

“Fan into flame the gift of God that is in you.”

2 Timothy 1:6

“Earning a Doctor of Ministry degree is not easy. It shouldn’t be. But it may be the most challenging and worthwhile thing that you have ever done. And it may ignite a fire that will blaze for the glory of God.”

Dr. J. Kent Edwards

Director, Doctor of Ministry Program

Professor of Preaching & Leadership



SPECIALTY TRACK:

Preaching the Literary Forms of the Bible



TALBOT
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

Doctor of Ministry Program

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Doctor of Ministry
Talbot School of Theology

The Goal

God asks us to preach the whole counsel of God. Our congregations ask us to be interesting and creative. How can we do both? By recognizing that God inspired the words as well as the genres of Scripture, and allowing both to influence our sermons.

“For many preachers, unfortunately, seminary training in preaching merely furnished them with a set of homiletical cookie-cutters, which they routinely mashed down upon the dough of the text, and presto! Out pops a little star, or a tree, or a gingerbread man ... No matter that the text doesn't want to go into these forms; the poor thing is mashed and tortured until it is made to say things it never intended to say.”

Clyde Fant

Preaching For Today

(New York: Harper & Row, 1975), 110.

You will break free from the boredom of 'cookie-cutter' preaching by learning how to preach the genres of scripture with the integrity, imagination and power intended by the original authors. You will learn to preach sermons that are pleasing in heaven as well as on earth.

The Strategy

Year One: Understanding the Challenge

(Edwards & Mathews)

During the first week you will wrestle with what it means to create a 'biblical sermon.' You and the others in the seminar will work through a number of passages in order to understand the main idea of the text. The sermon you preach at the end of the week will be evaluated by the professor and by others in the class. Since preachers always speak to particular people, the second week will focus upon understanding your audience. With the assistance of Dr. Alice Mathews, the class will wrestle with how sermons can respond to the challenges such as gender, age and culture. You will discover how talk to your listeners. Not at them.

Year Two: Preaching the Literary Forms of the Bible

Narratives & Epistles

(Edwards, Arnold & Sunjukian)

In the first week you will learn how to preach in the dominant language of our culture – story. Dr. Edwards will show you will learn how to understand and unleash the power of biblical narratives by harnessing their unique literary features. During the final week of this residency you will engage in a fresh re-examination of the epistles. With the assistance of Dr. Clint Arnold, you will discover how an understanding of the cultural background and literary features of an epistle can unlock its meaning. As a group, Drs. Edwards, Arnold and Sunjukian will wrestle exegetically and homiletically with various biblical passages and engage the class in their deliberations. Each week will conclude with students preaching sermons from the genres they have been studying.

Year Three: Preaching the Literary Forms of the Bible

Apocalyptic, Poetic, Prophetic, Law & Proverb.

(Edwards, Hultberg & Garrett)

With Drs. Edwards & Hultberg as your guides, your first week will be an adventure into the apocalyptic literature of Scripture. You will learn how to interpret and communicate this frequently misunderstood and often ignored genre of Scripture. During this final week of residency Drs. Duane Garrett and Kent Edwards will lead you on an exegetical and homiletical survey of poetic, prophetic, law and wisdom literature.

The Requirements

Qualified applicants will have a Master of Divinity degree (or its academic equivalent) with a minimum 3.0 GPA from an ATS-accredited school as well as three years of full-time ministry experience since graduation. Give us a call if you have any questions. The cost of the program is reasonable and designed to fit into your budget.

The Faculty Mentor



Dr. J. Kent Edwards

Besides Directing the Doctor of Ministry program at Talbot, Dr. J. Kent Edwards is also the Professor of Preaching & Leadership and the author of *Effective First-Person Biblical Preaching*. He brings 25 years of experience as a successful pastor and church-planter to the classroom. Dr. Edwards is Executive Secretary of ADME (the Association of Doctor of Ministry Education) and past president of the Evangelical Homiletics Society.

Additional Faculty



Dr. Alice Mathews

Dr. Alice Mathews is the 1999 recipient of the Lois W. Bennett Distinguished Associate Professor of Educational Ministries and Women's Ministries. Dr. Mathews brings to the classroom nearly thirty years' experience in ministries to and by women in church, parachurch and seminary settings. In the 1980's she set up a comprehensive program for women's studies at Denver Seminary. She is widely known for her participation in the daily Bible-teaching radio program, Discover the Word. She is also the author of Bible study books for women including *A Woman God Can Use* and *A Woman God Can Teach*.

Dr. Clint Arnold

Dr. Arnold is the Professor of New Testament Language and Literature as well as the Chair of the New Testament Department at Talbot School of Theology. Dr. Arnold's interests lie in the historical and cultural context of the New Testament. He is the author of numerous books, editor of Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary, published in Christianity Today and is a regular columnist for Discipleship Journal.

Dr. Don Sunjukian

Dr. Don Sunjukian is the Professor of Christian Ministry and Leadership, Homiletics and Chair of the Christian Ministry and Leadership Department at Talbot School of Theology. Dr. Sunjukian's life-long love is preaching and his passion is to see God's Word presented with accuracy, clarity, interest, and relevance. With doctorates in theology and communication and 14 years as a senior pastor, he brings both scholarship and experience to the classroom.

Dr. Alan Hultberg

Dr. Hultberg is the Assistant Professor of Bible Exposition & New Testament at Talbot School of Theology. He combines academic research in the Apocalypse, the use of the Old Testament in the New Testament, and New Testament theology with a strong desire to see students become biblically oriented disciples of Jesus Christ.

Dr. Duane Garrett

Dr. Garrett currently teaches at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky and at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. He has also taught at Korean Baptist Seminary in Taejeon, South Korea and Canadian Southern Baptist Seminary in Alberta, Canada. Dr. Garrett has published a number of books including *Authority and Interpretation* and *Rethinking Genesis*.

THE NEXT STEP

Take a look at our current specialty tracks by visiting our website at: www.talbot.edu/dmin. You may also contact our D.Min office at (562) 903-4822 for additional information.