

**WHERE HAVE THE PREACHERS GONE?**

In a recent “Brotherhood” monthly publication there were four separate articles addressing the shortage of preachers in the church. Some of the articles attempted to inspire more young men to become preachers, others just talked about why men are leaving the ministry.

In the same publication (this is monthly), twenty five congregations had ads looking for a preacher. When you read some of these ads the question of why churches are having a hard time finding preachers is answered. One congregation said they are looking for a preacher with a 4-year degree from a church of Christ accredited institution with a master’s degree preferred. In fact, several congregations required a minimum of a 4-year degree. One congregation required a young man with “several years preaching experience.” (They want a 25 year old man with 40 years preaching experience?) One congregation said they would require a professional background check. Another congregation said the preacher’s wife would be required to perform certain tasks.

This same publication interviewed some ministers and asked why they were leaving the ministry. Here are some of the replies: “I was called into an elder’s meeting and abruptly fired without explanation or reason.” “Elders have become a board of directors and men are leaving the ministry in droves.” ”I believe the mistreatment of ministers is one of the largest factors.” “Preacher terminations have more to do with the leaders’ whims and ego than sincere concern for the Lord’s work.”

Looking over the ads for preachers in this publication, one can understand why men do not choose to enter the ministry. Paul, Peter, Apollos and other preachers in the New Testament could not have met the qualifications required.

Understanding a problem is often the solution May God bless the church with men who are willing to sacrifice to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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***Welcome to our services*  SUNDAY Worship…………………………………9:30 AM Bible Class……………………………10:45 AM MONDAY Bible Study……………………………6:30PM WEDNESDAY Bible Study……………………..…..7:00 PM THURSDAY W.I.N.G.S. (Women In God’s Service) Ladies’ Bible Class…………….10:00 AM**

**Monday PM, Wednesday PM and Thursday AM classes will all meet in the West Annex for the present time**

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**Sermon: “I AM” Charles Murray**

Friday Christians



**SKYVIEW CHURCH OF CHRIST 5972 62ND Avenue N. Pinellas Park, Fl –33782**

