

# *Biblical Communication*

**Course Facilitator: Jeff Lark, ThM.**  
***Institute of Biblical Studies***  
**July 5 – July 18, 2018**  
**Rollins College**  
**1000 Holt Ave.**  
**Winter Park, FL 32789**  
**Archibald Granville Bush Science Center**

## **Course Description**

Communicating biblical truth requires a profound understanding of God's Word and an ability to relate God's Word to your audience so they may experience transformation. Building upon the *Biblical Interpretation* class, experienced communicators will help you become a worshipping communicator and develop audience-sensitive skills that insure your message finds relevant, true-to-life application. Through lecture and workshops this course will equip you lead the emerging generations to conviction and repentance of their sin and to growing belief and adoration of Christ.

Prerequisite: *Biblical Interpretation*

## **Course Values**

- Developing biblical communicators who are captivated by Christ.
- Developing biblical messages that are:
  - Faithful to the whole story of the Bible
  - Obvious from the passage
  - Related to the fallen condition in the heart of the hearer
  - Connected to Christ's redemption
  - Engaging the heart and mind in culturally relevant ways

## **Course Objectives**

### Cognitive (Knowledge and Thinking skills)

1. Grow in your understanding of the good news of the gospel so you are better able to communicate it to culturally diverse audiences as you launch and build movements of Christ-followers.
2. Learn a simple process for structuring Christ-centered messages (small group, devotional or large group) from a passage of Scripture.
3. Help others hear the music of the gospel by learning to identify the "fallen condition" and "redemptive solution" in a passage and relate it to the cultural context of your audience.

### Affective (Attitudes, Motivation, Character)

1. Deepen your confidence in the gospel and motivation to share it as you see how it addresses the deepest longings of your heart.
2. Embrace the five values of Christ-centered communication in your biblical communication (written, evangelistic, one on one, small group, and large group).
  - Faithful to the whole story of the Bible
  - Obvious from the passage
  - Related to the fallen condition in the heart of the hearer
  - Connected to Christ's redemption
  - Engaging the heart and mind in culturally relevant way
3. Develop deeper appreciation for the importance of community (learning together, sharing, being vulnerable, receiving feedback, etc.) as a key means of growth.

### Behavioral (Personal and Ministry skills)

1. Grow in your capacity to teach the Scriptures.
2. Grow in your capacity to communicate Christ from the Scriptures by developing a Christ-centered small group lesson, an evangelistic presentation, a written discipleship or evangelistic resource, and a large group message which you will deliver and on which you will receive constructive feedback.
3. Improve your delivery skills by practicing and receiving feedback from a coach and peers.

## Required Texts

(There are Kindle versions of these books available. The ISBN is for the print versions)

Chapell, Bryan. *Unlimited Grace: The Heart Chemistry That Frees From Sin and Fuels the Christian Life*. Wheaton, IL: Crossway, 2016. ISBN: 978-1-4335-5231-1 [You will read parts 2 and 3 as Chapell spends the second half of the book dealing with how we communicate the grace of the gospel to others.]

Timothy J. Keller. *Center Church: Doing Balanced, Gospel-Centered Ministry in Your City*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2012. ISBN: 978-0310494188. [This is an excellent book on gospel-centered ministry. We'll be reading four chapters on the topic of contextualization.]

Georges, Jayson and Mark D. Baker. *Ministering in Honor-Shame Cultures*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 2016. ISBN: 978-0-8308-5146-1 [We will only be reading three chapters from this book. But the entire book is extremely helpful to learn how to minister to those who come from an honor/shame context.]

Lloyd-Jones, Sally. *The Jesus Storybook Bible: Every Story Whispers His Name*. Grand Rapids: ZonderKids, 2007. ISBN: 978-0310708254. [Although it is written for children, this book does an incredible job modeling Christ-centered communication. Sally Lloyd-Jones masterfully connects each story to the larger story of Scripture. We will discuss several of these stories in our coaching time. You don't need to read them ahead of time. We will read them together in class.]

## Recommended Texts

- Goldsworthy, Graeme. *Preaching the Whole Bible as Christian Scripture*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000.
- Keller, Timothy J. *Preaching: Communicating Faith in an Age of Skepticism*. New York: Viking, 2015.
- Millar, Gary and Phil Campbell. *Saving Eutychus: How to Preach God's Word and Keep People Awake*. Matthias Media, 2013.
- Wax, Trevin. *Gospel-Centered Teaching: Showing Christ in All the Scripture*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 2013.

## Preparing for Biblical Communication

Try to complete all the readings in Chapell and Keller prior to the beginning of class. You don't need to read anything ahead of time in the Jones book.

*Unlimited Grace* by Brian Chapell

- Read part 2 and part 3 (ch. 11–21)

*Center Church* by Tim Keller

- Read ch. 7–10

*Ministering in Honor-Shame Cultures* by Georges and Baker

- Read ch. 8

*Crescent Through the Eyes of the Cross* by Jabbour

- The chapter will be made available in the Google Student Drive which will be shared with you.

**NOTE: We will be doing a cultural intelligence assignment at the beginning of BC in which you will be required to conduct an interview with someone from another culture. It would be wise to identify that person and set up an interview (1 hour long) between July 5<sup>th</sup> and July 9<sup>th</sup>.**

## Course Requirements

1. **Reading:** You are expected to read the assigned texts thoughtfully. You will turn in a reading report indicating your completion of the readings. (10 points)
2. **Worksheets:** You will complete six worksheets. You will submit your worksheets electronically to your coach. (60 points)
3. **Large Group Communication Project and delivery of message:** You will compose and deliver a complete message on the biblical passage you studied in Biblical Interpretation. The message will be designed for a large group teaching environment. You will turn in a written component of this message. (30 points)

## Learning Tasks

1. **Reading:** The primary text for this class is Bryan Chapell's *Unlimited Grace*. In the second and third parts of this book, Chapell presents a gospel-centered model of communication. You will also be reading four chapters on contextualization from *Center Church* by Tim Keller. We all need to grow in our ability to contextualize the gospel and these chapters are very helpful in describing what that process can look like. Our final text is *The Jesus Storybook Bible*. In this book, Sally Lloyd-Jones does a masterful job modeling Christ-centered communication to children. We will discuss several of her stories in class. At the end of the course, you will submit a reading report indicating how much of the reading you completed.
2. **Participate in Coaching Group:** Biblical Communication is not something you learn merely by hearing lectures and reading books. You learn by practicing and receiving feedback. Much of the learning in this class will take place in small group context. You will be assigned to a coaching group with eight to ten of your peers.
3. **Worksheets:** As part of this course, you will be engaging in four distinct forms of biblical communication. The worksheets will guide you through each of these communication experiences.
  - a. Worksheet #1: Audience Analysis/Contextualization
  - b. Worksheet #2: FC/RS/MBI
  - c. Worksheet #3: Small group study
  - d. Worksheet #4: Outline of large group message
  - e. Worksheet #5: Evangelism report
  - f. Worksheet #6: Written communication article
4. **Evangelistic Conversation:** You will have an evangelistic conversation from your passage with a non-Christian. As an evangelistic organization that seeks to give every man, woman and child the opportunity to say "yes" to Jesus. We want to help our staff take the principles from this class and have the chance to apply them in an evangelistic conversation. Using your passage, you will be asked to engage with someone with the hopes to:
  - share the basic storyline of your passage in a compelling and understandable way.
  - ask a few diagnostic questions to engage them in the story and its implications.
  - seek to use your story to then share the gospel.Afterward, you will write up a 250–300 word summary of how it went (i.e. who did you approach; how did you retell the story in a compelling and understandable way; what diagnostic questions did you ask and how did they respond; were you able to share more of the gospel with them and how did they respond). Also, please describe your personal experience using this method of evangelism.
5. **Written Communication article:** You will have an opportunity to write a spiritual growth/discipleship article or an evangelistic article of 800–1000 words that could be used on Cru.org or everystudent.com using your passage as the main text for your article. You could make it topical and make it for a specific or a general audience.

6. **Deliver your Large Group Message:** You will develop a 20-minute large-group message on the passage you studied throughout the BI class. You will deliver this message to your coaching group and receive feedback from your coach and peers.
- a. You will only have 20 minutes to give your talk. We would like you to deliver your *entire talk* during that time. Because there are so many of us, talk times need to move crisply.
  - b. Two people, plus the coach, will evaluate your message.
  - c. Delivery (8 points)
    - i. Gestures (2 pts)
    - ii. Eyes (2 pts)
    - iii. Movement and Posture (2 pts)
    - iv. Speaking Voice (2 pts)
  - d. Communicated Message (22 points)
    - i. Launch (3 pts)
    - ii. Explore (6 pts)
    - iii. Connect (5 pts)
    - iv. Apply (5 pts)
    - v. Close (3 pts)

### Course Grade

Reading	10 points
Worksheets (#1 to #6)	60 points
Large Group Message	<u>30 points</u>
Total	100 points

### IBS Grading Scale:

94–100	A
92–93	A-
90–91	B+
84–89	B
82–83	B-
80–81	C+
74–79	C
72–73	C-
65–71	D
0–65	F

Note: A grade of C- or better is required for this course to fulfill your IBS requirements.

## Course Schedule

Note: *We will be discussing several chapters from Sally Lloyd-Jones. We will read them together in our coaching groups. So, no need to read them before class.*

Topic/Date	Reading Due	Worksheets/Project Due
<b>Lecture #1: Intro to Biblical Communication/Contextualization</b> Thursday, July 5	*Chapell, chs. 11–21 (parts 2 and 3) *Keller, chs. 7–10 *Georges and Baker, ch. 8 *Jabbour, ch. 11 *Listen to audio lecture titled “Preaching to Believers and Unbelievers” (posted online)	Nothing
<b>Lecture #2 – FC/RS/MBI</b> Friday, July 6	Nothing	Nothing
<b>Lecture #3: Small Group Communication</b> Monday, July 9	Appendix 1, “Developing Biblical Messages” Appendix 2, “Delivery Skills” Appendix 3, “Heart Longings” Appendix 5, “Getting to the Heart of the Fallen Condition” Appendix 6, “Developing a Message Big Idea (MBI)”	Worksheet #1: Contextualization Interview Worksheet #2: FC/RS/MBI
<b>Lecture #4: Large Group Message</b> Tuesday, July 10	Appendix 7, “Asking Christ-Centered Questions that Target the Heart”	Worksheet #3: Small Group Lesson
<b>Sample Message</b> Wednesday, July 11	Appendix 8, “Going from the MBI to Apply”	Nothing
<b>Lecture #4: Narrative Evangelism</b> Thursday, July 12	Appendix 9, “Getting to the Heart of the MBI” Appendix 10, “The A-Z of telling stories” Appendix 11, “How to Paint a Fallen Condition” Appendix 12, “Thinking of Sin/Redemption as a Tree”	Worksheet #4: Outline of Message
<b>Lecture: Written Communication</b> Friday, July 13	Nothing	Nothing
<b>Christ-Centered Living and Ministry</b> Monday, July 16	Nothing	Worksheet #5: Evangelism Report Worksheet #6: Discipleship Article

## Daily Schedule

Note: There is work that must be completed prior to the first session. See “**Preparing for Biblical Communication**” above.

### Thursday, July 5

9:00–11:30pm

#### **Lecture #1: Intro to Biblical Communication/Contextualization**

Due: \*Chapell, chs. 11–21 (parts 2 and 3)  
\*Keller, chs. 7–10  
\*Georges and Baker, ch. 8  
\*Jabbour, ch. 11  
\*Listen to audio lecture titled “Preaching to Believers and Unbelievers”  
(posted online)  
Point to Christ: *JSB*, “The Story and the Song”  
Discussion #1: Contextualization  
Speaking Drill: None  
Assign: Worksheet #1: Audience Analysis/Contextualization Interview (Due Mon., 9am)

### Friday, July 6

9:00–11:30am

#### **Lecture #2: FC/RS/MBI**

Due: Nothing  
Point to Christ: *JSB*, “The Terrible Lie”  
Discussion #2: FC/RS/MBI (work on assignment in coaching groups)  
Speaking Drill: Gestures  
Assign: Worksheet #2: FC/RS/MBI (Due Mon., 9am)

### Monday, July 9

9:00–11:30am

#### **Lecture #3: Small Group Communication**

Due: Worksheet #1: Contextualization Interview  
Due: Worksheet #2: FC/RS/MBI  
Point to Christ: *JSB*, “The Present”  
Discussion #3: Small Group Lesson  
Speaking Drill: None  
Assign: Worksheet #3: Small Group (Due Tues. at 9am \*read appendix – “Asking Christ-Centered Questions that Target the Heart”.)

### Tuesday, July 10

9:00am–11:30am

#### **Lecture #3: Preparing a Large Group Message**

Due: Worksheet #3: Small Group  
Point to Christ: *JSB*, “the Girl Nobody Wanted”  
Discussion #4: Large Group Template  
Speaking Drill: Eye Contact  
Assign: Worksheet #4 Outline of message (Due Thurs., 9am)

### **Wednesday, July 11**

9:00am–11:30am

#### **Sample message**

Due: Nothing  
Point to Christ: *JSB*, “Washed with Tears”  
Discussion #5: Debrief message  
Speaking Drill: Nothing  
Assign: Nothing

### **Thursday, July 12**

9:00am–11:30am

#### **Lecture #4: Narrative Evangelism**

Due: Worksheet #4: Large Group Message Template  
Point to Christ: *JSB*, “The Little Servant Girl and the Proud General”  
Discussion #6: Narrative Evangelism  
Speaking Drill: Fallen Condition  
Assign: Worksheet #5: Evangelism report (Due Sun., 9pm)

### **Friday, July 13**

9:00am–11:30am

#### **Lecture #5: Written Communication**

Due: Nothing  
Point to Christ: *JSB*, “The Teeny, Weenie...True King”  
Discussion #7: Writing exercise  
Speaking Drill: None  
Assign: Worksheet #6: Written Article (Due Mon., 9am)

### **Monday, July 16**

9:00am–11:30am

#### **Lecture #6: Christ-Centered living and ministry – Marc Rutter**

Due: Worksheet #6: Written article  
Speaking Drill: Launch  
Assign: Nothing

### **Tuesday and Wednesday, July 17–18**

8:00am–12:30pm

#### **Deliver Messages**

Due: Written communication piece

About your message:

- You will have 20 minutes to give your talk. We would like you to deliver your entire talk during that time.
- Two people, plus the coach, will be evaluating you.
- Timer cards are available if you wish them.
- Because there are so many of us, talk times need to move crisply.
- Your talk will be worth 30 points.



## Reading Report

(To be submitted electronically to your coach)

Date Due	Reading Due	Assigned Pages	# Pages Completed
Thursday, July 5	Chapell, chs. 11–21 (parts 2 and 3) Keller, chs. 7–10 Georges and Baker, ch. 8 Jabbour, ch. 11 Listen to audio lecture titled “Preaching to Believers and Unbelievers” (posted online)	154	
Monday, July 9	Appendix 1, “Developing Biblical Messages” Appendix 2, “Delivery Skills” Appendix 3, “Heart Longings” Appendix 5, “Getting to the Heart of the Fallen Condition” Appendix 6, “Developing a Message Big Idea (MBI)”	12	
Tuesday, July 10	Appendix 7, “Asking Christ-Centered Questions that Target the Heart”	2	
Wednesday, July 11	Appendix 8, “Going from the MBI to Apply”	3	
Thursday, July 12	Appendix 9, “Getting to the Heart of the MBI” Appendix 10, “The A-Z of telling stories” Appendix 11, “How to Paint a Fallen Condition” Appendix 12, “Thinking of Sin/Redemption as a Tree”	11	
	<b>Total</b>	<b>182</b>	

