Nov 8-12, Mitchell, IN

BIRT, ALVIN, HAPPY HEART MINISTRIES

Oct 10-12, Cardington, OH
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

**BOLICH, JEREMIAH, CROSS STYLE
INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES**

Oct 1-4, Baraboo, WI, First
Oct 6-8, Benton, KY, KY District-Jonathon's
Creek Cmpgr.
Oct 22-25, Frankfort, KY, First
Oct 29-Nov 1, Ravenna, KY
Nov 5-9, Mackey, IN
Nov 12-15, Oden, IN,
Nov 19-22, Thompson, OH, United
Methodist Church
Nov 26-29, Angola, IN, Community
Dec 1-3, Lambertville, MI, Bedford
Dec 10-13, Waynesburg, PA
Dec 17-20, Morgantown, WV, First
Dec 31-Jan 4, San Angelo, TX, First
Jan 5-7, Dallas, GA, Cross Walk Chapel
Jan 12-14, Phoenix, AZ, Desert Hills
Fellowship
Jan 28-31, Crowley, TX, Fort Worth First

BOND, GARY, GARY BOND MINISTRIES (T)

Oct 1-4, Nashville, MI
Oct 8-11, Hartford City, IN
Oct 15-18, Monticello, KY
Oct 22-25, Reading, MI
Oct 29-Nov 1, Pelham, TN, Chapman's
Chapel
Nov 5-8, Ashland, KY, First
Nov 12-15, Flora, IL
Nov 26-29, Alpena, MI, Alpena Free
Methodist
Dec 3-6, Marion, OH, First
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering
Dec 13-17, Winchester, IN

BRADLEY, SAM

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

BROCKMAN, VERNON

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

**BROWNFIELD, DAVID
NO CHURCH TOO SMALL MINISTRIES**

Oct 15-18, New Boston, OH, First

**BURKHALTER, G. (T)
BURKHALTER MINISTRIES**

Oct 4-8, Union, MO, Word of Life
Oct 11-15, Port Arthur, TX, Grace
Oct 18-22, Mount Vernon, IN, Point
Township
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

CANEN, DAVID (T)

DAVID CANEN MINISTRIES, INC.
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

**CANFIELD, DAVID, CANFIELD
EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES**

Oct 4-8, Lexington, KY, Lafayette
Oct 15-18, Beckley, WV, First
Oct 22-25, Radcliff, OH, Point Rock
Nov 5-8, New Matamoros, OH
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering
Dec 31, Jackson, OH, Trinity CCCU
Jan 14, Columbus, OH, Grace CCCU

CASSELMAN, GERALD

Oct 1-Nov 4, Camden, AR, First

CHAFFINS, BRYAN

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

**CHAPMAN, JAMES
BIG CHAP MINISTRIES**

Oct 8-11, Neosho, MO
Oct 13-14, Columbia, MO, First
Oct 27-29, Charleston, IL, Salisbury Youth
Retreat
Nov 17-18, Frederickton, MO, MO District
Youth Retreat
Nov 25, Mount Erie, IL

CHIPP, VERLIN

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

COVINGTON, NATHAN, LIFE MENDERS

Oct 1-4, Wister, OK
Oct 8-11, Buffalo, KY
Oct 15-18, Richmond, IN, First
Oct 22-25, Quincy, IL, Emmanuel
Oct 29-Nov 1, Rogersville, MO, Harvest
Community
Nov 5-8, Garnett, KS
Nov 12-14, Bedford, PA
Nov 15-19, Petersburg, PA
Nov 26-29, Tuttle, OK
Dec 3-6, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering
Jan 14-17, Mesa, AZ, Mesa First
Jan 21-24, Troup, TX, Martin's Chapel
Jan 28-31, Higden, AR, Greer's Ferry

**CRABTREE, JAMES
THE VOICE OF EVANGELISM**

Oct 8-11, Gallipolis, OH, First
Nov 26-Dec 5, Sturgis, MI
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

**CUNDIFF, VICKIE
SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE**

Oct 22-25, Dayton, OH, Riverside

CURRY, J.

Oct 6-8, Plymouth, IL, Men's Retreat

DABYDEEN, ROBERT (T)

Oct 1-4, Chattanooga, TN, Lookout Valley
Oct 8-11, Dunbar, WV
Oct 15-18, Belle, WV
Oct 22-25, Cullman, AL, First
Oct 29-Nov 1, Mount Pleasant, TX
Nov 5-8, Fairmont, WV, Fairmont Central
Nov 12-15, Millbrook, AL
Dec 2-6, Mannington, WV
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering
Dec 24-30, New York City, NY,
Jan 20-30, Aiea, HI, Hawaii Pacific

**DEFORD, KENDALL
TENTMAKER MINISTRIES**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

DEGENKOLB, WILLIAM

Nov 18-21, New Ringgold, PA, Steigarwalts
Church of God
Dec 5-8, Marion, IN, WGM Miss Forum-
Headquarters
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

DELL, JIMMY, JIMMY DELL MINISTRIES (T)

Oct 1-4, Bedford, IN, Valley Mission
Oct 5-8, Baytown, TX, First
Oct 11-15, Fairview Heights, IL, Parkview
Oct 22-25, Binghamton, NY
Nov 5-8, Enid, OK,
Nov 12-15, Lawton, OK, First
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering
Jan 7, Coolidge, AZ, Comm. Fellowship
Jan 21-24, Lake Havasu City, AZ
Jan 25-28, Kingman, AZ

**DODDS, LARRY
LARRY DODDS MINISTRIES, INC.**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

**DOLE, CHARLES
EVERLASTING SONG MINISTRIES**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

(T) Tenured Evangelist is recognized by the church as a lifetime assignment. See *Manual* 407.3

DONHAM, ROBERT

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

DONNERBERG, JOHN**JOHN DONNERBERG MINISTRIES**

Oct 1-4, Abilene, TX, First
Oct 8-11, Shawnee, OK
Oct 12-14, Dallas, TX, Dallas District
Pastor/Wife Retreat
Oct 15-18, Dewey, OK
Oct 22-25, Saint Marys, OH, First
Oct 29-Nov 1, Mount Vernon, OH, Lakeholm
Nov 5-8, Columbia City, IN
Nov 12-15, Englewood, CO, First
Nov 26-29, Ashland, KY, First

DOWNING, ANN**ANN DOWNING MINISTRIES**

Oct 6, New Salisbury, IN, Central Barren
United Methodist
Oct 13, Texarkana, TX, North Texarkana
Oct 14, Pittsburg, TX
Oct 15, Wickes, AR
Oct 20, Yukon, OK, Canadian Hills
Oct 21, Tuttle, OK, First Assembly of God
Oct 28, Belle, WV
Oct 28, Belle, WV
Oct 29, Dunbar, WV
Nov 11, Cherokee, AL, Harris Chapel Baptist
Nov 17-19, Casper, WY, Nazarene District
Ladies Retreat
Nov 26, Meridian, MS, Fitkin Memorial
Dec 3, Bonner Springs, KS, Victory Assembly
of God
Dec 8, Dunellon, FL, Wesleyan District
Women's Retreat
Dec 9, Dunellon, FL, Living Water Wesleyan
Dec 10, South Daytona, FL, White Chapel
Church of God
Dec 17, Las Vegas, NV, Christ Community

FLINT, ROBERT**LIFE THROUGH THE WORD MINISTRIES**

Oct 15-18, West Milton, OH
Oct 21-23, Pioneer, OH
Oct 25-29, Lakeview, OH, Indian Lake
Northside
Nov 5-8, Owensboro, KY, Audubon
Nov 12-15, Swanton, OH
Dec 10-17, Milford Center, OH, Trinity Chapel
Jan 25-29, Marysville, OH, Ministry
Development Center

**GALLIMORE, DAVID, DAVID GALLIMORE
INTERNATIONAL MINISTRIES, INC.**

Oct 1-4, East Liverpool, OH, First
Oct 8-11, Oak Hill, WV
Oct 15-18, Huntington, IN, First
Oct 22-25, Charleston, WV, Elk River
Oct 29-Nov 1, Baton Rouge, LA, First
Nov 5-8, New Albany, IN, Christ's Community
Nov 9-10, Bethany, OK, SNU Trustee
Meetings
Nov 12-15, Roberta, GA,
Nov 17-19, Wrightsville, GA, Mount Olive
Nov 26-29, Macon, GA, United Community
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering
Jan 21-24, Waycross, GA, Martha Memorial
United Methodist
Jan 28-31, Belleville, IL, St. Matthews United
Methodist

GESSNER, DON**GESSNER MUSIC MINISTRIES**

Oct 1-31, Indianapolis, IN, Grace Pointe
Evangelism Focus
Nov 1-30, Indianapolis, IN, Grace Pointe
Evangelism Focus
Dec. 1-10, Indianapolis, IN, Grace Pointe
Evangelism Focus
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering
Dec 14-31, Indianapolis, IN, Grace Pointe
Evangelism Focus
Jan 1-7, Indianapolis, IN, Grace Pointe
Evangelism Focus
Jan 12-21, Brooksville, FL, Wesleyan Camp
Jan 22-31, Indianapolis, IN, Grace Pointe
Evangelism Focus

**GOSS, M., M & J MINISTRIES, INC./THE
KING'S DAUGHTERS**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

**GRAY, ROBERT, BOB AND BECKY
GRAY/SINGING UNTO THE LORD**

Oct 1-4, Hannibal, MO, First
Oct 8-11, Monongahela, PA
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

**GREENWAY, KENNETH
GREENWAY MINISTRIES**

Oct 1-5, Tabor City, NC, Old Zion Wesleyan
Oct 8-11, Kings Mountain, NC
Oct 15-19, Hickory, NC, Sandy Ridge
Wesleyan
Oct 22-25, McAdenville, NC, Wesleyan
Oct 29-Nov 3, Concord, NC, Broadus
Memorial
Nov 5-8, Carthage, NC, Community Friends-
Quaker
Nov 12-16, Central, SC, Trinity Wesleyan
Nov 26-29, Shelby, NC, First Wesleyan
Dec 1-2, Soperton, GA, Christian Family
Center
Jan 1-5, Ramseur, NC, Heaven Bound
Ministries
Jan 19-21, Marietta, GA, Gospel Light
Evangelistic Methodist
Jan 24-28, Garner, NC, Raleigh First

GROVES, C.

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

**HAINES, GARY, GARY HAINES (T)
EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**

Oct 8-11, Sherman, TX
Oct 22-25, Anadarko, OK
Nov 5-8, Red Oak, TX, Ovilla Road
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering
Dec 14-31, Colorado Springs, CO,
Jan 7-10, Casper, WY, First
Jan 21-24, New Smyrna Beach, FL

HANCOCK, TIMOTHY (T)

Oct 1-4, Brownstown, IN
Oct 8-11, Roseville, OH
Oct 15-18, Millflinburg, PA
Oct 29-Nov 1, Bucyrus, OH
Nov 3-5, Piqua, OH
Nov 12-15, Sikeston, MO, First
Nov 17-19, Fowlerville, MI
Nov 26-29, Jasper, IN
Dec 1-3, Meridian, ID, Valley Shepherd
Dec 6-10, Urbana, OH
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering
Jan 12-14, Coshocton, OH, North Central OH
Winter Youth Ret.

HAZLETT, GEORGE

Oct 1-31, Clinton, OH
Nov 1-30, Clinton, OH
Dec 1-31, Clinton, OH

**HICKS, JOHN DAVID
FAITH ENCOUNTER, INC.**

Oct 1-4, Jackson, MO
Oct 9-12, Bishop, CA
Oct 15-18, Pittsburgh, PA, Lincoln Place
Oct 22-25, Poplar Bluff, MO
Oct 30-Nov 2, Erie, PA, First
Nov 5-8, LaMoure, ND
Nov 12-15, Wentzville, MO, Crossroads
Nov 26-29, Gering, NE, Gering Oregon Trail
Dec 3-6, Brookings, OR

HUDDLESTON, BILLY**BILLY HUDDLESTON MINISTRIES**

Oct 1-4, Jackson, OH
Oct 8-11, Bedford, IN, Davis Memorial
Oct 15-18, Buchanan, MI
Oct 22-25, Hillsboro, OH
Oct 29-29, Cincinnati, OH, Fellowship
Tabernacle
Nov 5-9, Warm Springs, GA, Harmony
Nov 12-15, Columbus, IN, First
Nov 19-22, Seymour, IN, Peter's Switch
Nov 26-29, Brazil, IN, First
Dec 3-6, Zanesville, OH, First
Dec 10-10, Portsmouth, OH, Rubyville
Community Church
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering
Jan 21-24, Pataskala, OH

**JACKSON, PAUL AND PATRICIA
JETSTREAM MINISTRIES**

Oct 1-31, Meade, KS

JONES, EDDIE**BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

JONES, MARVIN

Oct 1-31, Nashville, TN, Trevecca Community
Nov 1-30, Nashville, TN, Trevecca
Community
Dec 1-31, Nashville, TN, Trevecca
Community
Jan 1-31, Nashville, TN, Trevecca Community

**KEARCE, DOUGLAS AND DARLA
CROSSSTYLE KIDS**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

KYONKA, JAMI

Oct 26, St. Peters, MO, Harvester
Nov 23, St. Peters, MO, Harvester
Dec 8, Bridgeton, MO, Gateway Central
Dec 28, St. Peters, MO, Harvester

LACOMBE, CHARLES

Oct 8-11, Alamosa, CO, Real Life on the
Rock
Oct 22-25, Cortez, CO
Oct 29-Nov 1, Rock Hill, NY
Nov 5-8, Vermont, VT
Nov 17-19, Lewiston, ME
Dec 3-6, Jackman, ME
Jan 7-14, Millinocket, ME
Jan 21-28, Portland, ME

LEAGUE, PAUL**EAGLES' WINGS MINISTRIES, INC.**

Oct 8-11, Kalispell, MT, First
Oct 15-22, Ava, MO, Goodhope
Oct 22-25, Victor, MT,
Oct 29-Nov 1, Johnson, KS, Bethel
Nov 5-9, Springfield, MO, First
Nov 26-29, Olney, IL

LECKRONE, LARRY (T)**LECKRONE MINISTRIES, INC.**

Oct 7-11, Burton, MI, Flint South
Oct 14-18, Spencer, IN
Oct 21-25, Greenfield, IN, First
Oct 28-Nov 1, Greenfield, IN, Stringtown
Nov 4-8, Mexico, MO
Nov 11-15, Ardmore, OK, First
Nov 18-22, Smithfield, IL
Nov 25-29, Rantoul, IL
Dec 2-6, Alma, MI
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

LEIDY, ARNOLD**UPWARD CALL MINISTRIES, INC.**

Sep 28-Nov 1, Sullivan, IN
Oct 4-8, Moline, IL, Community
Oct 18-22, Page, AZ, Lake Powell
Nov 2-5, Cisco, TX

LEWIS, CHRISTOPHER**CHRIS LEWIS MINISTRIES**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

LIDDELL, P., REVIVE ALIVE MINISTRIES

Oct 1-4, North Cape May, NJ, Erma
Campmeeting Revival
Jan 28-31, St. Petersburg, FL, Victory

LIVERSAGE, JERRY**JERRY LIVERSAGE MINISTRIES, INC.**

Oct 15-18, Fitchburg, MA, Fitchburg MA

MANLEY, STEPHEN, SMEA (T)

Oct 1-4, Warren, MI,
Oct 11-15, Deford, MI, Community
Oct 18-22, Warren, OH, First
Oct 25-29, Rock Hill, SC, Trinity

MAPLES, WILLIAM, 24/7 MINISTRIES

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

MCKENZIE, ROBERT, RLM MINISTRIES

Oct 1-4, Sandersville, GA
Oct 8-11, Saraland, AL
Oct 22-25, Jackson, GA
Oct 29-Nov 1, Nancy, KY, Naomi
Nov 5-8, Parrish, AL
Nov 12-15, Nancy, KY, Naomi

MCWHIRTER, G.

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

MILLER, C., C. WESLEY MINISTRIES

Oct 1-4, Cushing, OK
Oct 15-18, Atlanta, TX

MILLHUFF, CHARLES (T)**MILLHUFF MINISTRIES**

Oct 11-15, Noble, OK
Oct 18-22, Deltona, FL
Nov 11-15, Grand Junction, CO, First
Nov 17-19, Orange Park, FL
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering

MITCHELL, ROYCE, LIBERTY QUARTET

Oct 1, Redmond, OR, Assembly of God
Oct 1, Redmond, OR, Highland Baptist
Oct 6, Mount Vernon, WA, Bethany Covenant
Oct 8, Ritzville, WA, Menno Mennonite
Oct 9, Grants Pass, OR, Redwood Country
Oct 13, Sheridan, WY, First Baptist
Oct 14, Billings, MT, Billings First
Oct 15, Thermopolis, WY, First Baptist
Oct 15, Cody, WY, Shoshone Bible
Oct 18, Cambridge, ID, First Baptist
Oct 20, McMinnville, OR, Linfield College
Oct 23, Grants Pass, OR, Redwood Country
Nov 2, Sun City, AZ, Sun City Christian
Nov 3, Tucson, AZ, Christ Community
Nov 4, Green Valley, AZ, Green Valley
Community
Nov 5, Surprise, AZ, Happy Trails Christian
Fellowship
Nov 5, Prescott, AR, First
Nov 6, Winnemucca, NV, Friends in Faith
Nov 10, Twin Falls, ID, Reformed
Nov 11, Boise, ID, Cloverdale 7th Day
Adventist
Nov 17, Forest Grove, OR, First Christian
Nov 18, Portland, OR, Portland Christians
Center
Nov 18, Milwaukie, OR, Gladstone
Nov 19, Portland, OR, Tremont Evangelical
Nov 19, Woodburn, OR, Hoodview Church of
God
Nov 26, Hagerman, ID, Christian Center

MOORE, NORMAN (T)

Oct 1-4, Cadillac, MI, First
Oct 8-11, Glen Burnie, MD, Marley Park
Oct 29-Nov 1, Mount Vernon, OH, First
Nov 5-8, Woodward, OK
Nov 12-15, Tulsa, OK, Regency Park
Dec 3-6, Payson, AZ, First
Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists
Gathering
Jan 21-24, Florence, OR

MUNCIE, E., BOB AND JANE MUNCIE

Oct 1-4, Bloomington, IN, Eastview
 Oct 7-12, Kurtz, IN
 Oct 15-19, Edinburg, IN, Edinburg
 Oct 22-25, Connersville, IN, Gortner Memorial
 Oct 26-29, Frankfort, KY, First
 Nov 5-8, Rising Sun, IN
 Nov 12-15, Newell, WV, First
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering
 Dec 31, Corydon, IN, Community of Hope
 Jan 12, Shirley, IN, Murray Marketpl
 Jan 21-24, Melbourne, FL, Harbor City

MURPHY, MARK

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

NAJARIAN, BERGE

Jan 20-21, Avon Park, FL, First

NICHOLAS, CLAUDE**RENEWAL LOVE MINISTRIES**

Oct 1-4, Saint Paris, OH, Community
 Oct 8-11, Commerce Township, MI, Union Lake
 Oct 15-18, Medway, OH, Bethel Community
 Oct 22-25, Eaton, OH, First
 Oct 29-Nov 1, Fort Recovery, OH
 Nov 5-8, Paulding, OH
 Nov 12-15, Zanesville, OH, First
 Nov 19-22, Cheyenne, WY, First
 Nov 26-29, Durand, MI

PERDUE, NELSON, PERDUE MINISTRIES

Sep 27-1, Bradford, OH
 Oct 4-8, Indianapolis, IN, Southwest
 Oct 11-15, London, OH
 Oct 18-22, Logan, OH
 Oct 25-29, Springfield, OH, High Street
 Nov 1-5, Bethel, OH
 Nov 8-12, Inez, KY, Turkey Creek
 Nov 15-19, Indianapolis, IN, South Side
 Nov 26-29, Springfield, IL, Trinity

PETTIT, BENJAMIN AND AMANDA**ELAINE PETTIT MINISTRIES**

Oct 1-4, Belpre, OH
 Oct 15-18, Kalamazoo, MI, South Side
 Oct 22-25, Elgin, IL
 Oct 29-Nov 1, Nevada, MO
 Nov 5-8, Deepwater, MO, Crossroads
 Nov 12-15, Bourbonnais, IL, Eastridge
 Nov 16-19, Waukegan, IL, First
 Nov 26-30, Chesaning, MI
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

PETTIT, ELAINE**ELAINE PETTIT MINISTRIES**

Oct 1-4, Fort Wright, KY, Covington Central
 Oct 8-11, Heber Springs, AR
 Oct 15-18, Nacogdoches, TX
 Oct 22-25, Pennington, NJ, Trenton
 Oct 27-Nov 1, Lubbock, TX, First
 Nov 3-8, Salina, KS, First
 Nov 12-15, New Smyrna Beach, FL
 Nov 17-21, Paducah, KY, Nazarene Prayer Awakening
 Dec 1-3, Archbold, OH, Sauder Heritage
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists' Gathering
 Jan 24-28, Coudersport, PA, Free Methodist

PETTIT, JEREMY**ELAINE PETTIT MINISTRIES**

Oct 1-4, Fort Wright, KY, Covington Central
 Oct 8-11, Heber Springs, AR
 Oct 15-18, Nacogdoches, TX
 Oct 22-25, Pennington, NJ, Trenton
 Oct 27-Nov 1, Lubbock, TX, First
 Nov 3-8, Salina, KS, First
 Nov 12-15, New Smyrna Beach, FL
 Nov 17-21, Paducah, KY, Nazarene Prayer Awakening
 Dec 1-3, Archbold, OH, Sauder Heritage
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists' Gathering
 Jan 24-28, Coudersport, PA, Free Methodist

PHELPS, PHILLIP**PHILLIP PHELPS MINISTRIES**

Oct 22-25, Dallas, TX, Dallas Central
 Nov 5-8, Tishomingo, OK

PICKERING, DEAN AND TWANDA**PICKERING MINISTRIES**

Oct 28, Bainbridge, GA, Church of God

PICKLE, ROBERT**SET FREE MINISTRIES, INC.**

Oct 1-4, Durant, OK, Fillmore
 Oct 5-11, Ottawa, IL, First
 Oct 14-18, Charleston, WV, Calvary
 Oct 22-25, Greenburg, KY
 Nov 5-8, Elk City, KS
 Nov 12-15, Nixa, MO
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

PIERCE, RONALD

Oct 1-4, Archdale, NC
 Oct 8-11, St. Augustine, FL, First
 Oct 14-18, Archdale, NC
 Oct 22-27, Loudon, TN

RAEBURN, STEPHEN AND JANET**RED NOSE MINISTRIES**

Oct 14-15, Lapeer, MI
 Oct 27-29, Delaware, OH, Highpoint
 Dec 8-10, Delaware, OH, Highpoint
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering
 Jan 28-31, Flint, MI, West

REED, SHERMAN**LIVING TRUTH MINISTRIES**

Oct 1-5, Joliet, IL, First
 Oct 9-11, Washington DC
 Oct 12-14, Olathe, KS, Women Alive Conference
 Oct 16-17, Bourbonnais, IL, Pastor Appreciation-ONU
 Oct 22-25, Chrisman, IL
 Oct 27-28, Indianapolis, IN, ROA Global Affairs
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

RICHARDS, LARRY AND PHYLLIS**SINGING RICHARDS**

Oct 29-Nov 1, Catlettsburg, KY, First
 Nov 12-15, New Castle, IN, Westview
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

ROACH, JERRY AND BARBARA**ROACH EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES**

Oct 1-31, Paris, TN
 Nov 1-30, Paris, TN
 Dec 1-31, Paris, TN
 Jan 1-31, Paris, TN

ROBINSON, TED**TRUMPET TRUTH MINISTRY**

Oct 8-11, Andover, OH, Cherry Valley

ROTH, RONALD, RON ROTH MINISTRIES

Oct 1-4, Little Rock, AR, Rose Hill
 Oct 17-22, Reedsville, OH,
 Oct 24-29, Terra Alta, WV

RUSHING, TRACY AND TERRI**RUSHING FAMILY SINGERS**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

SCUTT, M.

Oct 1-4, Charleston, WV, Valley Grove
 Oct 8-11, Sistersville, WV
 Oct 15-18, Newell, WV, First
 Oct 22-25, Hurricane, WV, First
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

SHANK, GARY AND MARLA

Oct 1-31, Olathe, KS, Westside
 Nov 1-30, Olathe, KS, Westside
 Dec 1-31, Olathe, KS, Westside
 Jan 1-31, Olathe, KS, Westside

SHARPE, VANCE AND JEANNIE**SHARPE MINISTRIES, INC.**

Oct 6, Myrtle Beach, SC, Good Sam's Club-Ocean Lakes Camp
 Oct 8, Myrtle Beach, SC, Myrtle Beach-The Connection
 Oct 15-18, Northville, MI, Detroit First
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

SHAVER, CHARLES, CHIC SHAVER CENTER FOR EVANGELISM

Sep 30-4, Salem, OH, First
 Oct 8-11, Carthage, TN
 Oct 14-18, Alum Bank, PA,
 Oct 21-25, Pratt, KS, Abundant Harvest Community
 Oct 28-Nov 1, Corydon, IN, Community of Hope
 Nov 4-8, Maryville, MO
 Nov 15-19, Wellston, OH

SHELburne, JEFFERY**THE SHELburneS MINISTRY**

Oct 15, Thorntown, IN, Old Mill Run Campgrounds
 Oct 27, Shirley, IN, Murray Marketplace Concert
 Nov 5, Muncie, IN, South Side
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

SHELLENBERGER, SUSIE**SUSIE SHELLENBERGER MINISTRIES**

Oct 12, Olathe, KS, Come to the Fire-College Church
 Oct 13-14, London, ON, First
 Oct 18-19, Olathe, KS, Nazarene Missions International
 Nov 3-6, Hume Lake, CA, Girls Conference
 Nov 10-13, San Diego, CA, Girls Getaway Cruise
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering
 Dec 29-31, Pigeon Forge, TN, Retreat
 Jan 6, Baltimore, MD, Girls Conference
 Jan 19-20, Largo, FL, Moms & Daughters
 Jan 24-25, Lake Buena Vista, FL
 Jan 26-27, Phoenix, AZ, Moms & Daughters

SHOWALTER, KEITH**SHOWALTEREVANGELISM MINISTRY**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

SMITH, DUANE**DUANE SMITH MINISTRIES, INC.**

Sep 27-1, Sherwood, AR, First
 Oct 4-8, Whitney, TX
 Oct 11-15, Terrell, TX
 Oct 22-25, San Jose, CA, Cambrian Park
 Oct 29-Nov 5, Murphys, CA, Wesleyan Camp
 Nov 12-15, Vidor, TX
 Nov 26-29, Archdale, NC
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering
 Jan 24-28, Summit, MS, GraceWay Community

SPEARS, DANNY, VISUAL MINISTRIES

Oct 21-23, Salem, IL, Grace

STIRES, WILLIAM, "LET'S GO"

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

THARP, JAMES**CHRISTIAN RENEWAL MINISTRIES**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

THOMPSON, L.**L. ALAN THOMPSON MINISTRIES**

Oct 14-18, Cedar Rapids, IA, Oakland
 Nov 3-5, Chandler, AZ, First
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering
 Jan 19-21, Prescott, AR, First

TIMKO, KIMBERLEY

Oct 14, Goose Creek, SC, Charleston Calvary

TOMPKINS, DOROTHY**CROSS SHAPED MINISTRIES**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering
 Jan 14-17, Benton, AR, First

TOMPKINS, JOE**CROSSSHAPED MINISTRIES**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering
 Jan 14-17, Benton, AR, First

ULMET, WILLIAM, ULMET MINISTRIES

Oct 1-4, Saginaw, MI, First Free Methodist
 Oct 10-15, Grenada, MS, First
 Oct 15-20, Grenada, MS, First
 Oct 22-25, Pineville, LA, First
 Oct 29-Nov 1, Mauston, WI
 Nov 5-9, Nancy, KY, Delmer
 Nov 10-12, Bradford, PA, First
 Nov 14-19, Terre Haute, IN, South Side

VINEYARD, JOANN, M & J MINISTRIES, INC./THE KING'S DAUGHTERS

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

WALKER, JAMES**JAMES WALKER MINISTRIES**

Oct 18-22, Elizabethton, TN

WELCH, DARLENE

Nov 10-12, Middletown, IN
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

WETNIGHT, RICHARD

Oct 1-4, Owensville, IN
 Oct 15-18, Sullivan, IN, Wesleyan

WHITWORTH, MARCUS

Oct 1-4, McAllen, TX
 Oct 8-11, Springfield, MO, Grace
 Oct 13-15, Roach, MO, KC District Lay Retreat
 Oct 22-24, Amarillo, TX, Amarillo North Beacon
 Oct 29-Nov 1, Vicksburg, MS, First

WILLITS, ERIK, ERIK WILLITS MINISTRIES

Oct 1-4, Pittsford, MI,
 Nov 3-5, Mechanicsburg, IL, Illinois District Retreat
 Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

WOODWARD, S.**WOODWARD FAMILY EVANGELISM**

Dec 11-13, Syracuse, IN, Evangelists Gathering

Ⓢ Tenured Evangelist is recognized by the church as a lifetime assignment. See *Manual* 407.3

http://www

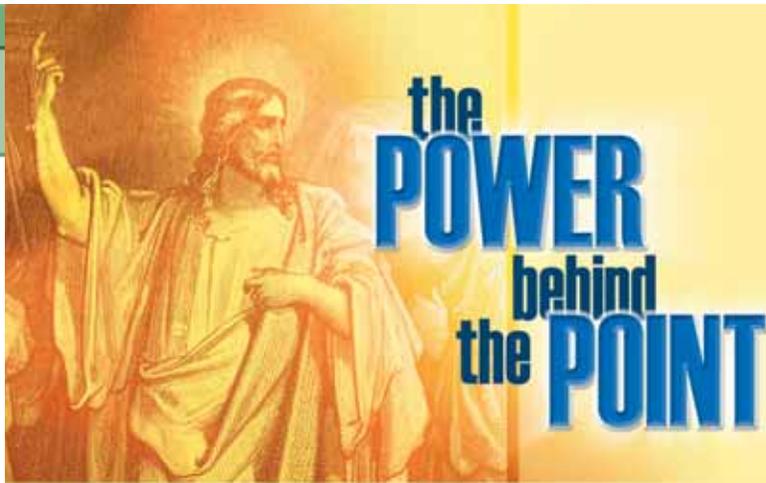


Contact Don Gessner, (317) 837-6621

WWW website directory

Adams, David & Charlene	www.adamsvoice.net
Armstrong, Leon	www.armstrongfamilyministries.org
Baker, Judith	www.judithbakerministries.com
Benson, Michael	www.deeperlife.org
Birt, Alvin	www.clownsforhire.com
Black, Rick D.	www.purefaithministries.com
Bolich, Jeremiah	www.jeremiahbolich.com
Bond, Gary	www.bondministries.com
Bullock, Rex	www.dayspringradio.com
Burg, Steven	www.home.earthlink.net/~t-shuva/
Burkhalter, Pat & Donna	www.burkhalterministries.org
Cervantes, Rudy	www.heavenlytrumpet.com
Chapman, Jim	www.bigchap.org
Covington, Nathan	www.lifemenders.org
Cundiff, Vickie	www.vickiecundiffministries.com
Curry, J. Michael	www.curry4christ.org
Dell, Jimmy	www.jimmydell.org
Donnerberg, John	www.johndonnerbergministries.org
Downing, Ann	www.anndowning.com
Dunham, Scott	www.scottdunham.com
Flint, Bob	www.bobflintministries.com
Fox, Jay David	www.jayfoxmusic.com
Fuller, Stefanie Coburn	www.stefaniecoburnfuller.com
Gallimore, David	www.davidgallimore.com
Garrick, John	www.eternalimpact.org
Gee, C. Eugene	www.familylobby.com/Gee/
Gessner, Don & Shirl	www.gessnermusicministries.org
Goss, M. Mikki	www.mnjministries.org
Haines, Gary	www.garyhaines.com
Hance, Larry	www.larryhance.com
Hicks, John David	www.faihtencounter.org
Huddleston, Billy	www.billyhuddleston.com
Hull, Bethany	www.resurrectionsministries.com
Hutchison, Rick	www.barnabas-ministries.org
Jackson, Paul & Trish	www.gojetstream.net

Jones, Terry & Laquita	www.terryjonesministries.org
Kearce, Doug and Darla	www.crossstyle.org
Leckrone, Larry	www.leckroneministries.org
Legg, Charles	www.middlecrossministries.org
Leidy, Arnold	www.nazarene.ch/upwardcall
Lewis, Christopher	www.chrislewisministries.org
Liddell, PL	www.liddellministries.com
Loman, Lane	www.lomanministries.com
Manley, Stephen	www.crossstyle.org
Millhuff, Chuck	www.millhuffministries.com
Mitchell, Royce	www.libertyquartet.com
Moore, Benjamin	www.iam.homepage.com
Moore, Norman	www.normanmooreministries.org
Muncie, Bob & Jane	www.bobandjanemuncie.com
Murphy, Mark	www.murphyministries.com
Nestor, Stephen	www.newspiritevangelism.org
Pearson, Rick	www.funson.com
Perdue, Nelson	www.perdueministries.com
Pettit, Ben & Amanda	www.elainepettitministries.org
Pettit, Elaine	www.elainepettitministries.org
Phelps, Phillip	www.jslweb.com/phelps
Phipps, Paul	www.phippsrevivalministries.com
Pickering, Dean & Twanda	www.pickeringministries.com
Pickle, Robert	www.rpsetfree.org
Raeburn, Steve & Janet	www.RedNoseMinistries.com
Reed, Sherman	www.shermanreed.org
Scrivner, Vickie	www.ihsministries.org
Sharpe, Vance and Jeannie	www.thesharps.com
Shelburne, Jeffrey	www.theshelburnes.com
Shellenberger, Susie	www.AmbassadorAgency.com
Showalter, Keith	www.showalterevangelism.com
Smith, Duane	www.duanesmithministries.com
Spears, Danny	www.spearsfamilyministries.org
Stephens, Ken	www.speakingtoamerica.com
Tharp, James W.	www.crmin.org
Thompson, L. Alan	www.thompsonministries.com
Ulmet, Bill	www.angelfire.com/la/ulmetministry
Vineyard, JoAnn	www.mnjministries.org
Ward, Dale	www.freedomquest.org
Whitworth, Marcus	www.marcuswhitworth.com
Wetnight, Rick	www.RickWetnight.com
Willison, Rick	www.radicallysaved.com
Willits, Eric	www.csrevolution.org
Winchester, Larry	www.grace-outreach.org



› *continued from page 5*

makes it difficult for him to catch every word that is spoken or sung. PowerPoint, he said, helped him to better understand what was being presented.

This article is not intended to be a tutorial for teaching you how to use PowerPoint; there are many others more qualified than I to do that. This is intended to encourage you to utilize this wonderful tool as you “broadcast” your message.

PowerPoint is neither a toy nor a fad; it is a tool to help you better present your message and to help reinforce your point. Call it “visual repetition” if you will. It is what Jesus would have called reinforcement by repetition.

PowerPoint allows the preacher/teacher to emphasize each point of the message with both text and pictures. (MediaShout even allows you to use text over video, but that’s a whole different story.) Custom animation and timing features found in PowerPoint provide nice transitions and effects to assist you as you “broadcast” your message.

I am thrilled that so many churches have installed video projection gear. Many times, however, when the music is finished, the projector is turned off and the screen is closed. Why put all that money into a system that is only used for half of the service?

Using modern presentation software such as PowerPoint is fairly straightforward: I typically open both PowerPoint and Word and cut-and-paste from Word right into PowerPoint. After the text is entered, I change the font and spacing, add a background, adjust the colors and add a slide transition.

Slides can be designed using the custom animation feature that allows text to come onto the slide at a predetermined time. This adds visual interest to the presentation. To access this feature, with the text box open right click on the text and you will see “custom animation.” Click on “custom animation” and you can choose the transition for the text as well as the timing for when the text is to come on to the slide. This will allow you to reinforce a point without manually changing the slide.

A very wise man once said that less is more. (See the byline for this article.) That is especially true with PowerPoint slides. I try to stick with four lines or less of text in a font not less than 54 point.

A good tip to remember is that the text on the slide

should reinforce the point until the next slide goes up. I rarely use more than 25 slides per sermon unless I include the Scripture text in the program. (In this day, many folks do not know where the text is found even though there may be a Bible in the pew right in front of them. Including the text in the program is a good idea.)

Beautifully designed backgrounds are available from a variety of sources on the Internet. (Both www.ebibleteacher.com and www.heartlight.com are very good sources.) Just remember that templates and backgrounds are neither the same thing nor are they used in the same way. You can download these resources and store them on your hard drive for future use. Create a “PowerPoint Backgrounds” file and they will be just a couple of mouse clicks away.

Adding a background to your slides is simple once you get the hang of it. You can add a background from either the slide sorter view or the individual slide view. Click on “format” to open the window and then click “background.” The “background fill” box will open and you can click on the open arrow to reveal the “fill effects” box. Click on “picture” and then on “select picture.” This will open your files to allow you to choose the proper background. Open the proper file, click on the background of your choice and then click “insert.” The “fill effects” box will come back where you click “ok” and then “apply” and—just like that—the background is on your slide. It really goes much more quickly than described.

A couple of additional items will be extremely helpful. The first is a small thumb or flash drive. Depending on usage, a 256k–512k drive will be more than sufficient. Much larger drives are now available that will hold a number of programs. The drive will let you transfer your PowerPoint files from your computer to the computer in the church where you will be preaching or teaching.

The other device you will need is a remote control to operate the in-house computer from the platform. I use a great device made by Honeywell. The receiver plugs into the host computer’s USB port. The transmitter is the size of the key fob controller that you might carry for the door locks on your car. With this remote you can go forward and backward in your program, and you won’t need to rely on someone else to keep up with you.

A sample of these techniques may be accessed at ncodistrict.org and then click on the link to “Tim Hancock Ministries, Inc.” You will find a Word document which is the text of a sermon, as well as the PowerPoint file that goes along with it. You will need both Word and PowerPoint to access these resources. (Better yet, just call me for a revival and see it first hand for yourself!)

Hopefully, this information will encourage you to utilize these wonderful resources. Even if you are a three-points-and-a-story preacher, you can emphasize your points more effectively with technology. Reinforcement

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THE CALL > *continued from page 6*

become an anachronism and isn't needed anymore. But I will be forever grateful to the Church of the Nazarene for acknowledging the office of the God-called evangelist. From its beginning to the present, the role of the God-called evangelist—as authorized by the church—is to promote revivals and to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ abroad in the land. The Church of the Nazarene recognizes three levels of itinerant evangelism to which a district assembly may assign ministers: registered evangelist, commissioned evan-

gelist and tenured evangelist. Every believer has the mandate to go into the world and preach the gospel, but God called some to be evangelists. Why? “For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ” (Ephesians 4: 12).

I urge every reader to examine your call and renew your commitment so that together we can fulfill the great commission. We face a humanity that is too precious to neglect. We know a remedy too wonderful to withhold. We have a Christ who is too glorious to hide. And we have an adventure that is too thrilling to miss. 

HOW I PREACH

> *continued from page 2*

Evangelist C. William Fisher preached with a remarkable, clear, distinct, articulate diction and an arresting interest in his connection of current facts to the text. His style was so sharp in dress and action that I, as a young student at Olivet Nazarene University, wanted to be like him. Add to that the unction of the Holy Spirit and you had a wonderful presentation of the Word of God.

Dr. Edward Lawlor began speaking as he left his chair on the way to the pulpit. I can still see his snowy white hair flaming and his voice booming out, “LET US TAKE THE BOOK OF GOD.” He then wove together a logical argument that was hard to refute. He was not beyond telling of his own conversion from Catholicism and his problems with the law. He had not been able

to become a citizen of the United States until late in his ministry.

Evangelist Harold Volk had no use of his legs so he preached from the communion table. He demonstrated the ability to overcome. He used elbow-length crutches, and with huge shoulders and arms he would swing himself onto the table. Well, that was enough to get me interested as a child. His humor and driving delivery with no lack of volume was irresistible. He was a man's man!

Evangelist Charles Hastings Smith was known as the Poet of the Ozarks. His memory was indescribable. He could recite the entire book of The Revelation by memory and keep you on the edge of your seat. Immaculate in his appearance, he was mesmerizing and often wore Hollywood purchased costumes to illustrate his message. Who could ever match or forget that?

My real hero is my father-in-law, Dr. Lyle Eckley, who celebrated his

96th birthday last week. He is strong and very sharp and reads a book a week. I never have known Dad to be without reading material at hand. He has given me his full set of *Preacher's Magazine* from day one, with each of them well marked. He is “rugged,” to put it into a word. His library is impressive and his preaching was filled with the things he had read and experienced. His vocal volume was impressive as was his intensity. He filled his messages with everyday stories from his life in ministry, which included 40 years in the District Superintendency. He always drove for a decision and taught me to do the same.

Among these impressive pulpits, I must name my fellow column writers Dr. Stephen Manley and G. Stewart McWhirter. Stephen is a master of the exegetical sermon. He literally breaks the dams of truth bound

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THE POWER BEHIND THE POINT

> *continued from page 13*

by repetition worked for Jesus and it will work for you and your people, too.

Karl Moraski is music director for Hope Community Church in Raleigh, North Carolina, with a congregation of nearly 4,000. In the April issue of *Church Production* magazine, he helped to bring my thinking about this matter into sharp focus:

“If we expect to reach our culture we must keep up with them technically. Our neighbors and

friends who are far from God are used to surround-sound movies in HD and state-of-the-art lighting at live concerts and shows they attend. We want (the people in) our congregation to bring their friends and not have them turned off because we seem antiquated in our methodology.”

Do I think Jesus would have used modern presentation software such as PowerPoint had it been available? Yes. In terms of communication, Jesus was way ahead of the curve. This is a great way for us to utilize the available technology of our day to more effectively communicate his message. Doing all we can to be all we can be for Him! 

PREACHING AS AN ACT OF WORSHIP > *continued from page 7*

know, the more you will see how limited is your knowledge. Instead of being cause for despair, this should challenge us and ignite a desire within us to keep on the path of spiritual formation.

If preaching is not an act of worship, you can easily make an idol of your outline. I am all for learning the fundamentals of hermeneutics and homiletics, but it is so easy to get wrapped up in an outline and fail to bring the hearers face to face with the living God. So the purpose of preaching is not to inform the congregation of the minister's homiletical gifts; it is to bring the congregation in contact with the living God and His commands for their lives.

When G. Campbell Morgan started preaching, people immediately noticed that he was a gifted expositor, and Morgan was beginning to notice it, too. One Sunday, after a successful evening service, Morgan sat in his study alone pondering his life and ministry. God's voice seemed to say to him, "What are you going to be, a preacher or My messenger?" All night long Morgan wrestled with God in prayer. In the early morning hours he surrendered and said, "Thy messenger, my Master." Then he took a bundle of outlines of his popular sermons and threw them into the fireplace. Morgan said, "The work of many years was destroyed on that golden morning when I stepped out to follow God at all costs, determining to do without those sermons."

What I am saying is that when the sermon becomes an end in itself instead of a means to the end, then we are confronted with idolatry. But when the message is given to God as an offering from the minister's heart, then God can take the message and bless it.

When preaching is an act of worship, there is an immediacy to the impact of the Word. This is something that brings me under conviction today. Why? Because too often I have wanted the congregation to take down my outline and write some choice statements down after I have said them. But that delays the impact of the message on the hearer's heart. Often people say to me, "Fine message, pastor," which means being interpreted, "I got your outline today and learned something new from the Bible. The hour was not wasted." The real goal of preaching is for the revelation of God and the conviction of the Holy Spirit to hit the heart of the listener. When that happens, the listener must do something about the revelation of God that the Spirit brings to Him.

When preaching is an act of worship, there are no "preliminaries" in the worship service. Every part of the service is an act of worship to God. There are no preliminaries to be "gotten out of the way" before the sermon is preached.

Preaching is an act of worship when the Word is applied personally to our lives. Academic sermon outlines prepared by a preacher who has not seen God as the material was prepared will never transform the lives of the listeners. Truth divorced from real life is not truth in

the Biblical sense. Truth must persuade the will of man to surrender to its sword.

The purpose of the Word of God is to reveal the God of the Word. When you meet the God of the Word, you must do something. You cannot remain neutral.

The kind of preaching that meets needs is not simply manufactured by a thorough exegesis and exposition of the text, although study is certainly necessary. We must build on our study and see that a message from God is the living consequence of a vital meeting with God during which you worshiped Him and let Him set fire to your own soul.

Make sure the fire of the Holy Spirit is burning in your heart. Let God burn the message into your heart. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you a "rhema" from God. Let the Word sink into the interior chambers of your heart until you are believing what you preach and are preaching what you believe.

FATHER,

I know you have forgiven me for my sins. But can you ever forgive me for my sermons?

Forgive me for being clever, for presenting Your truth in neat human packages that rob You of glory.

Forgive me for preaching to impress rather than to express. Forgive me for predictable preaching that lacked surprises and heavenly interruptions.

Help me to open the Word so that hearts will burn and people will say, "We have seen the Lord!" May each message be fresh from the altar, fragrant with heavenly incense and ignited by divine fire.

Remind me, O Lord, of the awesomeness of preaching. Convict me when I find it easy to manufacture outlines and feed my people on substitutes.

Apart from You, Lord, I can do nothing. With You, I can do all things.

I don't want to be a preacher only. Please make me Your messenger.

Whatever it is that I must burn—here are the ashes.

Reveal Yourself to me and help me to reveal You to others as I proclaim Your Word.

In Jesus' Name,

AMEN

Will you promise me something today? Let the words of this prayer composed by Warren Wiersbe become yours and pray this prayer before you preach. 



Dr. Barth Smith,
Olathe, KS,
Professor of Preaching,
MidAmerica Nazarene University

Revival Fires

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RETREAT REFLECTION

by Ann Downing



In 1991, my husband Paul and I were keynote speakers for the Southern California Women's Retreat for the second time.

We felt the spirit of what we had experienced both times was something we wanted to bring to the Middle Tennessee area. We loved how women from various backgrounds and different ages from all over California and Arizona came together at a first-class hotel for those three days, leaving with such enthusiasm for going back home to make a real difference in their "worlds."

Driving away from Southern California, I started developing a burning desire to get started planning right away for what we would later call Middle Tennessee Women's Retreat. Paul's exuberance was as great as mine, and we had wonderful times of dreaming and planning.

About four months before that first retreat was to be held in Nashville, Paul collapsed in a motel parking lot in a town outside of Lexington, Ky. For the next two months we were in the hospital critical care unit of Humana Hospital before Paul went to Heaven in February of 1992. During that hospital stay, a wonderful friend June Critcher carried on with the promotion of the very first MTWR, as we began to refer to it.

However, after Paul's death, which was just two months before retreat time, I started having great doubts as to whether the retreat could happen. But having been raised to never quit anything, plans went on and we had the very first MTWR with 70 or 80 women from all over the United States. In looking back, I think I was on "automatic pilot" as we began the first session on Friday night. But God was with me and had brought my best friend, Dolly Simms, alongside me as well as June and another dear, talented friend, Kathy Blume.

Has God been working in an unusual way in your church or camp meeting? We encourage you to submit written accounts.

We had a glorious first session and again on Saturday morning through midafternoon. As we gathered for Saturday night, I started having such agonizingly heartbreaking pain in my heart. It was as if the whole reality of a very painful truth settled on my shoulders: Paul was gone and wasn't coming back. Then sheer tormenting guilt began to gnaw at my very soul, as if everything that I could have possibly ever done to fail Paul started flashing through my mind. I couldn't drown out those horrible feelings. I could do nothing but bury my head in my hands, crying out to Paul for forgiveness, asking God to help me with these accusations that I couldn't seem to find a place for or any way to rationalize them away. I couldn't even really pray. I now know that it was a direct attack from Satan; however, I still to this day do not know why he attacked me in this area of my grief.

As the Saturday evening session came to a close, the speaker, Lana Bateman, started talking about the healing grace of God—that it was always available to a child of His and that the enemy of our souls, the devil himself, wanted so much to paralyze us with guilt and self-blame. Then she shared how only God in His mercy and grace could lift that heaviness and condemnation off us. It was then as if all Heaven opened up, and the marvelous sense of healing began to enter my heart. I was able to give that false guilt to God and realize that if I truly trusted His power of forgiveness and mercy above any accusations from the devil, I would be free. I could almost physically feel the heavy load roll off my shoulders, out of my heart, and I could stand to my feet and receive God's wonderful gift of release and freedom with gratitude and joy.

I fully intended to entertain the thought of not doing a second MTWR. How could I? Why would I want to carry on a dream that belonged as much to Paul as to me? But with that sense of being set free and a great healing taking place, I knew I could do it again—make a safe, healing place available for other women from all over the country.

And they've come. We celebrated our 15th year this past May at MTWR 2006, with women from 24 states. Each year the phrase I seem to hear most often in describing MTWR is that it's a safe place. It's a place where one can be totally at peace with oneself and a healing God who so graciously offers a release and freedom that would enable us to go home to the same world but with a very different healed heart. **EP**

Ann Downing, Hendersonville, Tennessee, is a gospel soloist, pianist and retreat speaker. She is a Commissioned Evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene. Ann became well known as a part of the Singing Speer Family as well as a member of The Downings, a trio along with her husband and Donny McGuire. —CRM

HOW DO WE PREACH?

> *continued from page 3*

them through stories and relevant illustrations. Everyday stories will make them laugh and tug at their hearts, which opens up a channel for them to hear the message. I include stories about today's world. A story or illustration about every five to eight minutes for me seems to keep the audience engaged.

I have almost always been text driven. I will pick a text and stay with that one text throughout the life of the sermon. Certainly I will pull in other subtexts to support the main theme but I have always felt that if I stray too far from the central text I could wander into other areas and thus lose the audience. Keeping an audience engaged should be one of our main concerns in preaching. I have heard great sermons full of awesome content lose their core audience because they were dry and boring to most of the listeners. I am not purely exegetical, but most of the time I will take scriptures from the main text that will direct certain movements in the sermon.

Being able to understand the sermon is of supreme importance to me. We understand there are many brilliant preachers in our work. Many of our brilliant preachers reach thousands for Christ. I remember one such preacher of a church of about 3,000 admitting he had to "dumb down" his sermons for this generation. I commend him for understanding the audiences of today. I believe in simple preaching. What does this mean? Rick Warren of Saddleback church in Orange County, California, describes the difference between simple and simplistic. Simple is "This is the day the Lord has made—let us rejoice and be glad in it". Simplistic is "Have a nice day." There is a difference!

The gospel of Jesus Christ is a simple gospel that must be proclaimed with inspiration and passion, and yet must be able to be understood and delivered within a maximum of 25 to 35 minutes. *My goal every week is not to impress people with my knowledge, but for people to leave inspired with a better understanding of what God said to them and how it applies to their lives.* If they cannot apply the sermon to their lives, I have failed to make it relevant. Lack of relevancy is the reason that many of our churches no longer grow. It's not that we don't have the right message—it is just that we are not delivering the message in a way that people can understand and apply to their lives and situations.

Almost every time I approach the preaching moment, I say a simple prayer: "God speak and inspire through me." We, as proclaimers of the most awesome truth, should have a sense of the divine importance of the moment—that God is going to change lives through the preaching moment and that souls for whom Christ died lie in the balance! God has deposited in us, the preachers, the message that He wants to deliver. There are times God speaks to me as I am begin-

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HOW DO WE PREACH?

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ning to go up to the lectern; and He seems to say, “Let it go.” He seems to say, “There is something in you that I have given you that you must unleash before these good people.” It is a very energizing moment to realize that God has chosen you and me to preach His word! God has something to say through us. Let it go! We, therefore, should always preach with passion and clarity because God has something to say through us.

Finally, be yourself. Four people have influenced me very strongly in my preaching. Dr. Paul Cunningham, who many of us believe is one of the best “every week” preachers in the country, was my pastor during my formative teen and college years. I grew up listening to Dr. Chuck Millhuff and was one of his son’s best friends. Of course, Chuck’s preaching is powerful and moving and is a model of evangelistic preaching. The Rev. Tim Stearman influenced me by his ability to reach an audience and by how his sermons would stay with you. And my final influence was the Rev. Roy Pedersen, whom I worked closely with in my early years of ministry. His ability to connect with the audience was tremendous. Early on, I tried to preach like all of these men. Yet I learned after some time just to be myself. God has uniquely gifted each one of us to preach His word in the way that he made us—using our own personality and gifts and passions. Be who you are. People have said that my style is very realistic and genuine. People today are leery of clergy. If they are going to listen to us, we must be REAL. So keep it real!

In summary, don’t be afraid to simplify. Know your audience, know yourself, and be yourself. Speak words that God has given you for that day! Allow people to hear what God has to say to them through you about His glory and how he wants to impact and change their lives! 



Shawn Siegfried,
*Visalia, CA,
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HOW I PREACH

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up in a word or two, then binds you to those truths that now seem to run like a river. I am convinced that it is the result of a lot of hard study and work and a love for the Word that is indescribable. Add to this a near hypnotic delivery that is the sheer gift of God.

G. Stewart McWhirter has a mind that has never forgotten anything, and he has a way of weaving with a style called “oratory.” It is far more than a showman’s display; it is a combination of alliteration and the use of pauses and variance in volume that catch you unaware until you want everything he is describing. He has an understanding of Christology that is breathtaking. He drives for a decision as well, with his greatest concern being for the salvation of those before him. And he is still going strong!

Well, I could go on and on because I have been hearing these folks for a long time. My style—beyond the story beginning the sermon—is extemporaneous. I have very brief notes that for the most part would fit on the back of an envelope. I have depended upon the Holy Spirit to then tell me what to say. Over the years these scribbles have developed into sermons I just simply have remembered. These thoughts have been developing in my mind for months, in most cases, and have been committed to paper with a brief outline so that I can see the logic of the message and feel the unction of what I believe God would have me say. I aim at the head and pray it will leak into the heart.

I would be tied with ropes if I tried to read/preach a manuscript. I saw H. Orton Wiley preach off an envelope at Olivet Nazarene University, and that is where I got the idea. I don’t recommend it, but it works for me and has for years. Of course I have never pastored, so that does make a difference; and of course to compare me to Dr. Wiley would be humorous.

Another example of a great, master preacher from the last century would be Henry Ward Beecher. It was said his public utterances, whether on the platform or in the pulpit, were carefully elaborated. They were delivered extemporaneously and sparkled with wit, were convincing by their logic, and conciliating by their shrewd common sense. There are many other examples, but I will stop, lest you think I am trying to justify my own style or the style God has given me. (Which I am. Pardon me!)

Of most importance is the issue of the preacher preaching under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. I would far rather hear five minutes of a sermon preached under the anointing of the Holy Spirit than a perfect sermon that would earn an A-plus in a seminary preaching class but is as dry as toast. The HOW is important, but of course the WHAT is no small matter. I believe that our church and our world are longing for passion in the pulpit. To crawl out of the study or, in my case, to walk slowly from my motel room loaded down with the will of God pressing me to be His messenger is difficult. That puts the message and the messenger together. The will of God and the personality of the preacher puts the *how* and the *what* together. May God use us all HOWever we do it for Him! 



THE SACRIFICE OF PREACHING

by *Stephen Manley*

Following an evening revival service, a woman from the congregation shook my hand and made this statement. “I want to thank you for the sacrifice OF preaching!” What was she saying? She may have been expressing her gratitude for the time I spent in sermon preparation, my life on the road or my separation from family. But that was not what I heard.

I had been having difficulty with Hebrews chapter four, and her words brought clarification to my struggle. In the first 11 verses of the chapter, the author clearly identifies the “rest” provided for the people of God. He boldly proclaims its existence as well as its experience. He defines it by saying, ***For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His*** (Hebrews 4:10). Resting in Christ is defined as ceasing from works of creation. I am no longer to be the source of what is produced! Even the goodness in my life must not be sourced by me.

My difficulty with this chapter was how these verses (Hebrews 4:1-11) were linked with the verses completing the chapter (verses 12-16). He begins this last section with these words. ***For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart*** (Hebrews 4:12). It seemed both sections of this chapter were clear, but I could not see how they were connected. The author began discussing the subject of “resting in Christ,” and now he speaks of “the Word of God.” It is like two different subjects without any connection. The phrase “sacrifice of preaching” forms the bridge that brings them together.

It is the picture of a special room that is free of contamination. There is a bed in the middle of the room for

you to rest upon. This room is a well-lighted, surgical room with people anxious to serve you. You will be well taken care of and you are invited to lie on the bed and rest. Now picture the Word of God as the surgical bed upon which you are to rest. It is here that the knife of the Living Word begins to cut, not to destroy but to heal.

This is the proper picture of preaching. As a preacher, I come to His Word without resistance or hesitation. I crawl up on His Word allowing Him to cut, expose and change my life. Hurting and somewhat bleeding, I crawl to the sacrifice altar of the pulpit to expose to my congregation where the Word of God has been cutting me. They are drawn into the surgical procedure I have been experiencing. I then crawl back to my study to heal for a couple of days, only to get back on the surgical table of the Word of God and do it all over again.

Biblical preaching is not a preacher skilled in using the surgical blade of the Word of God upon his people. It is a man who is willing to expose his entire being to the Word, both Living and Written, with courage enough to reveal it to the people he loves. It is the “sacrifice OF preaching.” Any other attempt at preaching falls far short of anything defined as preaching. We do not handle the Word of God; rather it handles us. We do not study the Word of God; rather it studies us. We do not preach the Word of God; rather it declares itself through us.

Are we guilty of hiding behind the “styles of preaching” and missing the “essence of preaching?” We speak of types of preaching such as narrative, topical, textual or expositional. Whatever our style of preaching, should there not be present the fundamental essence of the surgical Word of God doing His work? If this is lacking, how can we call it preaching? The very nature of preaching requires exposing of the Written Word. There is no preaching without the “sacrifice OF preaching!”

Far too often preaching is sourced from the reservoir of the preacher. He is educated and has developed his skills. All of this knowledge and development goes into his reservoir of information. Continuing education, further research and the emphasis of his culture all add to his reservoir. His theology and life experiences have developed his insights. None of this is evil or should be rejected.

However, this must not be the source of preaching. To preach from my reservoir of information is to limit the effect to what I know. Should I not come to the Word of God? My reservoir is not the source that is ***living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword*** (Hebrews 4:12)? I must not use my reservoir to develop a sermon and then search the Bible to back it up or find a text to support it. I must come to the Word of God and allow the sermon to flow from the source of the surgical work of that Word in my life. I can then go to my reservoir for application and illustration.



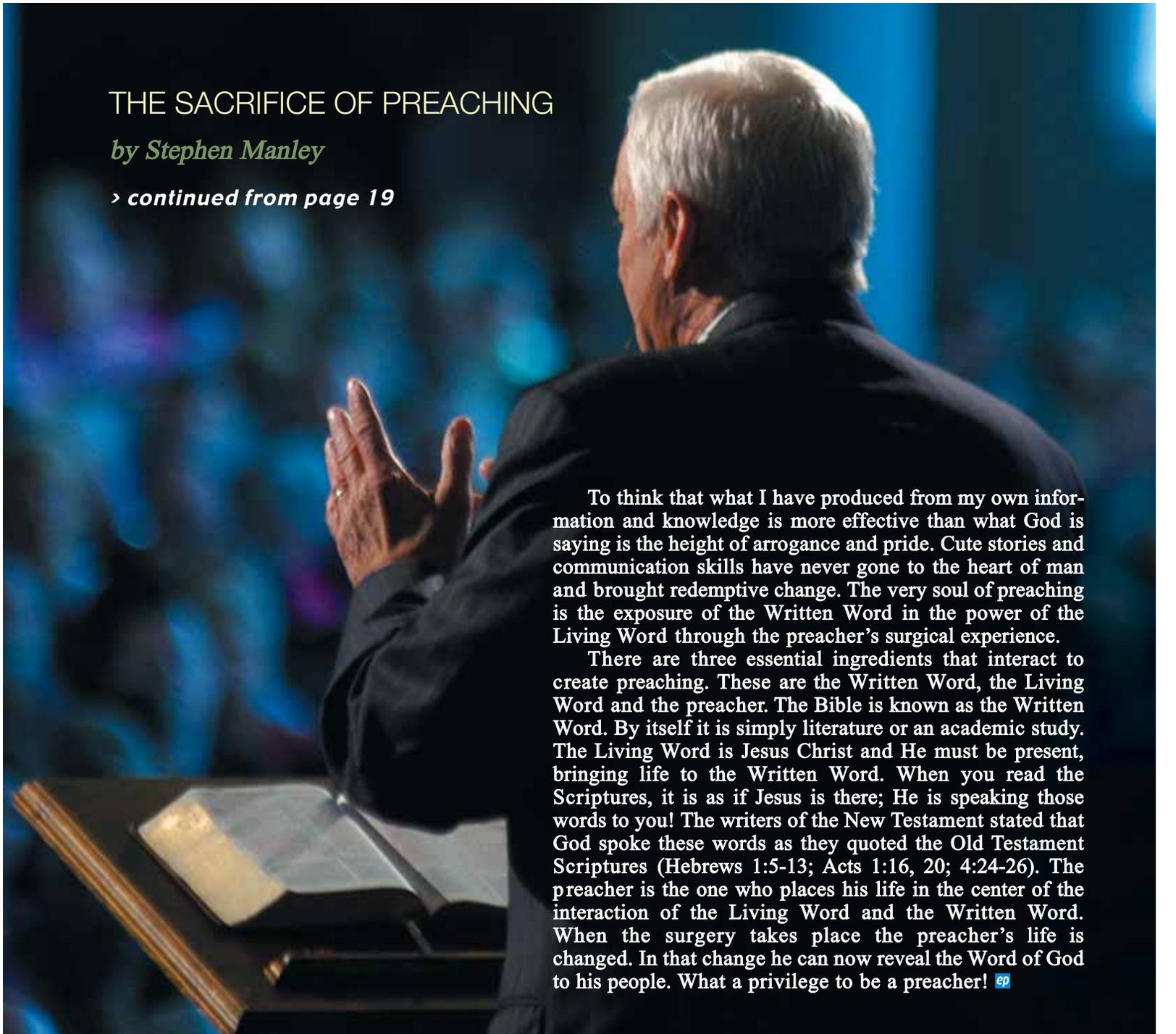
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THE SACRIFICE OF PREACHING

by Stephen Manley

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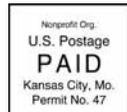


To think that what I have produced from my own information and knowledge is more effective than what God is saying is the height of arrogance and pride. Cute stories and communication skills have never gone to the heart of man and brought redemptive change. The very soul of preaching is the exposure of the Written Word in the power of the Living Word through the preacher's surgical experience.

There are three essential ingredients that interact to create preaching. These are the Written Word, the Living Word and the preacher. The Bible is known as the Written Word. By itself it is simply literature or an academic study. The Living Word is Jesus Christ and He must be present, bringing life to the Written Word. When you read the Scriptures, it is as if Jesus is there; He is speaking those words to you! The writers of the New Testament stated that God spoke these words as they quoted the Old Testament Scriptures (Hebrews 1:5-13; Acts 1:16, 20; 4:24-26). The preacher is the one who places his life in the center of the interaction of the Living Word and the Written Word. When the surgery takes place the preacher's life is changed. In that change he can now reveal the Word of God to his people. What a privilege to be a preacher! 

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