

**Course Outline**  
CHMN600  
***PREACHING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT***  
***Spring 2003***  
***Location: S215***  
***Instructor: Kenneth B. Stout, D.Min., Ph.D.***

***I. DESCRIPTION:***

An advanced course in preaching which focuses on how to work with the various types of New Testament literature--with special emphasis on the use of gospel narrative, parable, and epistle--in preparing effective sermons.

***II. OBJECTIVES:***

1. To help students become more familiar with the literary genres and forms of the New Testament and how they can be employed in developing powerful sermons.
2. To sharpen the exegetical skills of students.
3. To provide students with additional practice and feedback in the designing, presentation, and evaluation of sermons.
4. To further highlight the possibilities of narrative preaching

***III. COMPONENTS:***

**1. Daily Assigned Readings:** Students will be asked to fulfill nightly reading assignments and be ready to orally discuss the material covered. Normally, the first 10-15 minutes of each class will be devoted to a discussion of the previous evening's reading. There will be also be **QUIZZES as announced! Quizzes will be concentrated within the first half of the course!**

**2. Video and Audio Cassette Tapes:** The taped sermons of selected, outstanding preachers will be critically reviewed and discussed in class.

**3. Preaching:** Each student will be required to prepare and deliver **TWO NEW SERMONS** to the class (15 minutes in length). Each sermon must be based on a different type of N.T. literature (i.e., gospel narrative, parable, or epistle)--and be drawn from a list of specified texts provided by the teacher. The sermons will be videotaped so that the student can do effective self-analysis of the presentation. They will also be evaluated orally and in writing by both fellow students and the instructor. The **FIRST SERMON** will be based on a **"gospel narrative,"** while the **SECOND SERMON** may be based either on a **"parable"** or an **"epistle."** See the list of possible texts for each category!

**4. Sermon Preparation Papers:** Students will be asked to complete a sermon preparation research paper for one of two required sermons, carefully following the prescribed steps of the **"Sermon Preparation Paper Format Guide"** which appears on page 3 of this course outline. Each paper must reflect careful exegetical analysis of the text and knowledge of the

text's historical, theological, literary background. The paper should also reflect the steps taken by the student to move from textual analysis to the designing of a sermon which effectively communicates the theme of the text. Papers must be at least **6-10 pages in length** (*double spaced*, or 3-5 pages *single-spaced*) and must be turned in at the time when the sermon to which it applies is preached. This paper essentially documents the natural process (or "steps") that the student has taken in preparing the sermon. See the "***Sermon Preparation Paper Format Guide***" for a more detailed description and follow it closely! Again, the paper can be done for either the first or second sermon.

**5. Outlining Exercises:** Students may be asked to present a proposed sermon outline of the first sermon to the class for evaluation and feedback by fellow students and the professor (depending on class size and time). Copies of the outline (if requested) should be made available to the entire class.

#### ***IV. TEXTBOOKS:***

##### **Required:**

1. Lowry, Eugene L. The Homiletical Plot: The Sermon as Narrative Art Form.

Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1980.

2. Mawhinney, Bruce. Preaching with Freshness. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1997.

#### ***V. PROCEDURES:***

##### **1. Attendance:**

**A.** Classes will meet twice each week on **Tuesdays** and **Thursdays** from 9:30-10:20 a.m.

**B.** Unexcused absences exceeding three will result in a penalty of 2% of the cumulative grade for each absence.

##### **2. Assignments:**

**A.** Due at specified time; a penalty of 10% per day will be imposed on all late assignments.

**B.** Should be typed or printed unless otherwise indicated by the instructor

**C.** No assignments will be accepted after the last regular class, unless special permission is given in advance.

##### **3. Dress:**

Students should dress as appropriate for the context when they preach.

##### **4. Evaluation of Students:**

- A. Daily assigned readings, participation in class discussions, and quizzes (30% of the final score)
- B. Two sermons (70% of the final score--i.e., 35% for each)
- C. One Sermon Preparation Paper (*The paper will not receive a letter grade, but if it is not completed and turned in as required the student will be penalized 10% off the final score.*)

**D. Grading Scale:**

95-100% = A	63%-66% = D
90-94% = A-	61%-62% = D-
87-89% = B+	00%-60% = F
83-86% = B	
80-82% = B-	
77-79% = C+	
73-76% = C	
70-72% = C-	
67-69% = D	

## SERMON PREPARATION PAPER FORMAT GUIDE

### ANALYSIS OF THE TEXT

- Determine and describe the parameters of the text that you are preaching from and briefly explain how the text relates to its broader scriptural context (especially, the rest of the chapter).
- Read and re-read the text using **various translations** and point out “**KEY WORDS**” or **phrases** in the original language. Identify any textual variants, problems, or concepts.
- Analyze and describe the following CONTEXTS of the passage:
  - Historical** - Author, date, and circumstances surrounding the text
  - Literary** - What type of language does the author use in the text? What literary genres, devices, forms, and dynamics does he use? {**genres** = parable, narrative, letter; **sub-genres** = analogy, metaphor, simile, personification, hyperbole; **devices** = repetition, questions, lists, imaginary opponent, series of commands, examples, maxims, etc.} How does the author express his unique personality, status, or experience and how does that impact the message of the text?
  - Theological** - Author’s intent and theological purpose in writing to original hearers
- Identify the possible points of view from which the text can be viewed (author’s, audience’s, a particular character’s, etc.), then indicate the primary viewpoint that you intend to use.

5. Encounter the text through **probing conversation** and **reflection**--and by letting the Holy Spirit guide your thinking. **List ideas, meanings, and questions** that come to mind. Use “**brainstorming**” and “**journaling**” techniques to bring these to light.  
*\*This is the “heart” of your analysis and should be the most substantial part of your paper. At least **1 1/2 - 2 FULL typewritten pages** is required for this step.*
6. Describe what you think the text is **doing** (i.e., is it rebuking, encouraging, or instructing?).
7. Summarize the **original message** of the text to its original hearers--as you understand it--in the form of a clear, SINGLE sentence.
8. Interpret the **contemporary meaning** of the text and then express it as a **contemporary message** in the form of a SINGLE sentence.

### ***DESIGNING THE SERMON***

9. Shape the contemporary message of the text into a clear **sermon theme** and write it out as a **SINGLE complete sentence**.
10. Study your potential audience in light of their needs, interests, and cultural influences, etc.; write a **brief description of the audience**.
11. Decide what literary forms (story, analogy, metaphor, deductive/didactic proclamation/lecture, etc.) and what rhetorical strategies (questions, lists, examples, repetition, etc.) will be most effective in communicating the theme to your targeted audience in this particular time and place; **describe the literary forms and strategies you plan to use**.
12. Outline the sermon by **highlighting the following elements**: *Subject, topic, theme sentence, brief introduction, the body of the sermon (i.e., the points, moves, episodes), and conclusion.*

### **SUGGESTED GOSPEL NARRATIVE PASSAGES:**

Matt. 8:1-4	= Man healed of leprosy
Matt. 8:5-13	= Centurion child healed
Matt. 9:1-8	= Jesus heals paralytic
Matt. 9:35-38	= Workers are few
Matt. 15:21-28	= Canaanite woman's persistent faith
Matt. 16: 5-12	= Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees
Matt. 19:16-30	= Rich young ruler
Mark 8:31-38	= Take up your cross and follow me
Mark 10:35-45	= James and John's request
Mark 12:41-44	= Poor widow's small coins
Mark 14:1-9	= Jesus anointed by Mary
Luke 2:41-52	= Jesus' visit to the temple to begin his "Father's business"

Luke 5:1-11	= Cast into the deep
Luke 5:27-32	= Call of Levi Matthew to discipleship
Luke 7:1-10	= Healing of Centurion's servant
Luke 8:26-37	= Healing of the Demoniac
Luke 10:1-12	= Sending of 70
John 2:1-11	= Water to wine
John 4:4-30,39-42	= Woman at well
John 8: 1-11	= Woman caught in adultery
John 9:1-41	= Healing man born blind
John 20:15-19	= Peter is restored

### **SUGGESTED PARABLE PASSAGES:**

Matt. 13:44-46	= Hidden treasure
Matt. 18:21-35	= Unmerciful servant
Matt. 20:1-16	= Vineyard workers
Matt. 22:1-14	= Wedding banquet
Mark 4:1-20	= Seed and soils
Luke 15:3-7	= Lost Sheep
Luke 18:1-8	= Persistent widow
Luke 18:9-14	= Pharisee and Publican
Luke 16:1-15	= Shrewd manager
Luke 15:8-10	= Lost coin
Luke 16:10-31	= Rich man and Lazarus
Luke 14:15-24	= Great banquet
Luke 10:25-36	= Good Samaritan
Luke 15:11-31	= Prodigal Son

### **SUGGESTED EPISTOLARY PASSAGES:**

Rom. 1:17	=I am not ashamed of the Gospel
Rom. 5:1-5	=We have peace with God through Jesus Christ
Rom. 8:28-38	=In all things God works for good
Rom. 15:1-4	=Strong ought to bear the failings of the weak
1 Cor. 1:26-31	=God chose the foolish things to shame the wise
Eph. 2:1-10	=Made Alive in Christ through Faith
Eph. 4:1-6	=Unity in the Spirit
Eph. 4:29-32	=Be kind and compassionate
Eph. 5:8-21	=Live as children of light
Eph. 6:10-18	=Be strong . . . Put on the full armor of God
Phil. 1:20-29	=For me to live is Christ; (Living worthy of the Gospel)
Phil. 2:1-11	=Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus
Phil. 4:4-7	=Rejoice in the Lord always
Col. 3:1-11	=Set your minds on things above
1Thess. 5:1-11	=Let us not be . . . asleep but . . . alert and self-controlled
2 Thess. 3:6-14	=Don't be idle . . . never tire of doing what is right
1 Tim. 6:6-10	=Godliness with contentment is great gain
2 Tim. 1:7-10	=God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power

## Sermon #1

### ASSIGNED GOSPEL NARRATIVE PASSAGES:

1	John 8: 1-11	= Woman caught in adultery
2	John 20:15-19	= Peter is restored
3	(To be selected)	=
4	Matt. 15:21-28	= Canaanite woman's persistent faith
5	John 2:1-11	= Water to wine
6	Mark 10:35-45	= James and John's request
7	Matt. 9:1-8	= Jesus heals paralytic
8	Mark 8:31-38	= Take up your cross and follow me
9	Mark 12:41-44	= Poor widow's small coins
10	Matt. 16: 5-12	= Beware of the yeast of the Pharisees
11	Luke 5:27-32	= Call of Levi Matthew to discipleship
12	Mark 14:1-9	= Jesus anointed by Mary
13	Luke 7:1-10	= Healing of Centurion's servant
14	John 4:4-30,39-42	= Woman at well
15	Luke 2:41-52	= Jesus' visit to Temple (F's business)
16	Luke 8:26-37	= Healing of the Demoniac
17	John 9:1-41	= Healing man born blind
18	Luke 5:1-11	= Cast into the deep
19	Matt. 9:35-38	= Workers are few
20	Matt. 8:5-13	= Centurion child healed
21	Matt. 8:1-4	= Man healed of leprosy
	Matt. 19:16-30	= Rich young ruler
	Luke 10:1-12	= Sending of 70 for evangelistic ministry

## Sermon #2

### **SUGGESTED PARABLE PASSAGES:**

Matt. 13:44-46	= Hidden treasure
Matt. 18:10-14	= Lost sheep SHERRY
Matt. 18:21-35	= Unmerciful servant
Matt. 20:1-16	= Vineyard workers
Matt. 22:1-14	= Wedding banquet
Mark 4:1-20	= Seed and soils
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SYLLABUS

CHMN 600  
**PREACHING FROM  
THE  
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**SELECTED READINGS  
AND  
CLASS NOTES**



**INSTRUCTOR: Kenneth B. Stout, Ph.D.**  
**CHMN600 PREACHING FROM**  
**THE NEW TESTAMENT**

*STUDENT EVALUATION FORM*

*Name:* \_\_\_\_\_

**2 Sermons presented in class {average} (60%)** \_\_\_\_\_%

**Daily assigned readings, class participation & quizzes (30%)** \_\_\_\_\_%

**Sermon preparation paper** \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL SCORE** \_\_\_\_\_

***FINAL GRADE***

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(Please see me if you have any questions about your grade!)