

Vanguard University of Southern California
School for Professional Studies Degree
Program

“The Ministry of Preaching and
Teaching”
REML #464

Student Guide

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MODULE DESCRIPTION

This module will provide a theoretical foundation for and practical development of the skills of preaching and teaching.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The student will:

1. have a foundational understanding of the nature of preaching and teaching in the church context.
2. know how to develop a sermon from the text of scripture, through exegesis, to delivery.
3. develop practical skills in the spoken exposition and proclamation of the Word of God.

TEXTS AND MATERIALS

Required texts:

Robinson, Haddon W. *Biblical Preaching*. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1980.

Galli, Mark and Craig Brian Larson *Preaching That Connects*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1994.

The Bible – Recommendations include: Revised Standard Version, New American Standard Version or the New International Version.

STUDENT EVALUATION

Grades will be determined based on the following:

1. Attendance and participation. (10%)
2. Book Summary and Responses (20%)
3. Bible Studies (30%)
4. Sermons (40%)

Students will be evaluated by the University's 4.0 grading system as detailed below.

Percentage	Letter Grade	Significance	Grade Point Average (GPA)
93.4 – 100.0	A	Exceptional	4.00
90.0 – 93.3	A-		3.67
86.7 – 89.9	B+	Above Average	3.33
83.4 – 86.6	B		3.00
80.0 – 83.3	B-		2.67
76.7 – 79.9	C+	Average	2.33
73.4 – 76.6	C		2.00
70.0 – 73.3	C-		1.67
66.7 – 69.9	D+		1.33
63.4 – 66.6	D	Below Average	1.00

60.0 – 63.3	D-		0.67
0.00 – 59.9	F	Failure	0.00

OVERVIEW

“The gospel is the power of God to salvation.” (Romans 1:16 NASV) It follows, then, that the proclaiming of the gospel, the news of life in Christ, is of fundamental importance to the process of salvation. Later in that same letter, Paul reminds the Roman church “WHOEVER WILL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED. How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher?” (Romans 10:13, 14) While preaching may be regarded as foolishness in the media driven age in which we minister, there is still great power in the word of God explicated accurately and with anointed authority.

This course builds on the previous one (Research Methods for the Study and Preaching of Scripture), taking the results of the labor of exegesis and seeking to present it in a powerful way to a congregation in Bible Study or Sermon form. The style of preaching that we will focus on is expositional preaching – other forms of preaching (topical or narrative, for example) can be built off of this, but this is the fundamental form.

Time will be spent outlining the differences between a Bible Study, the goal of which is to present the content of a text of scripture with clarity and understanding, and a Sermon, the goal of which is to move a congregation to action having seen themselves in the highly polished mirror of the text preached. In order to do this, a dual exegesis will be considered: exegesis of text and exegesis of life. Done well, the connection between the two should become increasingly clear to the hearer of the sermon, as the congregation begins to see their story as caught up in God’s story.

The first part of the module will focus on instruction in the elements of both a Bible study and a sermon, with attention given to how the sermon builds in form based on the text of scripture – that is, it takes its outline from the text itself. We will also consider the structural elements of a sermon. The remain four weeks of the course will provide the opportunity for each member of the class to deliver a Bible study one week and then a sermon on that same text the following week. Time allowing, this will be repeated in weeks four and five.

This module will provide further experience in the work of exegesis and will demonstrate practical ways of sharing the insights gained in that work with a congregation or small group.

STUDENT ASSIGNMENTS

WEEK ONE

1. Begin to read Robinson.
2. Select three pericopae which you would like to exegete and preach. These will be submitted and one or two of them approved (depending on the size of the class) for you to study in the remainder of the course.

WEEK TWO

1. Exegete the pericope that has been approved and prepare a 10 - 12 minute Bible study based on it. Come to class prepared to deliver your Bible Study as scheduled.

WEEK THREE

1. Write a 2 – 3 page response to Robinson, summarizing the points that seem of particular value to you.

WEEK FOUR

1. Prepare a 10 – 12 minute sermon based on the text you presented for your Bible Study last week. Come to class prepared to deliver your sermon as scheduled.

WEEK FIVE

1. Write a 2 – 3 page summary and response to Galli and Larson. The goal of this paper is that you briefly synopsise each chapter and respond to the salient points in the book.

LOGISTICS CHART

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
Hour 1	Introduction The Nature of Preaching	Student Bible Studies	Student Sermons	Student Bible Studies	Student Sermons
Hour 2	The Nature of Preaching (Continued)	Student Bible Studies	Student Sermons	Student Bible Studies	Student Sermons
Break	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
Hour 3	Elements of a Sermon	Student Bible Studies	Student Sermons	Student Bible Studies	Student Sermons
Hour 4	Evaluating Style and Substance	Student Bible Studies	Student Sermons	Student Bible Studies	Student Sermons Course Evaluation