

The Aims of Preaching.....continued

Fifth, we need preaching that comforts. “Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God” (Isaiah 40:1). God’s people live in a cruel and antagonistic world. They get “hammered” every day by the people of the world. When they come together for worship and spiritual fellowship they need to hear words of comfort. “Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me” (Psalms 23:4). When we sin, we need to know there is forgiveness (I John 1:9). When we fail, we need to know that it does not have to be final. When a job or a marriage or a child does not turn out as we had hoped, we need to know that God and His people truly care. “Casting all your care upon Him for he careth for you” (I Peter 5:7). When sickness occurs we need to know that God’s people are praying for us and that they will minister to us. When death takes a loved one, we need to be consoled by the promise of everlasting life with God. Preaching needs to emphasize, “If God be for us, who can be against us?” (Rom 8:31). **Sixth**, we need preaching that is relevant. Better stated, people need to be shown that the Bible- - God’s message to man—relates to their greatest and deepest needs. Man’s basic nature has not changed, his real needs have not changed, and the gospel has not changed (and cannot be changed without dire consequences occurring—Galatians 1:6-9). The gospel, as it is, is relevant to man, as he is. Preaching needs to draw mankind to Christ. He, in turn, will meet their needs. Christ is the answer, but what are the questions? Preaching needs to challenge people to ask the truly significant questions of life: Who am I? Why am I here? Where am I going when I leave here? God’s word answers these questions.

The Manner of Preaching

The kind of preaching needed today is preaching that is done in love- - love for God, love for the truth, and love for the souls of men. “Speaking the truth in love” (Ephesians 4:15). Harshness, meanness, and a judgmental spirit are unbecoming of a preacher of Christ. This does not mean compromising the truth, but it does mean that “the servant of the Lord must not strive {be quarrelsome, NASV}, but be gentle unto all men, apt to teach, patient, in meekness correcting them that oppose themselves” (II Timothy 22:24,25a). Stated another way, preaching needs to be with compassion. Preachers need to preach on hell, but they do not need to sound as if they are happy that some of their hearers may be going there!

Preaching needs to be with passion. There needs to be “a fire in the bones” (Jeremiah 20:9). There needs to be a sense of urgency about preaching. “Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men” (II Corinthians 5:11).

We need preaching that is bold and courageous. When persecution threatened the church in its early days the members came together and prayed, “Grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word” (Acts 4:24). Boldness is not arrogance, nor is it brow-beating. Rather, it is the courage to stand against “the wiles of the devil” (Ephesians 6:11) and to “speak forth the words of truth and soberness” (Acts 26:25).

Preaching needs to be with patience. People generally change very slowly. Spiritual growth, for most Christians, is a gradual process. It takes time to reap a harvest. “The seed is the word of God” (Luke 8:11). The word of the kingdom planted in an “honest and good heart” (Luke 8:15) will, in time, produce a bountiful harvest. Preachers need to learn to be patient in their work. We must not “be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not” (Galatians 6:9). Let us patiently plant and water the seed of the kingdom, knowing that God will give the increase (I Corinthians 3:6).

*The above is taken from the book “*The Kind of Preaching Needed Today*” by Hugh Fulford, published 2006. Continued next week.

On Our Prayer List...

Jim Davis-stroke
Rita Stephens-CA

Joanne Hand
Al Peek

Richard Lory-CA

Mary Gugelchuk-(Michelle Lashlee's grandmother) will have surg on Nov 7th.
Wiley Marshall-(CHF) & Faye Marshall-(Traci Adams) parents
Savannah Patrick-(Marsha Patrick's granddaughter)recovering fr spinal surgery.
Beth Schreiber Fritts (Wesley Parrish's cousin) breast CA
Marsha Simpson-M Burns aunt-broken back
Larry Hayes-Elder @ WCOC-Ca has returned
June Stewart—stage 2 fibrosis of the liver
April Howton-(Sammy Long's dght-)Breast CA
Robert Durham– recovering fr spinal surg
Annette Smith (Carl's wife) stroke
George Hamblin-(friend of Roy Deloach)
Tessa Estes(Jacob & Lindsey (Baker) Estes-now home,
Virginia Tate-(D. Gentry's mom)

Colleen Browning-recovering fr surgery
Becky Keele—CA treatments
Kenna Rickenbrode-CA
Courtney Scott (cousin of N. Buttrey)
Gracelyn Darety-CF
Beth Campbell-(Thomas Cook's sis) CA .
Carter Robb (1 yr old CA-treatments)
Terry McKay-(Michelle Lashlee's fd) broken wrist.
June Dreaden-(S. Rachford's mom)
Carolyn Eddings-taking cancer treatments
Maggie Wright (friend of N. Buttrey)CA-chemo
Kim Marlow-CA (F.Featherstone-dght/Regina's sis)
Mary Ann Gray-CA-(friend of N. Buttrey)

ASSISTED LIVING & NURSING HOME

AHC Decatur County-726 Kentucky Ave, Parsons,TN 38363-Wyle Marshall (Rm 726)-Traci Adams dad
Dickson Health & Rehab—901 North Charlotte,Dickson,TN 37055 –Clayton England -Marvin's brother
Humphreys County-104 Forte Hill Rd/Waverly,TN.37185 –Billy Adams-Rm 712 / Ann Spicer
Lifecare Center of Centerville-112 Dickson Rd,Centerville,TN 37033/Jim(Rm309) & Earline(Rm315) Davis
NHC-812 N. Charlotte St. Dickson, TN 7055 –Mary Adair– (Rm 117) Thelma Carpenter-Amy & Bo's mom
Ronnie England-(Rm 113) & Doris Stokes-(Rm 127)

MILITARY

Dustin Proctor-(Navy-lagan)
PO SC 562 Box 7273,
FPO AP 96311-0073
Dalton & Hope Palk -
(Navy-Louisiana)
500 Woodland Dr, Apt 597
New Orleans, LA 70131

At HOME

HERBERT CAPPS-(now home) 1400 Bradley Rd
EARL FORSTER-131 Bold Springs Rd.

JOYCE LONG-P.O.Box 386
JIM BUCKNER-9367 Hwy 70 East

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

Let's have some fun food & fellowship!!!
Our “Church Softball Game & Cookout” will be on Saturday, October 7th from 4:30-8:30PM @ Byrum Phy Park & Pavilion
A sign-up sheet is in the foyer for players & spectators of all ages. Also a sign-up sheet for food!!!!



Our “Fall Family Retreat” will be held on Oct 20th-22th @Nathan Bedford. It is for All Ages!!! Sign-up sheet in the foyer.Cost will be \$15. per per-



Elders, Deacons, Preachers Meeting & Meal on Tuesday, October 24th @ 6:30.
Bring your favorite chili or soup!



IN F.O.C.U.S.

Faith, Obedience, Unity, Character, Salvation

Our youth activities for last week began with FLAME on Wednesday night. Laurie had to work late, so food for FLAME was on me. I brought the things to make ham and cheese sliders and had the youth kiddos help make them. That really helped me out and they did a great job! While the food was in the oven, we played a game of Werewolf! Werewolf is a great game of “who done it!”. It involves the “towns people” trying to figure out who the werewolves are before the werewolves take over the town. It was a lot of fun and the kids enjoyed it. After the game, it was time to eat! We had a group of 10 youth and 3 adults in attendance. I appreciate all who came. Our final activity was our devotional on Sunday night. We had a group of 12 youth and 6 adults in attendance. We began the night with a game of Reverse Charades, which the guys won by the way, followed by a time of food and fellowship. I appreciate Traci and Mike Adams for hosting the devo and providing great burgers and desserts! We all had a wonderful time together!

In Christian Love, Keith

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday October 8th 2023

<i>Welcome</i>	Dennis Tester
<i>Lead Singing</i>	Mark Forster
<i>1st Prayer</i>	Ronnie Tyler
<i>Sermon</i>	Calvin Buckner
<i>Lord's Table</i>	Billy Buttrey
Drew Swearns	Marvin England
Jim Ridings	Wayne Vaughn
Matthew Dotson	Drew Buttrey
<i>Closing Prayer</i>	Mike Burns
<i>Collect Cards</i>	Jack Grigsby & Colt Stanfill
<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Not at this time</i>
<i>Nursery</i>	<i>Not at this time</i>
<i>Collect Cups</i>	Youth Group
<i>Security</i>	Team #1

Sunday 6PM, October 8th 2023

<i>Lead Singing</i>	Mark Forster
<i>Prayer</i>	Mike Tyler
<i>Sermon</i>	
<i>Lord's Table</i>	Mike Robertson Gerald Curtis
<i>Closing Prayer</i>	Barry Phy

Wednesday 6:30 PM, October 11th 2023

<i>Lead Singing</i>	John Hurt
<i>Prayer</i>	Jimmy Phy
<i>Adult Class</i>	

If you are unable to serve...please contact Wade Tummins, in advance. (cell 931-209-6291)

If changes need to be made in scheduling please contact Jimmy Phy.

Listen to: "The Truth In Love" Sunday on AM1060/93.5FM@ 8:15am