

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, 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 Wives (Diplomas Awarded)
- Third Year Graduate Program
- State Of The Art Educational Facility On Fifteen Acre Campus
- Residence Halls, With Thirty-two Three Bedroom 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
- Accepting Applications Now
- Write, Call, Or Visit msop.org For Catalog And Application

OPEN DOOR MINISTRY AND FISHERS OF MEN

Tim Wilkes II (MSOP 2006)

It is amazing how the Lord provides opportunities for His people to be of service to Him. Since I was a teenager, I have had a passion for mission work. The opportunity came when I was approached by brother Demar Elam, director of Open Door Ministry, about working with him.

The main goal of Open Door Ministry is to duplicate (as closely as possible) the work of the greatest missionary the Lord’s church has ever known—the apostle Paul. Like Paul, we go where the church is non-existent, preaching the Gospel, converting souls, and establishing congregations. Since 1991, 114 congregations have been established, through this ministry, in various places around the world. Over 13,000 souls have been baptized into Jesus Christ for the remission of sins.

Most recently, a congregation was established in Villasis, a city of 50,000 people, in the province of Pangasinan, Philippines. We are thankful that the Lord blessed our efforts and the Villasis Church of Christ met for the first time on July 1, 2012. 21 Americans worked with about 40 Filipino Christians to establish this congregation, and 46 souls were added to the kingdom.

This is the type of work my family and I plan to do, on a regular basis, as we continue to labor for Him. What an opportunity! Indeed, the Lord “opens doors” for us to work and teach the saving Gospel (cf. Col. 4:3).

In addition, I have been teaching with Fishers of Men (a 12 week training course in person-to-person evangelism) part-time since 2007. We are excited about the increasing opportunities in this work. Students are grounded in God’s Truth and taught how to develop interest in potential Bible studies, get appointments, and handle questions, along with many other important topics.

We need help! Here is what you can do to be a part of this work with us. (1) Pray for us. (2) Go on a campaign with us. (3) Host a Fishers of Men class. (4) Help us financially. Our need is great and it is constant. If you would like for me to visit, and tell you more, I would be delighted for the opportunity. May the Lord bless you as you labor faithfully for Him.

You may contact brother Wilkes at: timwilkesii@gmail.com, 901-277-3577, or at Coldwater Church of Christ, P.O. Box 321, Coldwater, MS 38618.



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FOREST HILL ELDERS

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Floyd M. Hayes
Gregory D. Mangrum
Harold D. Mangrum
Keith B. McAlister

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SCHOOL OF PREACHING
Bobby Liddell

DIRECTOR EMERITUS
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Keith A. Mosher, Sr.

DEAN OF PUBLIC
RELATIONS
Garland Elkins

ADMINISTRATIVE DEAN
Billy Bland

DEAN OF STUDENTS
Jerry L. Martin

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B. J. Clarke

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CONGRATULATIONS TO B. J. CLARKE ON HIS BECOMING MSOP’S NEW DIRECTOR

Bobby Liddell

Effective December 31, 2012, I will step down from the office of Director. I rejoice that our faithful and able brother, B. J. Clarke, has been asked by the Forest Hill eldership to become Director of the Memphis School of Preaching. He will begin his new work on January 1, 2013.

I asked the Forest Hill elders, some time ago, if they would allow me to step down, in order to do two things that are very dear to my heart: teach more classes at MSOP, and preach regularly for a congregation.

The hardest part about making the decision to become Director, in 2007, was that it meant I could no longer be involved in local work, as I had since 1978. I have missed, very much, that part of my life, and I am first and foremost a preacher of the Gospel. Dealing with the administrative side of education has also kept me from teaching as many classes at MSOP as I had before, and as I would like to do again.

MSOP’s work has been, since I enrolled as a student in 1977, very close to my heart, and the continued object of my fervent prayers and active support. Expressions of my gratitude fall far short of adequately describing my appreciation for the many blessings, and the positive, life-changing impact the Forest Hill congregation, the eldership, and the School have brought to me, and to my family.



Brother B. J. Clarke Will Begin His Work As Director Of The Memphis School of Preaching January 1, 2013

(Continued on Page 2)

Bobby Liddell, Editor
FOREST HILL CHURCH OF CHRIST
Under the Oversight of the ELDERS
NEWSLETTER FROM MEMPHIS SCHOOL OF PREACHING

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It was on August 1, 1994, that I began my work as a teacher, and as the Dean of Admissions at MSOP. In August, 2002, I became Associate Director, and on March 27, 2007, I was asked to direct the Memphis School of Preaching.

Over the years since 1994, it has been a treasured privilege and honor to work with the Forest Hill congregation, her good and godly elders, and the outstanding faculty and staff of MSOP. The hard-working alumni, unmatched by any others anywhere, and the many faithful, loving supporters of the School have been my cherished co-workers.

I plan to continue: working with the School (seeking to help MSOP to do all it can to continue to accomplish the purpose for its being), supporting the work of the great Forest Hill congregation, following and encouraging her faithful overseers, and upholding their every effort for good.

I happily and unreservedly recommended brother B. J. Clarke to become the next Director, and I am delighted that the elders selected him. Brother Clarke has, in the many years I have known him, consistently demonstrated his love for Truth, his tremendous talent, and his unwavering commitment to the Cause of Christ. He is a man who is widely known, and eagerly sought after by our brethren.

Brother Clarke will help the Memphis School of Preaching to go forward, while remaining true to its purpose and its original goal. Of this, I am firmly convinced. Therefore, I support brother Clarke wholeheartedly, and I am happily anticipating working with him, under his able direction.

Many thanks to all those who have been so kind, gracious, and encouraging. I could not ask for better friends and co-workers than the dedicated faculty and staff. I am deeply indebted to each one. They all have made my work easy.

Especially, am I grateful to my family, and to my wonderful wife, Joan, who helped me to learn the Truth, to grow to be a better man, and who has been such a help to me in my efforts to be a gospel preacher. She has always encouraged me, and has stood with me in every good work.

I am excited about the future of MSOP! I know brother Clarke will do his job exceedingly well. My hope and prayer is that he will know the same tremendous support, as was given to me, and that men and women of faith will pray for him, and will arise, as never before, to support the Memphis School of Preaching, to educate and train Gospel preachers, to further the spread of the Gospel, and that to the honor and praise of our great God and Savior.

Jerry Martin's New Work

My association with the Forest Hill (Knight Arnold) congregation has spanned three decades. I was blessed to be a student of the Memphis School of Preaching from 1977-1979, where I received splendid Biblical training, and made lifelong friends. While students, Denise and I had the privilege of worshipping at Knight Arnold, being shepherded by godly elders, and sitting at the feet of E. L. Whitaker, one of the finest men we have ever known, and the prince of preachers.

Since 2000, I have had the honor of being an instructor at the Memphis School of Preaching. While working at the school, it has been my pleasure to serve under the directorship of brethren Curtis Cates and Bobby Liddell. These two men love the Lord, love lost souls, and love to train faithful men to proclaim the Gospel. Both of these men model Christian character at the highest level. The faculty at the Memphis School of Preaching is the finest you will find anywhere. I have been humbled by the opportunity to teach God's Word to men eager to learn. Beginning in 2007, Denise became the financial secretary for the school, and we had the added pleasure of not only working together, but also of being able to give back in a small way to the congregation and school that have given us so much. I am equally indebted to the many congregations that have contributed to my salary while I have taught at the Memphis School of Preaching.

After sober consideration, I have accepted an offer from Amridge University in Montgomery, Alabama, to become the Dean of the School of Human Services. I assume my new responsibilities January 1, 2013. Though I will truly miss my beloved Memphis School of Preaching, I am honored by Dr. Mike Turner's invitation for me to be part of the Amridge family. I have benefited greatly from the instruction I received as a student at Amridge, and from my association with the Turner family. This is an exciting new challenge that I am anxious to accept. Denise and I are delighted to begin writing this new chapter of our lives!



Jerry and Denise Martin

B. J. Clarke

Bradley Joseph (B. J.) Clarke was born in Canton, Illinois, the son of Ted and Sherrie Clarke. His father is also a Gospel preacher, and educator of preachers. B. J. attended Noblesville High School (Noblesville, Indiana) and was voted by his classmates to be the male student most likely to succeed. After graduating in 1979, brother Clarke attended Freed-Hardeman College (now University) and received a B.S. degree in Bible. In 1985, he was selected as one of the Outstanding Young Men of America. He earned an M.A. in New Testament Text from Freed-Hardeman University in 1997. In 2006, he was named an honorary alumnus of the Memphis School of Preaching.

On September 24, 1983, he married his college sweetheart, Tish, the former Tamela Suzanne Hall. They have three children: Daniel, Holly, and Michael.



B. J. and Tish Clarke

From the Elders

It has been our great privilege to work with brother Bobby Liddell in his capacity as Director of the Memphis School of Preaching for over five years. In this capacity, he has demonstrated outstanding skills as an administrator, and the School has continued to flourish and grow in its influence for good. We wish to express our heartfelt thanks for all his efforts on behalf of the School and the Forest Hill congregation. While we were not seeking a change, we understand brother Liddell's desire to teach more in the classroom, and to preach in a local setting, and we are pleased that he will remain on the faculty. We are excited about brother B.J. Clarke's willingness to step in as the new Director. His ability as a preacher and his Christ like character are well known in the brotherhood. With God's blessings and your prayers and support we believe that under brother Clarke's leadership the Memphis School of Preaching has a stable and bright future in the Lord's service.

He and his wife Tish enjoy conducting weekend marriage seminars, and sister Clarke is also a regular speaker on Ladies' Day programs. As well, she teaches two classes to the student wives at MSOP.

Brother Clarke delivered his first sermon at age 9, and he began full time preaching in 1983. He has preached for local congregations in Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas. For 16 ½ years, he served as a preacher for the Southaven church of Christ, Southaven, Mississippi. During that time, he edited the POWER magazine, directed the annual POWER lectureship, and edited the annual lectureship book. He presently serves the Highway 77 church of Christ in Marion, Arkansas.

In 1987, brother Clarke took part in a public debate on Baptism and Apostasy. He is the author of one book, *A Closer Look At Promise Keepers*. He has participated in two nationwide Gospel meetings (*GBN at the Ryman*, and *GBN at the Tivoli*) that were nationally televised by the Gospel Broadcasting Network. Brother Clarke also contributed to the *Searching For Truth* DVD, which is used as a personal evangelism tool.

Brother Clarke was a member of the adjunct faculty of the East Tennessee School of Preaching and Missions from 1989-1990. In the fall of 2006, he became a member of the faculty at the Memphis School of Preaching, where he has served as an Instructor, and as Dean of Admissions.

Brother Clarke teaches Bible Geography, a course on Premillennialism, and has taught textual courses on 28 of the 39 books of the Old Testament.

He is also the director of FOUNDATIONS, a weeklong annual training camp for young men (13-19 years old), conducted on the campus of the Memphis School of Preaching.