

## PREACHING IN A POSTMODERN WORLD ( PR 645-M)

Canadian Theological Seminary

May 9-13, 2005, Calgary, AB

Instructor: Peter Ralph ThM., D.Min.

### 1. DESCRIPTION

This course will examine the varied realities of preaching to a postmodern audience. The course includes emphasis on narrative and inductive preaching, with applications to topical preaching and evangelistic methods in preaching. The course assumes that students bring to the course an understanding of basic techniques such as hermeneutics, exegesis, basic deductive sermon structure, illustration, application, introductions, conclusions, and transitions.

Students should expect to prepare and present or discuss daily assignments prepared outside of class hours. In addition, students may be asked to scan the media and present insights which may influence the way we preach.

### 2. REQUIRED TEXT

Johnston, Graham, Preaching To A Postmodern World.

### 3. RECOMMENDED TEXTS

Altrock, Chris, Preaching to Pluralists.

Craddock, Fred. Preaching.

Duduit, Michael, A Handbook of Contemporary Preaching.

Fee, Gordon, and Douglas Stuart. How To Read the Bible For All It's Worth.

Greidanus, Sydney. The Modern Preacher and the Ancient Text.

Lewis, Ralph and Gregg Lewis, Inductive Preaching

McLaren, Brian, The Story We Find Ourselves In.

Robinson, Haddon. Biblical Preaching.

Stott, John. Between Two Worlds.

### 4. REQUIREMENTS

- a. **Attendance** at all class sessions is required. All students are expected to participate in class activity and discussion.
- b. **Reading:** Daily portions of the text chosen by instructor and student are to be read carefully and completely. Students will come to class prepared to discuss each daily section. In addition students will select material from other books on postmodern preaching from the reserve list or other sources for a total of not less than 800 pages overall. A record of this reading is to be submitted in the form of a reading report which, in 5-7 pages, assesses the impact of the reading on the student, describing how the reading has changed the student's preaching. **Due: July 15, 2005**
- c. **Sermon:** The student will prepare, preach, record and submit one sermon. This sermon will use the methods taught in class sessions. It may be inductive or narrative in nature. This sermon is to be submitted to the instructor for evaluation. This submission will consist of:

- (1) Typewritten exegesis, hermeneutical, and homiletical notes. (Examples of such work will be presented in class.)

- (2) One-page sermon outline.
- (3) video recording of the preaching of the sermon
- (4) Report on interview with selected listeners.

**Due: July 15, 2005**

- d. **Preaching:** The sermon will not exceed 20 minutes duration. This preaching assignment will be done by the student after the course in a chosen setting, with a postmodern listening audience, videotaped, and submitted in video and written format to the professor for grading.

**Due: July 15, 2005**

- e. **Paper:** Students will prepare a paper of not less than ten pages in length. This paper will describe in “thick description” the audience for the sermon above, demonstrating why and how they are postmodern in their orientation. Guidelines for this description will be given in class.

**Due: July 15, 2005**

- f. **Class Participation:** Students may be asked to prepare and deliver brief class assignments which reflect class material.

- g. **Assignments.** All work will be submitted in typewritten form. Exegetical, hermeneutical, and homiletical notes should not exceed ten pages in total length.

- h. **Grading:** The course will be graded as follows:

Reading	20%
Sermon	30%
Preaching	25%
Paper	20%
Participation	5%

Bibliography  
Advanced Preaching

- Adams, Jay E. Essays on Biblical Preaching. Baker.  
\_\_\_\_\_. Preaching With Purpose.  
\_\_\_\_\_. Pulpit Speech.  
\_\_\_\_\_. Truth Applied.
- Allen, R. Preaching for Growth.  
\_\_\_\_\_. Preaching the Topical Sermon.  
\_\_\_\_\_, Barbara Shires Blaisdell, Scott Black Johnston, Theology For Preaching: Authority, Truth and Knowledge In A Postmodern Ethos.
- Anderson, Walter Truett, Reality Isn't What It Used To Be.
- Bailey, Ray and James Blevins, Dramatic Monologues: Making the Bible Live
- Bass, G.M. The Song and the Story.
- Boomershine, T. Story Journey.
- Chapell. B. Using Illustrations to Preach with Power.
- Cothen Joe H. The Old, Old Story: A Guide for Narrative Preaching.
- Craddock, F. Overhearing the Gospel.
- Duduit, M. Handbook of Contemporary Preaching.
- Ellingsen, M. The Integrity of Biblical Narrative.
- Erickson, Millard J. Postmodernizing The Faith: Evangelical Responses To The Challenge Of Postmodernism.
- Fant, C. Preaching for Today.
- Fee, Gordon, and Douglas Stuart. How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth.
- Flynn, L. Come Alive With Illustrations.
- Freeman, H. Variety in Biblical Preaching.
- Grant, R. and John Reed. Telling Stories to Touch the Heart.
- Greidanus, S. The Modern Preacher and the Ancient Text.
- Grenz, Stanley, A Primer On Postmodernism.
- Hosteller, M. Illustrating the Sermon.
- Hybels, W., S. Briscoe and Haddon Robinson. Mastering Contemporary Preaching.
- Jensen, R. Preaching the Story.  
\_\_\_\_\_. Telling the Story.
- Kaiser, W. Toward and Exegetical Theology.
- Kooienga, W. Elements of Style for Preaching.
- Lane, B. Story Telling. the Enchantment of Theology. (tapes)
- Larsen, D. The Anatomy of Preaching.  
\_\_\_\_\_. Telling The Old, Old Story: The Art Of Narrative Preaching.
- Lewis, R. and Gregg Lewis. Inductive Preaching.
- Lewis R. Persuasive Preaching Today.
- Loscalzo, C. Preaching Sermons that Connect.
- Lose, David J. Confessing Jesus Christ: Preaching In A Postmodern World.
- Lowry E. Doing Time in the Pulpit.  
\_\_\_\_\_. The Homiletical Plot.  
\_\_\_\_\_. How To Preach A Parable: Designs for Narrative Sermons.
- McLaren, Brian. More ready than You Realize: Evangelism As Dance In The Postmodern Matrix.  
\_\_\_\_\_. A New Kind Of Christian.  
\_\_\_\_\_. The Story We Find Ourselves In.  
\_\_\_\_\_. Reinventing Your Church.

\_\_\_\_\_. The Church On The Other Side.  
Miller, C. Spirit, Word, and Story.  
Miller, Mark, Experiential Storytelling: (Re)Discovering Narrative to Communicate God's Message.  
Moeller, Pamela Ann, A Kinesthetic Homiletic: Embodying Gospel in Preaching.  
Morgan, P. Story Weaving.  
Newbiggin, Leslie. The Gospel in A Pluralist Society.  
Oosterhoff, F.G. Postmodernism: A Christian Appraisal.  
Read, D. Preaching About the Needs of Real People.  
Roen, W. The Inward Ear.  
Rowatt, G.W., Jr. How to Talk to Teens.  
Robinson, B. Biblical Preaching.  
\_\_\_\_\_. Biblical Sermons.  
Salmon, Bruce, Storytelling in Preaching: A Guide to the Theory and Practice.  
Tisdale, Leonora Tubbs, Preaching as Local Theology and Folk Art.  
Troeger, T. Imagining a Sermon.  
\_\_\_\_\_. Ten Strategies For Preaching In A Multi-Media Culture.  
Vines, J. A Practical Guide to Sermon Preparation.  
Ward, Glenn. Postmodernism.  
Webb, Joseph M. Preaching And The Challenge Of Pluralism.