**Licensing School: Preaching**

**INSTRUCTOR**

Rev. Jake Adams-Wilson

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**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Hey everyone! I am excited to work with you and learn from you and with you about how we can all be better preachers! If you have any questions about the class that are not answered here or on course connect or you are having trouble understanding some instructions or if I can help in any other way please feel free to reach out to me. Email me at [Jakeadamswilson@gmail.com](mailto:Jakeadamswilson@gmail.com) or text or call me at 601-506-1664. If you call I may or may not answer so leave a voice mail or text. I’m pretty bad about responding to voicemails, emails and texts but I will do everything in my power to respond to you within 12 hours. Thank you for the work you are doing in answering God’s call and equipping yourself for the ministry that God has for you. Licensing School takes a lot of time and energy, and I am grateful for the work you are doing to become a better preacher and a better pastor. I believe preaching is a gift and a calling but it’s also a skill we can practice and learn and by the grace of God I want to encourage you in your preaching and help you get even better than you already are (and steal your ideas so I can get better too!)

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course will work to develop the following knowledge and skills regarding preaching:

*Knowledge*: Understand the significance of preaching in worship and its biblical and theological basis.

*Skill*: Clearly state the purpose of preaching: namely, to make the Word of God alive in the context of a congregation and to invite a transformational response.

*Skill*: Demonstrate a disciplined life of prayer, study, and meditation on the scriptures.

*Knowledge*: Understand various methods of selecting sermon topics for consideration in preaching the whole Bible, as well as caring for special days and concerns in the life of the congregation or larger community.

*Skill: Demonstrate an ability to create a preaching plan for a liturgical season, a lectionary series, and/or current events affecting the congregation’s life.*

*Skill: Choose a subject and Biblically reflect upon how it could be used in a sermon.*

*Skill: Produce a sermon that demonstrates an organized structure.*

*Knowledge*: Understand some essentials of sermon delivery including voice, tone, gestures, posture, etc., as well as the appropriate use and limitations of video and computer graphics.

*Skill: Distinguish the posture, tone, and language which communicates acceptance and warmth and those which communicate rejection and hostility.*

*Skill: Receive and give constructive critical evaluations of the sermon delivery.*

*Knowledge*: Know that preaching should invite the listener into a healing relationship with God and the Christian community.

*Skill: Demonstrate in a sermon appropriate use of life experience.*

**CLASS TEXTS**

* *From Pew to Pulpit: A Beginners Guide to Preaching – Clinton F. Guthrie*
* *The Witness of Preaching 3rd ed. – Thomas Long*

**CLASS SCHEDULE:**

**Meet Via Zoom**

Friday, Sept. 16 / 6:30 – 8:30 pm – Intro to Preaching; Choosing a Text; Exegesis (**Meet Via Zoom)**

Saturday, Sept. 17 / 9:30 – 11:30 am – Focus and Function Statements; Sermon Forms (**Meet Via Zoom)**

**Meet in Person at Millsaps**

Friday, Sept. 30 / 6:30 – 8:30 pm – Preaching and Assessing Sermons

Saturday, Oct. 1 / 9:30 – 11:30 am – Preaching and Assessing Sermons

**WEEK ONE | Monday Sept. 12 - Thursday Sept. 15**

**Asynchronous Assignments on Course Connect**

1. Forum Discussion – Introduce Yourself
2. The Purpose of Preaching and the Identity of the Preacher
   1. Watch Lecture titled “The Purpose of Preaching and the Identity of the Preacher”
   2. Engage the Forum Discussion – Choosing a Text
3. Exegesis: Working Up To Your Sermon
   1. Watch Lecture titled “Exegesis. Working Up To Your Sermon
   2. Engage the Forum Discussion – Practicing Exegesis
4. Focus & Function Statement
   1. Watch Lecture titled “Focus Statement Lecture”
   2. Watch Lecture titled “Focus Statement Examples”
   3. Watch Lecture titled “Function Statement Lecture”
   4. Engage the Forum Discussion “Focus Statement Practice”
   5. Focus and Function Statement Forum

**SESSION ONE | Friday, Sept. 16 | 6:30 – 8:30 P.M.**

We will meet from 6:30 to 8:30 via Zoom and discus the purpose of preaching and Exegesis

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**SESSION TWO | SATURDAY, Sept. 17| 9:30 – 11:30 A.M.**

We will meet from 9:30 to 11:30 am via Zoom to discuss focus and function statements and work with sermon forms.

**WEEK TWO | Sunday Sept. 18 -Thursday Sept. 29**

**Asynchronous Assignments on Course Connect**

1. Watch the video Preaching and Performance and leave the relevant comments
2. Complete the Exegetical process worksheet for the text you will be preaching
3. Write a Sermon according to the guidelines provided on Course Connect
4. Be prepared to preach and discuss your sermon on Friday or Saturday @ Millsaps

**SESSION THREE | FRIDAY, Sept. 30 | 6:30 – 8:30 P.M.**

We will use the time in both of these sessions to work through each sermon, assessing their strengths, weaknesses and interviewing the preacher about the choices she or he made in preaching. And of course…Encouraging one another!

**SESSION FOUR | SATURDAY, Oct. 1 | 9:30 – 11:30 A.M.**

We will use the time in both of these sessions to work through each sermon, assessing their strengths, weaknesses and interviewing the preacher about the choices she or he made in preaching. And of course…Encouraging one another!