

Where the Rubber Meets the Road

The effectiveness of our theology is tested every day on the road of life. The saying, “where the rubber meets the road”, brings to mind how the “tire of our theology” needs to grip life as it really is. The higher the quality of the tire, the better the handling, even in wet conditions. In Paul’s epistles, especially Romans, Galatians, Ephesians, and Colossians, it is doctrine first, then the application of it. This is because doctrine should shape practice, not practice, doctrine. Right doctrine creates real traction.

At the Norris Bible Baptist Seminary, having pastors as teachers, inherently results in the incorporation of the “how to.” Men *who are doing it*, cannot but convey the practical when they teach Biblical content and theological concepts. Real ministry translates into real education. Furthermore, the school offers sixteen courses that are about the Christian life and practical church ministry – starting with [the four English courses](#) (English Grammar I & II and English Composition I & II) which include Biblically-related and theological terms for vocabulary, key Scriptures used as example sentences, composition of church-related correspondence, writing of Gospel tracts and articles on Biblical subjects!

In his freshman year, the student takes a course entitled [Life Skills](#), and one on [Personal Evangelism](#). In the Life Skills course, the need for daily devotions is explained; character development, time management, budgeting, personal business matters are addressed as well. In Personal Evangelism, his skill in presenting the Gospel is honed by instruction, exhortation, and practice, and not just in theory. His Christian service record, as attested to by his pastor, is made part of his academic record at NBBS.

In the student’s second year, he takes courses on [Prayer](#) and on [Family](#). Very few schools have a course only on the subject of prayer. *How could we not though, if we are sending men out to do spiritual warfare?*



The course includes a focus on the High Priestly ministry of Christ – in foreshadow as well as fulfillment, and Christ as the role model in prayer. The class on Family is not only designed to strengthen a student’s marriage bonds, but it is also meant to prevent what happened to Eli, Samuel, and David as parents of wayward children.

In the third year, the [Fundamentals of Church Music](#) and [Homiletics](#) are added to the mix. When it comes to music, a pastor needs to know how to lead congregational singing, as well as have good standards for church music. He needs to learn how music can either greatly help, or hinder and even hurt his church. Right from the start of his first year, the student receives some basic direction on preaching, and is given opportunity to do so in chapel on a regular basis. He sharpens his craft in Homiletics, and further learns how to develop and to deliver a sermon.

This is the [Church Age dispensation](#) (e.g., Ephesians 3:1-7). God’s program for mankind at this time, is for believers to join together to fulfill His commission through a church – that of world-wide church planting and promoting through evangelism and discipleship. Accordingly, the courses of [Church Planting](#), [Pastoral Theology/Workshop](#), [Church Polity](#), and [Church Business Administration](#) equip the student in the practical areas of the pastorate. Also two missions courses. Even further, there is one week each semester of Concentrated Study, which provides instruction on subjects such as directing a Sunday School, VBS, conferences (missions, stewardship, Bible, etc.), and revivals, and other church ministries.

Important Dates

Opening Day Rally – Tues., Aug. 18

Great News!

1. **The tuition of all full-time students** (those taking at least four courses) **will be paid in full both semesters in the 2015-2016 school year by a long-time supporter of the school.**
2. **Facilities and grounds continue to be enhanced and developed, as never before, in preparation of a new school year!**
3. **NBBS Representatives are ready to visit your church!** Consider having Bro. Wiggins, Dr. Riggsby, or Bro. Stewart present NBBS to your church. We are always ready to share what makes the NBBS uniquely effective in the training of preachers, as well as a wise investment. *Eight more churches in May either committed to raising their support to NBBS, or to beginning it!*

Favorite Sayings

"Riggsbyisms"

"Organize or agonize." Cited by Dr. Terry Riggsby (*Administrator of NBBS – 1984-1999*)

Our Heritage Speaks

"How can anyone man read that Book and deny that ... God...is its author?" JFN

Alumni News!

For the first time in our 31-year history, an alumnus is now president of the IBFI – Mark Brown, pastor of the Maranatha B/C of Columbus, GA. Also, the new Administrator of NBBS is a graduate of the school – Michael Wiggins (Associate Pastor of the Heritage B/C, Haslet, TX). Both men are products of Gene Stoke's pastorate in Century, FL (Faith Bible B/C) where another man – called to preach under his ministry – is now the pastor, Robert Barrow (a monthly supporter of NBBS). Chris Boatman, an alumnus and pastor of the High Plains B/C of Clovis, NM, is the V/P of the IBFI; and Glen Anderson, pastor of the Pensacola Baptist Temple, Pensacola, FL, is the IBFI Secretary and Alumni President. Many alumni serve as IBFI Board members and are on the faculty of the NBBS.

Momentum Continues to Build!

Leading up to the annual May fellowship meeting, several stepped in to help prepare the grounds and facilities, and to secure some additional furnishings. Tuesday, an alumnus pastor committed to repair and paint the handrails leading up to the school building. This was to be **the first fruits of what was to come!**

The NBBS administration **opened its mouth wide** (Psalm 81:10), **and God filled it.** Hoping for some of the items on our list, we were overwhelmed by the response of the brethren! Was it the exposure to a sampling of the student body; the visible involvement of alumni with mature and very meaningful ministries, as well as the effects of Spring Creek BBQ?!? Of course **it was, above all, the Spirit of God and the excitement of preachers-training-preachers** that stirred the brethren – **both founders and alumni!**

There was an air of expectancy when the annual offering time came late Wednesday morning at the meeting. **The goal of \$50,000.00 was quickly reached and surpassed!** But the fun was just beginning. All the preachers present were told before the alumni luncheon to follow, that we were going to try to raise additional funds for much needed maintenance, furnishings, and equipment. When the list of needs, that had been earlier distributed, was touched upon again, and then handed off to one of the two pastors who encouraged me to "give it a go" at the restaurant – **\$35,000 in commitments were given in minutes!** **The big needs on the list were all addressed.**

As people were leaving the luncheon, a pastor came up to me and committed **funding and labor for the painting needing to be done.** Then, a pastor from "up north," pledged to bring a group of men to do one of the other special projects I had cited. Later, I found out a new sound system for the Conference Center is now in the mix! Most of the "little stuff" (**see below in blue**) on the list was crowded out in the securing of funds for the "big stuff" (new lecterns, chapel chairs, several pieces of furniture for the foyer, offices, and library-reception area, 60" Kubota lawn tractor, funds and labor for a large platform for the Conference Center). All this, and the testimonies, music, fellowship, and preaching throughout the week combined together to show that the brethren **still have a passion for preachers training preachers!**

Funds desired for wall maps (\$750), bookcases (\$954), audio-visual equipment (\$1,260), filing cabinets (\$1,790).

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