

Preaching Practicum

Dr. Steve Schell | October, 2020 | Week 6 Class Notes

The Personal Life of the Preacher

- Understand the spiritual warfare against you. You are a target. You will be tempted intensely.
- Set up clear boundaries to protect yourself: internet, alcohol, drugs, profanity
- Guard against counseling the opposite sex.
- Set clear limits to counseling people. This can eat up the time you need to prepare your sermon and will leave you discouraged and frequently throwing something together at the last minute.
- Daily time in the Word (SOAP).
- Daily prayer: both personal needs and intercessory lists.
- Schedule your whole week carefully and prioritize time for specific activities with your spouse and children. Protect that time.
- Take a Sabbath. To do that, you need to take two days off each week: one for rest, one for chores. Or you will simply work on your day off and grow tired and angry at the church.
- Take vacations as a family. Go places.
- Four weeks off per year is needed for your emotional health.
- Fight to protect the “anointing.” When your life gets hectic, this can lift.
- Develop a calendar. Schedule your days. Interruptions happen, but always come back as soon as possible to the schedule the Lord showed you.
- Compulsive people will not respect your schedule. They are looking to people to comfort them rather than God. They will wear you out and harm the church.
- Your schedule starts with the time you go to bed. You must have 7-8hours per night.
- Your physical health affects your emotional and spiritual life. They go hand in hand.
- You must view yourself like a professional athlete. You are constantly in training: food, sleep, exercise, vitamins, family time, fun, reading, study.
- The anointing on your messages will not be sporadic. This is your birthright. God will meet you every week, year after year. You will never run out of fresh, powerful material to preach.
- You will be fed as you preach and study, so you will continue to grow and mature as the years pass.
- Let’s ask ourselves: Am I willing to invest the time and energy necessary, week after week, to really be good at what I do?