

“GO INTO ALL THE WORLD AND PREACH THE GOSPEL”

There is an urgent need for Gospel preachers. Millions of souls are leaving this world unprepared for eternity! Most have never heard the pure Gospel.

Do you want to preach the saving message, the good news of Jesus Christ? Will you commit yourself to helping men, lovingly and effectively, to come to know salvation in the one and only Savior? Are you interested in taking the Truth to the billions of lost souls abroad? Or, does the ability to help a local church reach those, who are walking in darkness, to see the light, fulfill the dream you have?

What if you knew that within two short years, you could be faithfully and confidently preaching the Word?

MSOP, the oldest school of preaching east of the Mississippi River, completed its fiftieth year of distinctive service in 2016. The school has maintained a clear sense of where it has been with a clear purpose of where it is going. MSOP continues to set the pace in training sound, competent preachers of the Gospel by offering the same intensive, distinctive, academic program, with the same solid, scriptural direction, while emphasizing the same rigorous, quality education and training which have inspired the trust of brethren for decades.

If you are looking for a school where you will be taught the Bible, and how to preach it, by a seasoned, scholarly faculty, under the oversight of a godly eldership, in a proven program of preacher training, the Memphis School of Preaching is for you.

MSOP IS A WORK OF THE FOREST HILL CHURCH OF CHRIST

Since 1968, the Forest Hill Congregation has hosted the Memphis School of Preaching as an integral part of its work. Forest Hill members contribute very liberally of their means, for they see firsthand the fruits of their giving, and gratefully acknowledge all others who help so generously. The Forest Hill church could by no means conduct a work of this magnitude without help from others.

If you are thinking of enrolling in the School, the Forest Hill brethren will do everything possible to make you feel welcome, and to make you an integral part of the congregation.

FOREST HILL
CHURCH OF CHRIST
3950 FOREST HILL/IRENE RD

Curtis Cates, who directed MSOP for twenty-four years, stated:

“The rigor of the School’s program will require great sacrifice and perseverance, but the rewards are tremendous. Jesus did not come down from the cross; He paid the price of redemption. Can you do less than pay the price and meet the demands in order to help meet the grave need for sound, superbly trained Gospel preachers?”

Garland Elkins, who taught at MSOP for a quarter of a century, said:

“The curriculum of the School is very much like the curriculum used by brother N. B. Hardeman when I was blessed to sit at his feet and study the Bible. I am delighted that the Memphis School of Preaching is patterned to a great degree after the Freed-Hardeman of brother N. B. Hardeman’s day.”

QUESTIONS

Who should attend MSOP?

One who is ready to apply himself to learn all he can, and to put all he learns into practice, because he wants more than anything to preach the Gospel of Christ (2 Tim. 4:2).

How long does it take to graduate?

You can receive the equivalent of four years (or more) worth of college level instruction in only two years at MSOP!

What are the age limits?

From mature young men to retired men—if you want to spend the rest of your life preaching the Gospel, NOW is the time to begin.

What will I study?

You will study the entire Bible, along with related subjects such as Bible Geography, Archaeology, Greek, English, Logic, Debate, Church History, and other doctrinal courses designed to instruct you in every aspect of what it takes to be a Gospel preacher. When you graduate from MSOP, you will be ready to preach the Gospel!

Will my studies earn me a degree?

The emphasis of MSOP is to impart Bible knowledge and practical training in what it takes to be a preacher. We grant a diploma upon graduation, but we have not sought, nor are we seeking accreditation in order to grant a degree. This has not hindered our graduates from finding a good place to preach, nor from furthering their education. Many institutions will accept hours taken at MSOP toward their degree programs.

Will I have an opportunity to preach?

There are more calls for preachers who can fill in occasionally, work with a church as a second man, or preach regularly, than we have students. If you want to preach on a regular basis, while at MSOP, you can.

Will I be able to find a place to preach when I graduate?

Most of our graduates find a place to preach long before they graduate. We do not act as a placement service, and we do not guarantee a place to preach, but since the School began, our graduates have found congregations with which to work.

Where will I live?

MSOP has four residence halls, each of which has eight, three-bedroom and two full bathroom units. Thus, we are able to house students on campus. The only cost to the student is for utilities and maintenance.

Are there classes for wives?

Yes! Realizing the need for wives to grow spiritually along with their husbands, and the need for the preacher's wife to be equipped for her role, we have classes meet on Monday nights, and provide instruction in the Bible practical aspects of teaching others, and in being a preacher's wife. The wives are graduated with diplomas from their curriculum, also.

How is MSOP Supported?

MSOP is a work of the Forest Hill church of Christ, under the oversight of the Forest Hill eldership. Forest Hill contributes more than \$500,000 per year. Other churches and brethren also contribute. MSOP does not receive government financing, nor is it supported by charging tuition and fees.

Is financial help available?

Yes! Through contributions and scholarships, help is readily available. Both congregations and individuals are willing to help, providing living expenses for faithful men who desire to train to be preachers.

How much support do I need?

Your needs will depend on your marital status, family size, etc. The Memphis area has a moderate cost of living, comparable to other urban areas of this size.

How do I become a student at MSOP?

Read carefully the information in this brochure, and at msop.org. Send in your completed application, being sure to provide all requested information. We will review your application, and send out reference requests. Upon receipt of the reference requests, we will contact you to let you know if you have been accepted.

& ANSWERS

How much are tuition and fees?

There is no charge for tuition, and there are no fees to pay! You will not have to worry about student loans, and big debts when you graduate. Brethren are willing to give for you to attend MSOP to prepare yourself to be a faithful preacher of the Gospel. Thus, a student at MSOP does not have to go into debt, or spend four (or more) years to obtain LESS training than he can receive in two years at MSOP.

How do I raise support?

- 1. Make a budget.** Use a very sharp pencil. Include necessities: contribution, housing costs, auto expenses, food, clothing, insurance, etc. Have your budget ready to show to those whose support you seek.
- 2. Make a list.** List all the preachers, elders, churches, brethren, family, and friends with whom you have had contact in the past. Ask the elders, the preacher, and brethren to help you with contacts. Be persistent. Before you know it, you will have a number of potential supporters.
- 3. Make appointments.** If you send out one hundred letters, you will hear from a couple, and one of them will say, "No." However, if you make appointments to sit down face to face to express your determination to preach, and to ask for support, you will find two out of three will respond positively. Do not be afraid, or ashamed, to ask for what you need in order to prepare yourself to preach. Point out MSOP charges no tuition or fees and that in only two years, you will receive the equivalent of more than four years of college level instruction—absolutely free, and you will be ready to go forth and preach.
- 4. Make a promise.** Promise yourself and God you will not give up in your quest to preach. He will be with you. Pray for His help, and He will provide.
- 5. Make us a part of your efforts.** Keep us informed. We will be happy to supply you with contacts, to direct support your way (if it is available), to write or call on your behalf, and to encourage you.

Additionally, some students sell property, use savings accounts, mortgage holdings, or borrow money to supplement their support. Some of the wives work, while other men receive help from relatives and friends. Also, while we cannot guarantee such appointments, the School receives frequent calls for preacher students to fill appointments, and many of the students preach one or more times a month, some regularly.

Remember, you can do it! With God's help you can be a student at MSOP, and become a preacher of the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Is MSOP approved for Veteran's assistance?

MSOP has been approved for benefits for veterans, war orphans, and other eligible persons. Veterans who qualify should apply directly to the Veterans Administration in their home state and send the certificate of Eligibility to the school when received, or present it upon registration.

"Can you afford not to attend MSOP?"

If you are seriously interested in preparing yourself as a "man of the book," MSOP is the place for you. As you can see, you can afford to attend. The question is, "Can You Afford Not To Attend Memphis School of Preaching?"

If you wish to join the steadily growing, quality student body, we stand ready to assist you, whether in helping to raise needed support or in some other way. Please feel free to call upon us. Let us hear from you soon! Better still, plan to visit the school.

There is a lost and dying world in need of the soul-saving Gospel. A brotherhood is ready to help men, like you, to get ready to go forth with the Truth. Why not submit your application, or call for more information, today?

STUDY THE BIBLICAL TEXT

The Memphis School of Preaching has no peer in emphasis on actual time spent on the text of the Bible. Over a two-year period, 780 hours are spent in study of the actual text of the New Testament, and 720 hours are spent in study of the text of the Old Testament in mostly verse by verse study, not including the study of Bible-related courses (Bible Geography, Bible Archaeology, Church History, etc.).

THE BIBLE EXALTED

At MSOP, the Bible is exalted as the verbally inspired Word of God, perfect and complete in all matters of faith. Great emphasis is placed upon memorization of portions of the text and the need for Bible preaching in the pulpit. The Gospel is God's power to save (Romans 1:16). God magnified His Word above His name (Psalm 138:2).

EVERY DAY WITH THE WORD ...

Every day, school begins with prayer and Bible reading in chapel. Every class (except language classes) begins with students answering roll call with a memory verse. Every assignment, in and out of class, is devoted to learning the Bible. The mandate to "Study to shew thyself approved unto God..." (2 Tim. 2:15) is the watchword at Memphis School of Preaching.

Many men who desire to preach do not know which books to purchase, what text to use to study, how to harmonize seemingly difficult passages, and some even misapply God's Word. The effort at Memphis School of Preaching is to help each student learn how to handle the text efficiently and honestly (2 Cor. 4:2). God's Word will not return void if it is applied correctly (Isa. 55:11).

Imagine yourself in class. The Bible is opened. The text is before you as never before. The results of your instructor's training and countless hours of preparation are yours to receive. He is a Christian, he is there to help you, he wants you to succeed as a student of God's vital message to man. He wants you to do your best and to be what God wants you to be. The atmosphere is right, and you confidently begin to take notes. You are on your way in the greatest experience of life—knowing the Biblical text.

There is an urgent need for more dedicated Christians to be involved in evangelism. The opportunities in our age are tremendous. Doors of opportunity are opening throughout the world! We must take advantage of these opportunities while we can.

Graduates of MSOP are preaching in countries around the world. Not only will one learn world evangelism at the Memphis School of Preaching, but he will also learn local evangelism. In the "Personal Evangelism" class, one will study various methods of personal work. He will go on door knocking/preaching campaigns. This gives one the "hands-on" experience that is so needed. The students come back from the campaigns encouraged and confident that they can be effective soul winners.

HOW CAN I HELP?

Encourage Men to Preach.

Well more than one thousand men have graduated from MSOP, and each one of them needed the encouragement of those whom they loved and trusted. Begin early to train boys, as did Lois and Eunice (2 Tim. 3:15). Impress upon them positive aspects of serving the Lord by preaching the gospel. Assure them you will be very pleased if they dedicate their lives to being God's heralds. Praise their initial, perhaps feeble, efforts when they stand at those make-believe pulpits, and deliver their first "sermons." Your commendation, and smile of approval, along with a hug of tender love may be just what these young men need in order to chart their courses for life. Never discourage a good man from preaching (2 Tim. 2:2).

Send Men To MSOP.

There are many good, faithful, dedicated brothers who are looking for the way to prepare themselves to preach, or who are wondering if they have what it takes to preach. Point them in our direction. Your recommendation may be just what they need to get them on the road to a lifetime of preaching the soul-saving gospel of Christ. Instead of lamenting sin in the world, and the shortage of preachers, send men to MSOP.

Support Men at MSOP.

Men who sacrifice by leaving homes, families, and jobs—these men need your help, and they are worthy; thus, they look to you, trusting in God, and depending upon the generous help which faithful, loving brethren, who have the vision to

see the real need for Gospel preachers today, and in the future, will provide.

Support MSOP.

Over fifty years of faithful service have shown the School to be worthy of your support. Your contributions have been a vital part of the School's training of men to preach (cf. Phi. 1:3-5). MSOP does not seek, nor would it accept, governmental support. It charges no tuition, or fees. As a part of the Bible teaching program of the Forest Hill church of Christ, MSOP is supported by the Forest Hill church, and by faithful brethren who are convinced of the continuing need to train men to preach the Gospel of Christ. Your donations to MSOP are fully tax deductible, and will help save precious souls. Now is the time to begin supporting the training of men to preach if you have not, in the past, done so—or, to continue, and even increase your support if you have been helping in this worthy effort.

Pray For MSOP.

We trust our God hears and answers the prayers of the faithful (Jam. 5:16). He has commanded us to come before Him with our petitions, and He has promised to bless us with what we need, especially in our service to Him (Mat. 7:7). Pray that God will bless us with men who are committed to spending the rest of their lives in preaching the Word. Pray that our Creator and Sustainer will provide us the means to continue in this good work as long as the earth shall stand. Pray that our Heavenly Father will bless our efforts with much success—not for our glory, but for His. Together, we can train men to preach.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT MSOP

- Intensive, Two-year, Collegiate Program Of Strong Bible Emphasis
- 54 Courses, 164 Semester Hours, 2,960 Clock Hours In Classes
- Two Full Years Of Transferable College Credit
- Emphasis On Doctrinal Soundness, Christian Character, And Evangelistic Zeal
- Sound, Well-qualified, Dedicated Faculty
- Recognized For Educational Excellence In Preacher Preparation For Pulpit, Local Work, and World Evangelism
- Three Campaigns, Restoration Trip, Lectureships, Polishing the Pulpit, And Other Opportunities For Growth And Service During Two Years
- Personal Direction From A Seasoned Faculty Experienced In All Facets Of Preaching
- Opportunities To Preach While In School
- Classes For Student Wives (Diplomas Awarded), M.O.S.T. (Third Year Graduate Program), And World Missions Program
- State Of The Art Educational Facility On Twenty Acre Campus
- State Of The Art Television and Radio Studio And Training in Mass Media
- Residence Halls, With Thirty-two Three Bedroom And Two Full Bathroom Apartments, On Campus
- N. B. Hardeman Library Building On Campus
- Established In 1966—Oldest School Of Preaching East Of The Mississippi
- Located In Germantown—One Of Tennessee's Best Cities In Which To Live And Work
- No Tuition Or Fees
- Scholarships And Housing Assistance Available
- Approved By Tennessee State Approving Agency For VA Benefits

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