

YOKEFELLOW

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B.J. CLARKE, EDITOR

LAYING A FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE: DON WALKER TO BECOME A NEW MSOP FACULTY MEMBER

B. J. Clarke

When I became the new Director of the Memphis School of Preaching on January 1, 2013, I inherited a wonderfully talented, seasoned and sound faculty. They do such a tremendous job that I wish it were possible for all of them to continue in their current positions forevermore. However, as time marches on, the unfortunate reality is that we cannot stop the clock and maintain the health and vivacity of our current faculty indefinitely.

As Director, it is my responsibility both to attend to current needs and to lay a foundation now for the future needs of the School. I know from Scripture that it is too late to build the house on the rock when the storm has already arrived (Matt. 7:24-27). Furthermore, some of our current faculty members are bearing heavy administrative loads in addition to teaching their classes. To address our current administrative needs, and to lay a foundation for the future, I asked the elders for the liberty to add brother Don Walker to the faculty of the Memphis School of Preaching, and they have approved my request. There are several reasons why I recommended Don Walker:

(1) **He has nearly three decades of teaching experience in Schools of Preaching** (including Brown Trail and Southwest).

(2) **He has nearly a decade of administrative experience in a School of Preaching.** At the Southwest School of Biblical Studies, he has been involved in overseeing matters of financial support for students. He has been involved also in organizing and overseeing School travels.

He also has administrative experience in dealing with matters of student discipline.

(3) **He has experience in planning, organizing and conducting lectureships.** When he was the local preacher at Shenandoah, he directed the annual lectureship for a number of years. He edited their annual lectureship book also, so he has editing experience as well. This bodes well for the decades to come.

All of these areas of experience make Brother Walker a valuable addition, both now, and for the future. He is scheduled to begin his work with MSOP at the beginning of the 3rd Quarter next month in late January 2016. As this time rapidly approaches, brother Walker is working hard to raise the support he needs to work with MSOP. The Forest Hill church of Christ invests already over \$500,000 annually in the Memphis School of Preaching. Consequently, it is not possible currently to pay for another faculty salary from the local treasury.

As the calendar year draws to a close, this is the time when many churches are planning their annual budgets for 2016. The support of brother Walker is equivalent to supporting the dozens of students who will be blessed to sit at his feet and be trained to preach the gospel. Supporting him would be a tremendous blessing to me, and to our hardworking faculty and administration, as well. Consistent monthly support is ideal, but one-time contributions would also assist him in getting his feet on the ground. Above all, we solicit your prayers for brother Walker and his wife Jackie as they make their plans to come to MSOP!

CAMPAIGNING FOR CHRIST

At the end of the first quarter of our School year our students participated in conducting four Gospel campaigns.

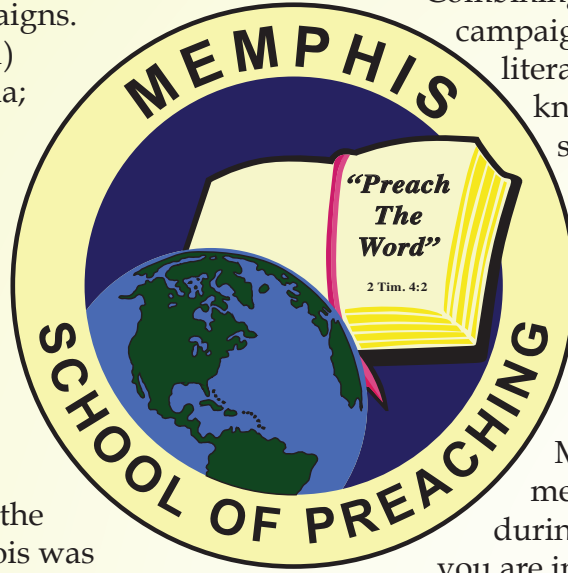
Campaigns were conducted in (1) Anna, Illinois; (2) Dublin, Georgia; (3) Newbern, Tennessee and (4) Tupelo, Mississippi. During the daytime hours the students canvassed the community and knocked doors to invite people to the Gospel Meeting and to set up Bible studies. In the evenings, we preached the Gospel.

I was not privileged to be a part of the other campaigns, but the one we conducted in Anna, Illinois was very encouraging. Throughout the week the students were able to cover all of the homes in Anna, IL and a number of homes in the nearby town of Jonesboro, IL. They set up 16 Bible correspondence courses, and there were multiple

visitors from the community!

Combining the results from all four campaigns, we are happy to report that literally thousands of doors were knocked, that dozens of Bible studies were arranged, and that a good number of souls visited the meetings and heard the Gospel of Christ.

Another fringe benefit of the campaigns is that we meet prospective students who are interested in coming to the Memphis School of Preaching. I met at least three good candidates during the campaign in Anna, IL. If you are interested in having our students come to your town, to canvass the area and conduct a Gospel Meeting, contact brother Billy Bland at the School for more details. Thanks for your support!



ALUMNI, ARE YOU RECEIVING OUR NEWSLETTER? ALUMNI, HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

Mike McDaniel

Updating email addresses has been a continual duty for me since we began to send out *The Laborers Together Newsletter* by email a number of years ago. I sent out an issue in September to MSOP alumni. Did you receive it? If the answer is no, then due to an oversight on my part or yours, your correct email address is not added to one of our group mailing lists. I recently deleted around 150 contacts for whom we had undeliverable email addresses. To help us, please go to the alumni page of www.msop.org and update your information including your email address.

Our alumni association fund is down to \$3300. We are required by the bylaws to retain \$2500 in the fund. Brother Mosher has informed me that only 105 alumni (including honorary alumni) have sent in their dues this year. This is a very small number. Annual Alumni Association dues are \$25. Please send your dues to brother Keith Mosher, our treasurer, at the school address (3950 Forest Hill-Irene Road, Memphis, TN 38125).

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YOKEFELLOW

LITTLE THINGS MEAN A LOT LOOK AT WHAT 82 CENTS A DAY CAN DO

There are some expenses we incur at the Memphis School of Preaching that are annual expenses. For instance, the five categories listed below represent an annual expenditure of nearly \$150,000.

YOKEFELLOW

The Yokefellow is a free publication of the Memphis School of Preaching. The cost of the printing and distribution is approximately \$35,000 - \$40,000 per year.

MSOP LECTURESHIP

The lectureship is a spiritual blessing for hundreds of alumni and friends. This investment is well worth the good that it does for the souls in attendance. The annual cost is approximately \$25,000.

N.B. Hardeman Library

The Memphis School of Preaching is extremely blessed to be the location of the N.B. Hardeman Library. The purchasing of books, periodicals, shelving, stocking, and staffing of the library represents an investment of around \$60,000 per year.

Polishing the Pulpit

As part of the curriculum, MSOP students annually attend PTP. For this week long event, the students/their families must raise funds for travel, meals, lodging and registration fees. This represents a need of \$12,000 in addition to the amount raised by the students.



This spiritual training camp for teenage boys and girls is conducted each June on the MSOP campus. The camp is tuition free, but the costs of conducting the camp (feeding and transporting over 200 campers for an entire week, etc.) represents expenses of just over \$15,000.

A Proposed Solution. The need to raise nearly \$150,000 every year to meet these annual expenses seems rather daunting. However, if a large number of people each contribute a little, the good they can do adds up rather quickly.

For example, if we could find just 500 MSOP supporters, who would send just \$25 a month to MSOP, it would provide \$150,000 of annual support, more than enough to pay for the expense of the five categories mentioned above!

Of course, God has blessed some with the financial wherewithal to give more than \$25 per month, but there are many, who are not blessed with great wealth, who can give \$25 per month.

This is the equivalent of just \$0.82 per day! For less than the cost of a good cup of coffee, or fountain drink, you can make an eternal difference in furthering our work.

Would you consider becoming one of the 500 for the 5 areas of work mentioned above? If so, you may send your \$25 monthly contribution to 3950 Forest Hill-Irene Road, Memphis, TN 38125. Please make out your check to MSOP and, if you would like to designate your contribution to help us cover the annual expenses in the five categories listed above, you may write "500 for the 5" in the memo line.

If you prefer to give \$25 a month to MSOP without having to bother with writing and sending a check each month, call the School and our financial secretary will walk you through the steps involved in arranging for a secure monthly electronic transaction, which will automatically deposit into the School's account each month the amount you authorize.

Thank you so much for your help in all that we do!

Don Walker

Our Newest Faculty Member



Dear Brethren,

I am Don Walker, a native Texan. Upon graduating in the first class of the Southwest School of Bible Studies in 1979, and moving to Prescott, Arizona, I met my wife, Jackie “Gillis” Walker. Jackie and I have been married 36 years and have four children: two boys, two girls and eight grandchildren.

I have preached the Gospel for over 36 years and the largest portion of that time has been spent in local work. During this time it has been a privilege to preach the gospel and do campaign work domestically and internationally.

In the various local works, I have had the privilege to preach on the radio and television as well as editing weekly bulletins and monthly periodicals. I have also directed an annual lectureship and edited the books that accompanied the lectures. I have taught in three schools of preaching as well as recorded classes with the World Video Bible School. Presently I fill the position of Faculty of Bible with the Southwest School of Bible Studies in Austin, Texas.

In January 2016 I look forward to the opportunity to begin a new chapter with the Memphis School of Preaching. I consider it a privilege, honor, and great blessing from our Father in heaven. I look forward to this great challenge and opportunity with much fervor and anticipation. I covet your prayers in this endeavor.

I want to thank you for consideration of Jackie’s and my financial needs while we embark on this next stage of our life. I am humbled and thankful. I pray that our God richly blesses you as you glorify Him in your efforts.

Don't miss the 50th Anniversary
MSOP Lectures
March 27 - 31, 2016
Theme: “Preach the Word”