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THE NEWSLETTER

September – October 2015

"The Lord gave the word: great *was* the company of those that published *it*" (Psalm 68:11).

DON'T FORGET!

Sunday, October 11th is Pastor Appreciation Day!

"Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, especially they who labour in the word and doctrine" (1 Timothy 5:17).

2015 Faith Promise Missions Conference

1Cor. 9:22

By all means save some

Speaker—Joe Cammilleri
Sept. 30–Oct. 4 • 7pm

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Editor's Notes

Jim & Mary Fellure

Greetings in Jesus' name,
One of the things on my "old man's" list of things to criticize is missionaries that only write prayer letters when they need more money, but in just about every issue of our Newsletter, I am doing that very thing! We too are trying to raise more funds for the ministry to which God has called us. However, I have decided this Newsletter is not going to be about more financial help, but in view of October

11th being Pastor's Appreciation Day, we are dedicating this issue to the men of God. After all, since 1984 the millions of Bibles or Scripture portions that have been printed and shipped from this place have been, for the most part, because our preacher friends have prayed, given us time in their pulpits, led their churches to support us financially, and said a good word to others about VBP.

It seems that in our day of lethargy, compromise, and apostasy many of the philosophies, trends, fads, inventions, and promotions that have been passed off to the American people as "good things" by the unsaved world, are now being used by the devil to help many professing Christians, and even some churches, to self destruct. Brother Lester Roloff, one of the greatest influences for Christianity in my generation, said the introduction of the television would be the downfall of America. He was right, but obviously was not taken very seriously! Before the television invaded nearly every home in America, a weakening process had already begun. The flood of corrupt Bibles that had hit the market and the humanism taught by the public school system were a satanic effort to destroy the only absolute authority on earth and to make man his own god. This simply paved the way for television, whereby Hollywood could introduce to the entire, red-blooded American family all the filth it could belch up. Now, in the name of "progress," we have the internet, social networking and, believe it or not, texting which even the secular world is saying is rapidly becoming an addiction among young people. There would not be enough space in this Newsletter to even scratch the surface of the problems being created by

undisciplined and carnal "professing" believers through the inventions of the devil. However, there is a solution, rejected for the most part, but a solution; and it is the only solution: The bold, Spirit-filled, Christ-exalting, sin-hating, devil-fighting preaching of the Word of God (if done often enough and accepted), would get us back to living right, loving one another, and glorifying the God that made us. But the sad truth is, for the most part, the Bible preachers of today that offer rebuke and reproof are being ignored, rejected, and many times run out of town.

Several years back, a dear friend, Brother Hank Thompson, who now has enjoyed a few years in Heaven, asked me to counsel a couple in his church. Though I was uncomfortable doing it, he insisted. I met with the couple and offered some advice that was different than what Pastor Thompson had given them. The brother very quickly rejected my advice and said, "No, I am going to let the pastor be my eyes. I am going to do what he said." Now, whenever I preach at Capitol City Baptist in Austin, Texas, this couple is always in their place, faithfully serving Christ through that good church. I have thought many times about what a wise decision they made in following the advice of their preacher. By the way, the wisest man that ever lived was called a preacher, and to follow the man of God is the route to spiritual success. Hebrews 13:7 says it this way—"Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God: whose faith follow, considering the end of *their* conversation."

Man, by virtue of his fallen nature, is a rebel. He just doesn't like to be told what to do. However, submission to authority is an absolute necessity if a child of God is to grow spiritually and have an effective life for Christ. Hebrews 13:17 says, "Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you."

I say emphatically we should love, respect, appreciate, pray for, and follow the preacher.

A grateful Servant,
Jim Fellure

What is a preacher anyway?

The preacher is doctor, lawyer, problem solver, philosopher, friend, adviser, teacher, builder, flower arranger, music expert, civic leader, companion, host, public relations man, fund raiser, mortgage expert, community booster, administrator, recreation director, peacemaker, public servant, private eye, and ambassador.

Another glimpse at the preacher reveals he is a person, a product, a pattern, a propagator, a preserver, a provoker, a prince, and a persuader.

The preacher, in order to fill his commission effectively and satisfy his calling, must be fearless, forceful, flexible, faithful, friendly, frank, and frugal.

His deportment must be above reproach, his dedication without measure, and his determination unstymied.

One gets the idea that the preacher is "all things to all men." Indeed he is that and more, much more. His worth cannot be measured, nor his value calculated, nor his effectiveness weighed.

He is God's man on God's mission with God's message for God's people in God's time.

—Profile of a Preacher, by Dr. Raymond Barber

Print Shop News

Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Since our last Newsletter, we finished binding, trimming, and boxing a little over forty thousand Spanish New Testaments headed for Medellín, Colombia, South America. We loaded them in a container on August 12, so right now they are on the way there. Meanwhile, in the shop we are steadily working on completing roughly forty-five thousand more Spanish New Testaments that will be available as the Lord directs.

A few weeks ago we had an unexpected blessing. Someone had arranged to pick up a pallet of the Spanish New Testaments, and in the conversation about how they were going to get the New Testaments on the field, I

asked if they had the means to get items into other countries as well. One of the gentlemen made a phone call and said they could. Late last year, we had sent a container of Luganda John/Romans to Uganda, but there were about twenty thousand more that we just could not squeeze into the container. Not knowing how we would be able to get them to the field, I just did not have the heart to throw them away. Now, they are on the way to Uganda. They may not make it to the missionary we printed them for, but at least they will get to the country where we trust they will be used for the glory of God. We are still waiting on the Lord to see which project He will provide for next. We are committed to two truckloads of Spanish Bibles, and the deal to each of those missionaries is that the project which gets funded first will get printed first. Wouldn't it be awesome if God sent in the funds to print both truckloads at the same time?! It would be a tight squeeze in the shop, but it would be more efficient. Please pray that God would have His will in this matter.

This edition of the Newsletter is dedicated to pastors. I thank God for our pastor, Bro. Tim Fellure. It is obvious that he takes his job seriously. He studies and brings convicting messages, brings in good preachers, and keeps the music on track. In fact, I have been blessed with godly men for pastors most of my Christian life. It would be impossible to tell what my life would be like today if it were not for these men. If you have a pastor, you need to uphold him both in prayer and actions. He has a tough job, and if he seems to be lacking just a little in your estimation, maybe just a little prayer and support could make a new man out of him. We all need a little help. Our pastors do so much for us; let us try to do a little for them.

May God bless you,
Bro. Albert Berg

MEMORIALS

Each contributor listed below, through their individual contribution, has helped provide 150 Bibles for the mission field.

FROM	IN MEMORY OF
Ron Parson.....	<i>David Parson</i>
.....	<i>Randy Davis</i>
Campbellsville Bap. Temple of Campbellsville, KY
.....	<i>Dorothy Allen</i>
.....	<i>David Parson</i>
.....	<i>Wendy Bricken</i>
LaRhonda Webb.....	<i>Joshua Ryan Brann</i>
Sarah Russo.....	<i>Pop</i>
.....	<i>Steven Melton</i>
.....	<i>Mikki's Sister</i>
Lonnie & Shawn Pitts.....	<i>Gerald Skipper</i>
Ms. Julie Tabucbuc.....	<i>Rogelio Bernardo</i>
Chuck, Barbie & Kimberly.....	<i>Ruby Arnold</i>
Jim & Nancy Bradley.....	<i>Eva Pyles</i>

FROM	IN RECOGNITION OF
Sarah Russo.....	<i>Brandon Jones</i>
.....	<i>Lenning Baby</i>
Barbie Barnes.....	<i>Mom Trask</i>

I GO OUT TO PREACH WITH TWO PROPOSITIONS IN MIND. FIRST, EVERY PERSON OUGHT TO GIVE HIS LIFE TO CHRIST. SECOND, WHETHER OR NOT ANYONE ELSE GIVES HIM HIS LIFE, I WILL GIVE HIM MINE.
—JONATHAN EDWARDS

GOD GIVE US MEN!

Bob Moorehead wrote in *The Growth Factor*:

"God give us men...ribbed with the steel of Your Holy Spirit...men who will not flinch when the battle's fiercest...men who won't acquiesce, or compromise, or fade when the enemy rages. God give us men who can't be bought, bartered, or badgered by the enemy, men who will pay the price, make the sacrifice, stand the ground, and hold the torch high. God give us men obsessed with the principles true to your word, men stripped of self-seeking and a yen for security...men who will pay any price for freedom and go any lengths for truth. God give us men delivered from mediocrity, men with vision high, pride low, faith wide, love deep, and patience long...men who will dare to march to the drumbeat of a distant drummer, men who will not surrender principles of truth in order to accommodate their peers. God give us men more interested in scars than medals. More committed to conviction than convenience, men who will give their life for the eternal, instead of indulging their lives for a moment in time. Give us men who are fearless in the face of danger, calm in the midst of pressure, bold in the midst of opposition. God give us men who will pray earnestly, work long, preach clearly, and wait patiently. Give us men whose walk is by faith, behavior is by principle, whose dreams are in heaven, and whose book is the Bible. God give us men who are equal to the task. Those are the men the church needs today."

VBP Field Reps



Bill and Vicki Richburg

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billrichburg@victorybaptistpress.com

The Richburgs left a full-time ministry in South Carolina and became field representatives for Victory Baptist Press in 1999. Brother Richburg now serves as our general field director.



Shawn and Emma Dunn

109A E. High Street
Liberty, IN 47353
765.580.2196

preacherswdunn@gmail.com

The Dunns became field representatives for Victory Baptist Press in September 2010. After pastoring two churches for a total of 24 years, and being heavily involved with printing and distributing the Scriptures, the burden for printing became so real to Brother

Dunn and his wife Emma that he resigned as a pastor to become a full-time representative for VBP.

Martin Luther's ten qualifications for the minister

- 1) He should be able to teach plainly and in order.
- 2) He should have a good head,
- 3) Good power of language,
- 4) A good voice,
- 5) A good memory.
- 6) He should know when to stop.
- 7) He should be sure of what he means to say
- 8) And be ready to stake body and soul, goods and reputation on its truth.
- 9) He should study diligently
- 10) And suffer himself to be vexed and criticized by everyone.

More good advice for the preacher

Let ministers daily pursue their studies with diligence and constantly busy themselves with them. Moreover, let them with care and diligence beware of the infectious poison of this imagined security and conceited overestimation; rather let them steadily keep on reading, teaching, studying, pondering, and meditating. My concern should be that others receive from me what God has taught me in Scripture and that I strive to present this in the most attractive form, to teach the ignorant, to admonish and encourage those who have knowledge, to comfort troubled consciences, to awaken and strengthen negligent and sleepy hearts as Paul did and as he commanded his pupils Timothy and Titus to do. This should be my concern: how others get the truth from me. Studying is my work—the work God wants me to do. And if it pleases Him, He will bless it.

—Martin Luther

The longest sermon on record was preached by Zach Zehnder in Mount Dora, Florida, in November of 2014. It took 53 hours and 18 minutes to deliver it. Small wonder someone proposed the adoption of a new Beatitude: "Blessed is the preacher whose train of thought has a caboose."



EMERALD COAST Jubilee

2016





Ev. Brian
McBride

Tony
Shirley

Dr. Joe
Arthur

January 4–8

Victory Baptist Press is a ministry of Victory Baptist Church of Milton, Florida. Founder: Dr. Thomas F. Woodward (1935–1994). Pastor: Tim Fellure. Editor & VBP Director: Jim Fellure. *The Newsletter* is the official publication of Victory Baptist Press and is sent free of charge to those who request it. The main purpose of *The Newsletter* is to promote missions, with an emphasis on the printing and distribution of the Word of God. While we may not agree with every statement printed from outside sources, we make every effort to keep the paper as free from error as possible. To receive *The Newsletter*, send your mailing address to P.O. Box 766, Milton, FL 32572-0766. Phone: 850-623-0086 • Fax: 850-623-3502 • e-mail: news@victorybaptistpress.com • web: www.victorybaptistpress.com

Benefits & Blessings

My Husband is My Pastor!



Mrs. Pam Leake

The twelve tiny characters sit on his desk – little resin sheep, a flock of twelve individuals displaying different personalities. One little lamb is contentedly grazing as three others are kicking up their heels at play. One is sound asleep while another is occupied with scratching at some annoying pest on his body. Five woolly lambs are obviously focused on the shepherd, as though attentively listening to his calming voice or his call to follow. And sadly, there is one who is cast, unable to help himself to an upright position. My husband chuckles as he ponders their likeness to those in his flock at Colonial Baptist Church.

My husband was saved in 1981. Shortly thereafter the Lord called him to preach and gave him a heart's desire to be a pastor. The Lord graciously allowed that to become a reality in 1987 when he accepted the pastorate of Colonial Baptist Church. Now, 28 years later, he is still faithfully pastoring that

same church, and in his home town! God is so good!

My husband is my pastor, and I am a sheep in the flock. That is a unique position but it has caused me to have a much greater appreciation for pastors and a deeper insight into the challenges they face. Time and space would fail to recount the joys, heartaches, sorrows, and victories that my husband has experienced over the last 28 years.

As a shepherd he has been charged with feeding the flock and leading them to fertile pasture where they can receive the nourishment they need to grow and flourish. My pastor spends much time and effort preparing good, solid, nutritious spiritual food for his flock. Many times I see him struggle with exactly what the Lord would have him preach or teach, but he always gives us something to feed our souls and strengthen us for life's challenges.

There are times when it seems he must play the part of a cheerleader, trying to "pump up" a congregation that has grown apathetic or that has come to "be at ease in Zion." Other times he must reprove and rebuke in order to deal with areas of sin or those of the flock who are straying.

He also must be on guard for those who would prey upon his flock and must provide protection for those in his care. Consequently, my pastor is a prime target, battling the attacks of disappointment, discouragement, fear, and frustration from the evil one who seeks to frustrate the purposes of God for him and our church. I have seen him weep over souls who reject the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives, and bear the heartache of those who disagree or become dissatisfied with some aspect of the church or ministry and leave the flock even after years of love and effort have been invested in their lives.

Yes, I can see my husband now, gazing at that little flock of twelve sheep on his desk, and his heart for the folks at Colonial Baptist Church becomes apparent. It's definitely a challenging life with unique issues to face, but I shudder to think of where he, or we, might be today had he not surrendered to the calling of God on his life.

I am blessed to be the pastor's wife,
Pam Leake



*Pam is the wife of Ed Leake, pastor of Colonial Baptist Church and director of Colonial Press of Charlottesville, Virginia.
Email: pamleake@colonialbc.org*

Keep about your work

The Lord has given to every man his work. It is his business to do it, and the devil's business to hinder him — if he can. So, sure as God gives a man a work to do, Satan will try to hinder him. He may present other things more promising; he may allure you by worldly prospect; he may assault you with slander, torment you with false accusations, set you to work defending your character, employ pious persons to lie about you, editors to assail you, and excellent men to slander you. You may have Pilate and Herod, Ananias and Caiaphas all combined against you, and Judas standing by to sell you for 30 pieces of silver. And you may wonder why all these things have come to pass. Can you not see that the whole thing is brought about through the craft of the devil, to draw you off from your work and hinder your obedience to Christ?

Keep about your work. Do not flinch because the lion roars. Do not stop to stone the devil's dogs. Do not fool around your time chasing the devil's rabbits. Do your work; let liars lie; let sectarians quarrel; let editors publish; let the devil do his worst. But see to it that nothing hinders you from fulfilling the work God has given you. He has not sent you to make money; He has not commanded you to get rich. He has never bidden you to defend your character nor has He bidden you to contradict falsehoods about yourself which Satan and his servants may start to peddle. If you do these things you will do nothing else; you will be at work for yourself and not for the Lord. Keep about your work. Let your aim be as steady as a star. Let the world brawl and bubble. You may be assaulted, wrangled, insulted, slandered, wounded, and rejected. You may be chased by foes, abused by them, forsaken by friend, despised and rejected of men, but see to it that with steadfast determination and with unfaltering zeal you pursue that great purpose of your life and the object of your being until at last you can say; "I have finished the work which you, dear God, have given me to do."

—*Pulpit Helps*, August, 1992.

You and your pastor:

Not long ago a well-meaning group of laymen came from a neighboring church to see me. They wanted me to advise them on some convenient and painless method of getting rid of their pastor. I'm afraid, however, that I wasn't much help to them.

At the time I had not had the occasion to give the matter serious thought. But since then I have pondered the matter a great deal, and the next time anyone comes for advice on how to get rid of a pastor, here's what I'll tell him:

1. Look the pastor straight in the eye while he's preaching and say "Amen" once in a while, and he'll preach himself to death.
2. Pat him on the back and brag on his good points, and he'll probably work himself to death.
3. Rededicate your life to Christ and ask the preacher for some job to do, preferably some lost person you could win to Christ, and he'll die of heart failure.
4. Get the church to unite in prayer for the preacher, and he'll soon become so effective that some larger church will take him off your hands.

—J. Reed, *The Pastor as a Theologian*,
copied from the Moody Radio Bible Class, 1982

**"For do I now persuade men,
or God? or do I seek to please men?
for if I yet pleased men,
I should not be the servant
of Christ" (Galatians 1:10).**

Theodore Epp, founder of Back to the Bible radio ministry, realized something was wrong when he stopped receiving critical mail. Convicted that he was not challenging the flock enough, he changed his preaching. "I'm afraid that when I'm pleasing everybody, I'm not pleasing the Lord," he later said, "and pleasing the Lord is what counts."

—copied

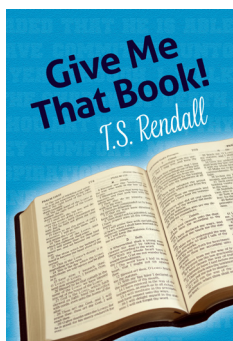
John Wesley used to ask his young men whom he had sent out to preach on probation two questions: "Has any one been converted?" and "Did anyone get mad?" If the answer was "No," he told them he did not think the Lord had called them to preach the Gospel, and sent them about their business.

—Moody's Anecdotes

Dr. Clarence Bass, professor emeritus at Bethel Theological Seminary, early in his ministry preached in a church in Los Angeles. He thought he had done quite well as he stood at the door greeting people as they left the sanctuary. The remarks about his preaching were complimentary. That is, until a little old man commented, "You preached too long." Dr. Bass wasn't fazed by the remark, especially in light of the many positive comments. "You didn't preach loud enough," came another negative comment; it was from the same little old man. Dr. Bass thought it strange that the man had come through the line twice, but when the same man came through the line a third time and exclaimed, "You used too many big words" —this called for some explanation.

Dr. Bass sought out a deacon who stood nearby and asked him, "Do you see that little old man over there? Who is he?" "Don't pay any attention to him," the deacon replied. "All he does is go around and repeat everything he hears."

—*Pulpit and Bible Study Helps*



Give Me That Book!

by T.S. Rendall

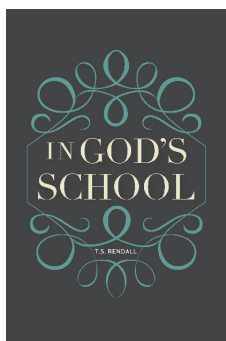
This is the seventh and most recent book that VBP has published by Dr. Rendall. The study of God's book, the Bible, has been approached from many angles, but few have identified and interpreted the symbols used to describe the vitality and value of the Scriptures. In this book Dr. Rendall has explained twenty-four of these symbols and included hundreds of relevant illustrations and quotations. In addition, a selection of great hymns and poems about the Bible has been included.

Here is a *vade mecum* for every preacher, teacher, and student of God's Word.

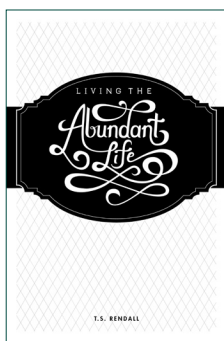
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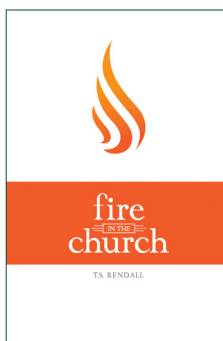
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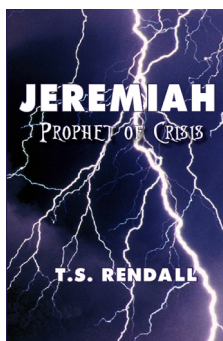
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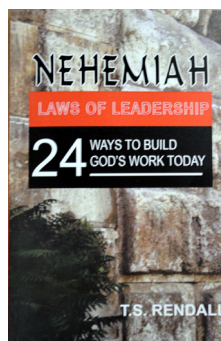
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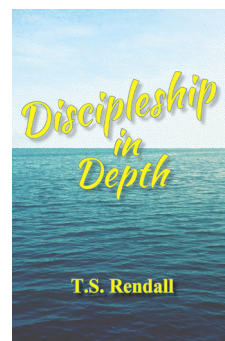
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The Pastor's Page

Tim Fellure**SPECIAL FAVOR**

Someone has designated October as Pastor Appreciation Month. I suppose whoever came up with the idea was either appreciative of his pastor, or was a pastor who wanted to be appreciated. It may have been a scheme by some pastor to get gifts from his church, and if so I thank him for his creative thinking. Nevertheless, in honor of pastors laboring in the Word, I offer a brief meditation on pastor appreciation.

Special Favor to My Brother

Galatians 6:10 – “As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, **ESPECIALLY** unto them who are of the household of faith.” Of course, we should do good to all men. If a man does evil to me, it gives me no right to render evil back. There is no person alive I should hate or wish evil upon. If my enemy needs a helping hand I should extend it, even if we're not going to dinner afterwards as best friends.

But I should be especially zealous to do good to my brother in Christ. If we have the means to help one person, and one is a reprobate and one is a Christian, I have scriptural sanction to help my brother first. Just recently we took a special offering in our church to help a widow in our church with a financial need, but we didn't do that for every widow in our town. We have people stop by our church all the time asking for money, and we usually say no, but if we know one of our own families is struggling financially, we will take a special offering even without them asking for help.

It is right for you to do all the good you can to all the people you can, but your first responsibility is not to the world that doesn't love Jesus; it's to your brothers and sisters in Christ who do love Jesus. God was good to all the “ites” in the Old Testament, but He was especially good to the Israelites.

Special Provision for My Family

1 Timothy 5:8 – “But if any provide not for his own, and **SPECIALLY** for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.” I may love your family, but you wouldn't believe me if I told you I loved your kids as much as my own. I buy my kids a gift for their birthday, but I'm probably not going to buy yours any. I spend crazy amounts of money on my wife with dinners, jewelry, clothes, etc. but I wouldn't spend any on yours (even if that wasn't inappropriate). You and I may help another family with a need, but we don't provide for any other family what we provide for our own.

Special Honor to My Pastor

1 Timothy 5:17 – “Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honour, **ESPECIALLY** they who labour in the word and doctrine.” The world honors sports stars and TV personalities, but we should give special honor to those who minister the Word. That man who labors in the word and doctrine deserves more honor than the man who can hit a home run or dunk a basketball. That man who hides in his study trying to put together a message deserves more honor than the man who stars in a blockbuster movie. That man who can take a Bible and show you how to live according to it deserves more honor than the country singer or pop star.

Over the course of my life I have called several men my pastor. Some of those men I have lost contact with and would not see eye-to-eye with on every thing, but I am grateful for the influence they had on my life. My dad was my first pastor: he led me to Christ and taught me the Bible. He gave me a love for books, taught me how to preach, and gave me an example of holiness to strive for. I will never forget another pastor I worked for fresh out of Bible college who taught me how to weep over people and have grace to those who had fallen. A man who had a profound impact upon me as a young preacher was Pastor Bobby Thomas. Brother Thomas was a master of homiletics and expositional preaching, and it was his ministry that created a desire in me to be expositional in my own preaching.

The average church member doesn't know his pastor's burdens, his trials, his sleepless nights, his endless hours. He prepares 2-4 new sermons a week, oversees the operations of the church, prays for the flock, visits the sick, witnesses to the lost, and counsels those who come for help. Every member is open to bring him all their problems; he takes none of his to them. He is responsible for everything from the annual budget to repairing the leaky toilet. His greatest joy will be his members' spiritual growth.

Many of these pastors labor in small churches which cannot pay a full salary, but every church and every church member should do everything they can to help their pastor. The idea that we'll keep him poor, and God will keep him humble is dumb. If you have a faithful man of God standing before you every week with a message from Heaven, you cannot put too high a price on his value to your family. Give him a raise, have the church pay some of his bills, take him and his wife out to dinner, send him a card with a gift certificate to his favorite store, buy him a new suit, buy him a new car, send him on an all-expenses paid vacation, put a set of tires on his car, surprise him with a special reception, remember his birthday and anniversary, . . . And make sure you do the same for his wife. Nothing will help your pastor more than a church that honors his wife.

Do good to all men, but especially to those of the household of faith. Help every family you can, but especially make provision for your own family. Give honor to all men, but especially to that man of God whom you call pastor.