



Biblical Preaching & Teaching

Class Syllabus

Course Teacher: Pastor Josh Bevan

Email: pastorjosh@lbcxenia.com

Church: 937-372-9188

Course Description

- This 10-week course introduces the biblical, theological, and practical foundations of preaching and teaching God's Word. Special emphasis is placed on expository communication in which the meaning, structure, and purpose of the biblical text govern the message. Students will learn a disciplined process for moving from careful study of a passage to a clear Big Idea, purpose, structure, development, application, and oral delivery. The course also addresses the character and spiritual life of the preacher/teacher, prayer, dependence upon the Holy Spirit, and faithful communication in appropriate ministry settings.
- **Course Philosophy** - Biblical preaching discovers the meaning of God's Word, develops the sermon or lesson according to God's Word, and delivers God's Word clearly and persuasively so that hearers understand it and respond to it.
- **This is a 3 Credit Course**

Course Objectives

- Explain the biblical foundation for preaching and teaching and the authority of God's Word.
- Define **expository preaching and teaching** and demonstrate a commitment to communicating the meaning of the biblical text.
- Interpret a biblical passage accurately and identify its **Big Idea** (subject and complement).
- Move from the meaning of the text to a clear **purpose, desired response, and biblical message**.
- Develop a text-driven sermon or lesson with clear structure, explanation, illustration, and application.
- Prepare effective introductions, transitions, and conclusions while communicating appropriately for the biblical genre and ministry setting.
- Demonstrate the importance of **godly character, prayer, spiritual preparation, and dependence upon the Holy Spirit** in communicating God's Word.
- Prepare, present, evaluate, and improve a complete **expository sermon or Bible lesson** with clarity and conviction.

Course Materials

- **Required Text:** Haddon W. Robinson, *Biblical Preaching: The Development and Delivery of Expository Messages*, 4th ed.
- Bible. The New King James Version (NKJV) will be the primary translation used in class.
- Laptop or tablet with Logos Bible Software or comparable Bible-study resources is recommended.
- Class handouts and sermon-preparation worksheets will be provided by the instructor. A 3-ring binder is recommended.
- **Instructor Resources:** Supplemental material, quotations, examples, and teaching content may be drawn from John MacArthur and The Master's Seminary Faculty, *Preaching: How to Preach Biblically*; Daniel L.

Akin, David L. Allen, and Ned L. Mathews, eds., *Text-Driven Preaching*; Wayne McDill, *12 Essential Skills for Great Preaching*; and Donald L. Hamilton, *Homiletical Handbook*. These resources will be used by the instructor to supplement and strengthen the weekly lessons and class handouts. **Students are not required to purchase or read these supplemental resources..**

Course Costs

- \$10 plus books if you are not working toward certification.
- \$20 plus books if you are seeking certification.
- Students are responsible for obtaining the required edition of Biblical Preaching. A

Class Schedule

- All classes will be Saturdays from 9:30 am- 10:45 am (Except September 11th, class will be Friday from 6:00 pm- 7:15 pm).
- This is a ten-week course starting on September 5th and running through Nov. 21st.
 - There will be no class on Saturday, October 3rd (Fall Family Weekend).

Class Grading/Assignments

- A final average of 70% or better (C average or better) is required to pass the course.
- All assignments may be turned in up to two weeks late.
- Work submitted within the first week after the due date may receive up to a 10% penalty.
- Work submitted during the second week after the due date may receive up to a 20% penalty.
- After two full weeks, the assignment will be graded as zero.
- Prior planned excused absences may receive additional grace at the instructor's discretion.
- It is the student's responsibility to obtain missed notes, assignments, and course materials in a timely manner.
- Reading acknowledgments indicate that the assigned reading has been completed before class.

Major Course Project: Biblical Message Project

- Beginning in Week 2, each student will select an instructor-approved passage and progressively develop a complete expository sermon or teaching message. Weekly assignments build toward the final project rather than functioning as unrelated exercises.

Week	Biblical Message Project Schedule
Week 2	Select a biblical passage and identify its preliminary subject and complement (Big Idea)
Week 3	Complete initial study of the passage—observations, context, and exegetical work—and refine the Big Idea
Week 4	Develop the exegetical and theological idea and begin bridging the truth of the text to the contemporary audience
Week 5	Establish the purpose and desired response of the biblical message
Week 6	Develop the major divisions and text-driven outline ; give a 5-minute practice presentation of the text, Big Idea, and one major point

Week 7	Develop each major division through explanation, illustration, argumentation/validation, and application ; incorporate feedback from the practice presentation
Week 8	Develop and refine the introduction, conclusion, transitions, and applications
Week 9	Refine the language and delivery of the completed message; practice the message aloud and prepare for final presentation
Week 10	Submit the completed biblical message outline and present an 8-minute final expository sermon or Bible lesson for evaluation.

Course Outline

1. Week 1 — Biblical Preaching & Teaching: The Message and the Messenger

- **Date:** September 5th
- **Assigned Reading (Due by first class):** Robinson, Chapter 1: “The Case for Expository Preaching.”
- **Class handout:** The Message and the Messenger
- **Assignment:**
 - Reading acknowledgment
 - Quiz 1: Over assigned reading and handout

2. Week 2 — The Big Idea: Discovering What the Text Says

- **Date:** **Friday, September 11th, 6:00 p.m – 7:15 p.m.** (Due to Pastor being gone from Sept. 12-19th; if you cannot attend, class will be available as video recording)
- **Assigned Reading:** Robinson, Chapter 2: “What’s the Big Idea?”
- **Class handout:** The Big Idea: Discovering What the Text Says
- **Assignment:**
 - Reading acknowledgment
 - Quiz 2: Over assigned reading and handout
 - Begin Biblical Message Project: Select a biblical passage and identify its preliminary subject and complement (Big Idea)
- Week 2 Big Idea Assignment — 30 Points
 - The Week 2 assignment is designed as a preliminary exercise. Students will identify what the passage is talking about and what the author says about that subject before completing the deeper study process in Week 3.

Criterion	Description	Points
Passage Selection	Select an appropriate, instructor-approved biblical passage.	5
Subject	Clearly identify what the biblical author is talking about.	5
Complement	Clearly identify what the author is saying about the subject.	5
Big Idea	Combine the subject and complement into a clear statement expressing the central idea of the passage.	10
Textual Support	Identify brief observations from the text that support the preliminary Big Idea.	5
TOTAL		30

NO CLASS — September 19th – Pastor will resume after returning from fishing trip

3. Week 3 — Tools of the Trade: Studying the Biblical Text

- **Date: September 26th** (Resume normal Saturday 9:30 a.m. schedule)
- **Assigned Reading:** Robinson, Chapter 3: “Tools of the Trade”
- **Class handout: Tools of the Trade: Studying the Biblical Text**
- **Assignments**
 - Reading acknowledgment
 - Quiz 3 over assigned reading and handout
 - Biblical Message Project: Complete the initial study of your selected passage and refine your Big Idea based on your study of the text

NO CLASS — October 3rd - Fall Family Day Weekend at Lighthouse Baptist Church

4. Week 4 — From Text to Message: Bridging the Gap

- **Date: October 10th**
- **Assigned Reading:** Robinson, Chapter 4: “The Road from Text to Sermon”
- **Class handout: From Text to Message: Bridging the Gap**
- **Assignments:**
 - Reading acknowledgment
 - Quiz 4: Over assigned reading and handout
 - Biblical Message Project: Develop the exegetical and theological idea of your passage and begin determining how the truth of the text applies to your audience

5. Week 5 — The Arrow and the Target: Establishing the Purpose

- **Date: October 17th**
- **Assigned Reading:** Robinson, Chapter 5: “The Arrow and the Target”
- **Class handout: The Arrow and the Target: Establishing the Purpose**
- **Assignments:**
 - Reading acknowledgment
 - Quiz 5: Over assigned reading and handout
 - Biblical Message Project: Write a clear purpose statement identifying what you want your hearers to know, believe, feel, or do as a result of the biblical message
 - Prepare for the Week 6 Practice Presentation

6. Week 6 — The Shape of the Message: Building the Outline

- **Date: October 24th**
- **Assigned Reading:** Robinson, Chapter 6: “The Shapes Sermons Take”
- **Class handout: The Shape of the Message: Building the Outline**
- **Assignments:**
 - Reading acknowledgment
 - Quiz 6: Over assigned reading and handout
 - Biblical Message Project: Develop the major divisions of your message and organize them into a clear, text-driven outline
 - **5-Minute Practice Presentation:** Present your biblical text, Big Idea, and one major point from your developing message
 - **Presentation Format:**
 - Students will divide into two groups for presentations

- Men will practice preaching in one room
- Ladies will practice teaching in another room
- Each student will have approximately **5 minutes to present and 2 minutes to receive feedback**
- This presentation is intended as a **practice and development opportunity** before the final presentation.

7. Week 7 — Making Dry Bones Live: Developing the Message

- **Date:** October 31st
- **Assigned Reading:** Robinson, Chapter 7: “Making Dry Bones Live”
- **Class handout:** **Making Dry Bones Live: Developing the Message**
- **Assignments:**
 - Reading acknowledgment
 - Quiz 7: Over assigned reading and handout
 - Biblical Message Project: Develop each major division through explanation, illustration, argumentation/validation, and application
 - Apply feedback received during the Week 6 Practice Presentation to the development of your message

8. Week 8 — Starting Strong and Finishing Well

- **Date:** November 7th
- **Assigned Reading:** Robinson, Chapter 8: “Start with a Bang and Quit All Over”
- **Class handout:** **Starting Strong and Finishing Well**
- **Assignments:**
 - Reading acknowledgment
 - Quiz 8: Over assigned reading and handout
 - Biblical Message Project: Write and refine the introduction and conclusion of your message
 - Review and strengthen the transitions and applications throughout your message

9. Week 9 — Communicating the Message: Language and Delivery

- **Date:** November 14th
- **Assigned Reading:** Robinson, Chapters 9–10: “The Dress of Thought” and “How to Preach So People Will Listen”
- **Class handout:** **Communicating the Message: Language and Delivery**
- **Assignments:**
 - Reading acknowledgment
 - Quiz 9: Over assigned reading and handout
 - Complete and refine the final Biblical Message Project
 - Practice the complete message aloud, paying particular attention to clarity, timing, eye contact, voice, pace, and use of notes
 - Prepare for the Week 10 Final Biblical Message Presentation

10. Week 10 — Final Biblical Message Presentations

- **Date:** November 21st
- **Assigned Reading:** No new reading
- **Class handout:** **Final Biblical Message Evaluation**
- **Assignments:**
 - Submit completed biblical message outline

- **Present an 8-minute final expository sermon or Bible lesson**
- **Final Presentation Format:**
 - Students will divide into two presentation groups: men preaching and ladies teaching.
 - Each student will present an 8-minute biblical message.
 - Evaluators will use the Final Biblical Message Evaluation rubric and provide written feedback
- **Presentation Evaluation:**
 - Faithfulness to the biblical text
 - Clarity of the Big Idea and purpose
 - Organization and structure
 - Explanation and development
 - Illustration and application
 - Introduction and conclusion
 - Clarity of communication

Grading Summary

- The course uses a 1,000-point grading system. Weekly work builds toward the final Biblical Message Project and presentations.

Week	Assignments	Points	Final Grade
1	Reading (10) + Quiz 1 (30)	40	4%
2	Reading (10) + Quiz 2 (30) + Big Idea Assignment (30)	70	7%
3	Reading (10) + Quiz 3 (30) + Study/Refined Big Idea (30)	70	7%
4	Reading (10) + Quiz 4 (30) + Text-to-Message Work (30)	70	7%
5	Reading (10) + Quiz 5 (30) + Purpose Statement (30)	70	7%
6	Reading (10) + Quiz 6 (30) + Outline (40) + 5-Minute Practice Presentation (60)	140	14%
7	Reading (10) + Quiz 7 (30) + Message Development (50)	90	9%
8	Reading (10) + Quiz 8 (30) + Introduction/Conclusion/Revision (50)	90	9%
9	Reading (10) + Quiz 9 (30) + Completed Message/Final Preparation (60)	100	10%
10	Final Biblical Message Outline (100) + Final 8-Minute Presentation (160)	260	26%
	TOTAL	1,000	100%