

# Preparing Souls To Serve The Lord

Volume XX

September 1999

Number 2

## He Cares

By

Bill McDonough

[This editorial was given to us by Glenn Sheumaker, one of the preachers for the South Florida Avenue Church of Christ in Lakeland, Florida. We know it will be of interest to those who support the school and enjoy knowing of the fruits of our labor. We learned also that another of our May, 1999, graduates, Nate Stewart, who now preaches full-time for a congregation near Jacksonville, Florida, baptized four people on August 22, 1999. Editor]

He had been to a denominational training school and ordained to preach in Haiti. For economic reasons he had migrated to St. Martin and while working as a stock manager for a large supermarket, pastored a Pentecostal congregation on the island. His brother had gone to Orlando, Florida and while visiting there he met a fellow Haitian who was preaching for a Haitian congregation of the churches of Christ. "When this brother told me I was not a Christian I told him he must be crazy," he said, as he related the story to us. "I had been preaching several years and had led others to the Lord," he continued, "but after studying two full days with my new acquaintance I realized he was correct. I wasn't a Christian. I'd never been baptized for the forgiveness of sins."

Emmanuel Charles was baptized and returned to St. Martin nervously to tell his wife

and the congregation where he preached what he had done. "My wife said, 'You did what?', When I told her I had been baptized again, only this time for the right reason and she immediately said, 'what are you going to tell the church?'" First he sat out to teach her and when she understood and was baptized he told the church what they had done. An uproar ensued and he called for the brethren from Orlando to come and help him explain the newly understood truth to the congregation. The first night the people all said, 'We are not coming back,' but they did. The second night they said, "We are not coming back," but they did. The third, fourth and fifth nights were the same but ' . . . each evening for two weeks they returned to listen to the Bible being taught and they asked many questions and often left upset," he told us. After two weeks of study and answering questions

seventeen were baptized. Some were unable to make the change and one man said, "I understand and know this is right but I will die in my sins because I cannot leave what I have spent my life serving."

Our brother Emmanuel, with great joy, told two hundred people at the Caribbean Lectureship last week, 'The church of Christ is now in St. Martin.' Already he has converted sixty people and their average attendance of 100 has pushed him on to continue working among the French speaking people on that little island which is jointly owned by the French and Dutch governments. He was unaware of any tracts, books or literature in the French language and to his delight Marie-Claire is putting him in contact with the French Brotherhood. (Keynoter, July 22, 1999).



## I like Labels

By

Terry M. Hightower

Often we hear brethren say: "I don't like labels! I don't think we should put people in 'pigeonholes'." May I choose to disagree? I LIKE LABELS so long as they are accurate! Label me "anti-sin"! Call me "anti-mechanical instrumental music" and I am proud to wear such! How confusing it would be when we purchase groceries if none of the cans had labels [like the ones thrown in a grocery cart and sold at a fraction of their true price]. We wouldn't know the contents, amount, or the price. I LIKE LABELS! Their titles serve well as sort of a "shorthand" to lengthy, full-bore descriptions as to what's inside--just take a look at your Wal-Mart receipt sometime.

Medicines and chemicals have warning labels cautioning against the abuse of the contents: "WARNING: May be harmful or fatal if taken orally." I LIKE LABELS! I detest wanting to purchase an item and not knowing how much I must pay for it--I appreciate the fact that some stores have little machines mounted here and there so I can electronically "scan" for the price of the item without walking to the front of the store! But I'd rather have a LABEL with the price on it!

We also need labels for the purity of the church and our spiritual well-being. "Now I beseech you, brethren, mark (i.e. note--as in scrutinize) them that are causing the divisions and occasions of stumbling, contrary to the doctrine which ye learned: and turn away from them" (Rom. 16:17). Paul goes on to call them "belly-servers, smooth-talkers and

beguilers" in the next verse. Note some Biblical labels--"Warning Labels":

1. Offspring of Vipers (Mat. 3:7)
2. Beware False Prophets (Mat. 7:15-20)
3. Phylactery Broadeners (Mat. 23:5)
4. Hypocrites (Mat. 23:13,15,23,25,27,29)
5. That Fox (Luke 13:32)
6. Satanist (Mat. 16:23)
7. False Apostles, Deceitful Workers (2 Cor. 11:13)
8. Diotrophes--loveth to Have the Preeminence (3 John 9) [Other individuals are named: "Shipwreckers" Hymenaeus & Alexander--1 Tim. 1:19-20;
9. "Forsakers" Phygelus & Hermogenes--2 Tim. 1:15.]
10. False Teacher (2 Pet. 2:1)
11. Liars, Evil Beasts, Idle Gluttons (Titus 1:12)
12. Dogs, Evil Workers, Concisionists (Phil. 3:2)
13. Tradition Binders (Mark 7:3-4; Mat. 15:1-9)
14. Meat & Marriage Forbidders ("anti-meat & marriage"?; 1 Tim. 4:3)
15. Judaizers (Gal. 2:14)
16. Balaamites, Nicolaitans, Jezebelites (Rev. 2:14-15,20)
17. Faithful Men (2 Tim. 2:2)
18. Good Soldier (2 Tim. 2:3)
19. Faithful and Beloved Brother (Col. 4:9)
20. Servant of Christ (Col. 4:12)
21. Helper or Fellow Worker in Christ (Rom. 16:9)
22. Good Man (Acts 11:24)

Don't misunderstand me. I have no desire to PUT anyone in an IMPROPER (i.e. mislabeled) slot at

all, but it often helps to know which "pigeonhole" a person occupies (e.g. Crossroader/Bostoner/ICC'er). The great danger in labels is attaching the WRONG label as per objective facts for which we will all be judged: "Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! (Isa. 5:20; cf. Jer. 8:11)! We all know that there is federal and SPIRITUAL law against false advertising, but let's not jerk all the labels off the cans because a grocery boy marked a price or the contents incorrectly now and then! Also, let's not just assume the "grocery boy" mislabeled because someone cries "foul" either--make him prove it!

In Him Who Died,  
Terry M. Hightower (some parts not original with me)  
Farwell TX [Terry Hightower has taught at the Florida School of Preaching and has spoken on a number of our Lectureship programs. We received this editorial by E-Mail and have made brief modifications to its format for this publication. Editor]



## The Harvesters

Published Monthly  
Florida School of Preaching  
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## “Do You Understand Preaching?”

25th Annual Lectureship — January 17-20, 2000

Jackie M. Stearsman, Director

### Monday

9:00 The Need to Train Preachers Emanuel Daugherty  
9:40 Jesus the Master Preacher V.P. Black  
10:20 BREAK  
10:50 Preachers as Peacemakers J. Brooks Boyd, Jr.  
11:30 LUNCH

#### Preachers and Their Influence

1:30 Areas of Influence Chris Steele  
2:00 Destroying Influence Emanuel Daugherty  
2:30 Improving Influence Stephen Rogers  
3:00 BREAK  
3:30 Forum: Preachers and Their Influence  
4:30 DINNER  
6:30 Congregational Singing  
7:00 Preachers Must Love People Samuel Roney  
7:45 Looking Back Over Fifty Years of Preaching B.C. Carr

### Tuesday

9:00 Preaching for Small Congregations Plomer Hunter  
9:40 What Does It Mean to Preach Jesus? V.P. Black  
10:20 BREAK  
10:50 From House to House Stephen Rogers  
11:30 LUNCH (faculty and alumni photos)

#### Preachers and Expediency

1:30 Who Determines Expediency? Gene Stilwell  
2:00 Decisions in a Congregation Billy Davidson  
2:30 Are There Abuses in Expediency? Bob Bauer  
3:00 BREAK  
3:30 Forum: Preachers and Expediency  
4:30 DINNER  
6:30 Congregational Singing  
7:00 John the Baptist as a Preacher Bobby L. Foster  
7:45 Mistakes Made in Study Jimmy Clark

### Wednesday

9:00 Preachers and Longevity Frank Higginbotham  
9:40 Changes I See in Preaching V.P. Black  
10:20 BREAK  
10:50 Preachers Need to Study Jimmy Clark  
11:30 LUNCH

#### Preachers and Public Opinion

1:30 Avoiding Pads Demar Elam  
2:00 Understanding Tradition Frank Higginbotham  
2:30 Preachers and the Scholars B.J. Clarke  
3:00 BREAK  
3:30 Forum: Preachers and Public Opinion  
4:30 DINNER  
6:30 Congregational Singing  
7:00 Jesus as a Preacher Greg Harmon  
7:45 Elders-Preacher Understanding Roy Dicks

### Thursday

9:00 Preaching in a Foreign Country Ted Wheeler  
9:40 Preachers Need to Grow Tom Holland  
10:20 BREAK  
10:50 Preachers Need Support B.J. Clarke  
11:30 LUNCH

#### Mistakes Made by Preachers

1:30 Questionable Associates Mike Dykes  
2:00 Doctrinal Neal Pharr  
2:30 Indolence Gene Burgett  
3:00 BREAK  
3:30 Forum: Mistakes Made by Preachers  
4:30 DINNER  
6:30 Congregational Singing  
7:00 Demas as a Preacher Nate Stewart  
7:45 Preacher, Encourage Us Tom Holland

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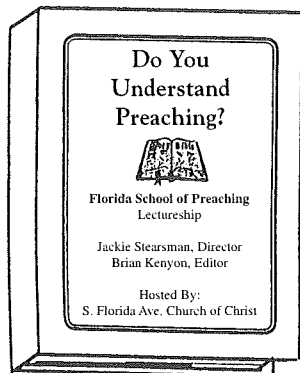
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*Florida School of Preaching**Dear Brethren,*

*We would like to contribute the enclosed \$480.00 to be used for your school of preaching. We have attended your lectureship the past two years and enjoyed it very much. We have heard and met one of your past students, Justin Gerhardt, and are impressed with him and his lessons.*

*Sincerely,**Dwight and Lois Duncan*

### **Fall Semester Begins**

At this writing we have nine full-time students enrolled for classes. We have three extension classes and two night classes that meet at South Florida Avenue, Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

At the High Springs extension class we have twenty-six (26) enrolled. This class meets on Monday evenings and is taught by Gene Burgett. The class curriculum is Topical Bible Studies.

At the Sarasota extension we have twenty-four (24)

enrolled. This class meets on Monday evenings and is taught by Gene Stilwell. The curriculum there is Old Testament Survey.

At the Bushnell extension class that meets on Tuesday evenings (taught by Stearsman) we have Eighteen (18) enrolled. This class is studying Matthew.

In the two night classes that meet at South Florida Avenue there is a combined number of 14 students. J.H. Blackman, JR. teaches on Tuesday evenings. The class studies Miracles and Parables. On Thursday evenings Brian Kenyon teaches Wisdom Literature.



### **Thanks Sam and Duane**

The school is in constant need of book shelves, for reference books and journals. This need became known to brother **SAM BOLDING**. He enlisted brother Charlie Deal and others to assist him. The end result is that the school Computer Lab now has a number of permanent shelves on which to store materials.

In order to provide security for the Computer Lab and the library items it was

necessary to secure the four doors that lead to the Lab. **DUANE NELSON** graciously did this for the school. Duane wired the Computer Lab when we first installed the computers. Without his expertise the school would have incurred considerable expense.

Without the generous support of friends we could not exist or function. We appreciate what all do to make it possible, especially these last two projects.



### **Ladies Meetings**

Sister Amber Kenyon meets with the wives and lady friends of our students on a monthly schedule. These meetings are on Tuesday evenings at the time of the night class. The following meetings are scheduled for 1999: September 9, October 5, November 9, November 30; for 2000: January 11, February 15, March 7, April 11. The School Catalog states: "In order for the preacher or elder to do his best work, he must have the wholehearted support of his companion. These informal sessions are designed to offer help and encouragement toward this goal."

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