



TYNDALE
• SEMINARY •

Course Syllabus Winter 2013

PREACHING THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS PAST 0739

JANUARY 14 – APRIL 15
MONDAYS, 1:00 TO 3:50 PM

INSTRUCTOR: DR. KEVIN LIVINGSTON
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Office Hours: Tuesdays 2-4 and by appointment
To access your course material, please go to <http://mytyndale.ca>

I. COURSE DESCRIPTION

Designed to deepen our understanding of preaching as a theological and pastoral activity of the Church in service to the gospel. This seminar course will explore the biblical teaching and the church's reflection upon the doctrine of the atonement, pondering how the message of the cross of Christ can be proclaimed today in culturally relevant and transformative ways. Preaching will be done in class.

Prerequisites: Introduction to Preaching PAST 0641 and Biblical Interpretation BIBL 0501

II. LEARNING OUTCOMES

The central goal of this course is to help form preachers who will faithfully and imaginatively articulate the gospel using the catalyst of the doctrine of the atonement. By the end of this course, students will:

- grapple with the vital yet often neglected relationship between theology and proclamation
- become familiar with classic and contemporary theological models that have attempted to explain and expound the cross of Christ
- grow in their ability to develop and preach sermons that are rooted in the gospel, faithful to Scripture and coherent, attractive and persuasive to hearers
- gain wisdom from the "cloud of witnesses" of theologians and preachers across the ages who have taught and preached the message of the cross of Christ.

III. COURSE REQUIREMENTS

A. REQUIRED TEXTS

McKnight, Scot. *A Community Called Atonement*. Nashville: Abingdon, 2007.
ISBN 9780687645541

Stott, John. *The Cross of Christ, 20th Anniversary Edition*. Downer's Grove: InterVarsity Press, 2006. ISBN 978-1596445499

Stevenson, Peter and Stephen Wright. *Preaching the Atonement*. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2009. ISBN 978-0664233280

C. ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

1. Attendance, Reading and Class Participation: 10% of final grade

Attendance and participation in all class sessions is required. Excused absences only in cases of illness or personal emergencies. Blessed is the student who invests the necessary time to read the assigned texts in advance of class! As you read, jot down your questions and observations, which will become a part of our weekly conversation. I look forward to your thoughtful comments and questions that will probe and clarify the task of preaching the cross of Christ. At the end of the term I will ask for a written statement summarizing how much of the assigned readings were completed.

Student participation will be graded on a scale of 1 to 4: 1 (or D): present, not disruptive; responds when called on but does not offer much; infrequent involvement; 2 (or C): adequate preparation, but no evidence of interpretation or analysis; offers straightforward information; contributes moderately when called upon; 3 (or B): good preparation, offers interpretation and analysis, contributes well to discussion in on-going fashion; 4 (or A): excellent preparation, offers analysis, synthesis and evaluation of material; contributes significantly to ongoing discussion.

2. Written Evaluation of Assigned Sermon and Reading Questions: 20% of final grade.

From week 2 through week 11, we will be reading *Preaching the Atonement*, including sermons from each chapter. After reading the assigned sermon, write a brief evaluation (two or three paragraphs) based on the model of sermon evaluation presented in week 1 of class. Also, write two questions that arise from your reading for the week, along with the page numbers from the places in the reading that generated your questions. One question will be from Stevenson and Wright, and the other from Stott or McKnight. These ten weekly sermon reviews and reading

questions are worth 2 points each. Sermon evaluation and reading questions must be turned in on the day of class. No points will be given for late submissions.

3. Stott and McKnight Seminar Presentations: 20% of final grade, 2 x 10% each.

Twice during this course, in groups of two or three, you will present assigned sections from Stott's *The Cross of Christ* and McKnight's *A Community Called Atonement*. Each team will have up to 35 minutes to engage in two tasks:

- Summarize the key themes and respond to the assigned readings. (Up to 20 minutes)
- Develop three or four key questions/discussion points and lead the whole class in a conversation related to some aspect of the doctrine of the atonement and preaching the message of the cross. (Up to 15 minutes).

Your mark will be based upon clarity and comprehensiveness of the presentation, the use of handouts and visuals, and the quality of questions/discussion points you develop.

4. Two Sermons prepared and preached (50% of final grade, 2 x 25% each)

Students will prepare and preach two sermons: one from a gospel text focusing on the death of Christ and the second from an NT epistle that highlights some aspect of the work of Christ on the cross. This includes three distinct parts:

a. Brief exegetical summaries

You will submit a 2-3 page exegetical summary of each of the texts you are preaching, based on the exegetical model presented in class. Identify and make use of at least two scholarly commentaries, the Greek text and at least 3 modern Bible translations. Your exegetical summary is due two weeks before the day you preach.

b. The sermons

The length will be no more than 15 minutes. On the days you preach, please submit full sermon manuscripts. Point form is not acceptable. You will receive written feedback from your fellow students but sermons will be graded by the professor.

c. Self-evaluation

One week after you preach, submit a 1-page self-evaluation of your sermon, taking into account the comments of your colleagues as well as your own appraisal. (Grading of preaching will be 35% for exegesis of the text, 35% for content, 20% for presentation, self review 10%).

D. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN WORK

For proper citation style, consult the [Chicago-Style Quick Guide](#) (Tyndale e-resource) or the full edition of the [Chicago Manual of Style Online](#), especially [ch. 14](#). For citing scripture texts, refer to sections [10.46 to 10.51](#) and [14.253 to 14.254](#).

Academic Integrity

Integrity in academic work is required of all our students. Academic dishonesty is any breach of this integrity, and includes such practices as cheating (the use of unauthorized material on tests and examinations), submitting the same work for different classes without permission of the instructors; using false information (including false references to secondary sources) in an assignment; improper or unacknowledged collaboration with other students, and plagiarism. Tyndale University College & Seminary takes seriously its responsibility to uphold academic integrity, and to penalize academic dishonesty.

Students should consult the current Academic Calendar for academic policies on Academic Honesty, Gender Inclusive Language in Written Assignments, Late Papers and Extensions, Return of Assignments, and Grading System. The Academic Calendar is posted at <http://tyndale.ca/registrar>.

E. SUMMARY OF ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Evaluation is based upon the completion of the following assignments

Required reading and class participation	10%
Written sermon review & reading questions (2 x 10%)	20%
Stott and McKnight Seminar Presentations (2 x 10%)	20%
Two sermons prepared and preached (2 x 25%)	50%
Total Grade	100 %

IV. COURSE SCHEDULE, CONTENT AND REQUIRED READINGS

- G= Grenz, *Theology for the Community of God*
St= Stott, *The Cross of Christ*
SW= Stevenson and Wright, *Preaching the Atonement*
M= McKnight, *A Community Called Atonement*

Jan. 14	Syllabus Review The Cross as the Touchstone of Christian Faith and Life	St ch. 1
Jan. 21	The atonement: an overview of biblical teaching Theological and historical perspectives Sermon Analysis: Genesis 22.1-19	St ch. 2 G ch. 12 SW ch. 1
Jan. 28	Exegesis for Preaching Sermon Analysis: Mark 15:25-39 Seminar Presentation Stott 1	SW ch. 4 St chs. 3-4

Feb. 4	Preaching the Passion narratives Sermon Analysis: Luke 23.32-43 Seminar Presentation Stott 2	SW ch. 5 St chs. 5-6
Feb. 11	Preaching Christian doctrine Sermon Analysis: John 1.1-14 Seminar Presentation Stott 3	SW ch. 6 St. chs. 7-8
Feb. 25	Sermon Analysis: Leviticus 26:15-22 Seminar Presentation Stott 4 Sermon 1 preaching from gospel text	SW ch. 2 St. chs. 9-10
March 4	Sermon Analysis: Isaiah 52-13-53.12 Seminar Presentation Stott 5 Sermon 1 preaching from gospel text	SW ch. 3 St. chs. 11-12
March 18	Sermon Analysis: Romans 3.21-26 Seminar Presentation Stott 6 Sermon 1 preaching from gospel text	SW ch. 7 St 13 and Conc
March 25	Lecture: C. S. Lewis and “imaging” the atonement Sermon Analysis: 2 Corinthians 5:11-6:2 Seminar Presentation McKnight 1	SW ch. 8 M chs. 1-4
April 1	Sermon Analysis: Colossians 2:8-15 Seminar Presentation McKnight 2 Sermon 2 preaching from NT epistle	SW ch. 9 M chs. 5-10
April 8	Sermon Analysis: Hebrews 9:11-14 Seminar Presentation McKnight 3 Sermon 2 preaching from NT epistle	SW ch. 10 M chs. 11-14
April 15	Lecture: “We Preach Christ Crucified...” Seminar Presentation McKnight 4 Sermon 2 preaching from NT epistle	M chs. 15-19

V. SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

To be distributed on the first day of class and will also be posted on the class page.

Scot McKnight “Atonement Theory” lecture
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GP2mBunnfzg>