Law of Moses that the Lord had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. And Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden platform that they had made for the purpose... And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood... the Levites, helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places. They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. Nehemiah 8:1–8 (ESV)

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Nehemiah 8:9 (ESV)

And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them. Nehemiah 8:12 (ESV)

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. John 17:17 (ESV)

What role did expository preaching play in history?

What is the role of preaching and <u>worship</u> at Faith Church?

The people of God are created by the Word of God.



# What makes Faith Church unique?

### **BIBLE**

We believe relevant expositional Bible teaching and Christ centered worship are the backbone of church health.

#### Faith Church - EFCA

#### **September 22, 2013**

**1. BIBLE** - We believe relevant expositional Bible teaching and Christ centered worship are the backbone of church health.

#### **Styles of Preaching**

What is <u>topical</u> preaching?

What is <u>expositional</u> preaching?

What is consecutive expositional preaching?

1. Studying through an entire book of the Bible helps understand verses in <u>context</u>.

Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it. John 14:13–14 (ESV)

2. Consecutive expositional preaching forces us to look at parts of the Bible we wouldn't normally <u>consider</u>.

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16–17 (ESV)

3. Consecutive expositional preaching teaches the Bible to a world that doesn't know it.

## Why should the Word of God be the <u>authority</u> in the pulpit?

The Word of God is the way God <u>creates</u> spiritual life.

...he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures. James 1:18 (ESV)

since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; 1 Peter 1:23 (ESV)

For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. Hebrews 4:12 (ESV)

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy (preach) over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord." Ezekiel 37:1–6 (ESV)

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath. Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army. Ezekiel 37:7–10 (ESV)

How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent?... So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ. Romans 10:14–17 (ESV)

#### The Word of God is the way God <u>sustains</u> spiritual life.

But he answered, "It is written, " 'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' " Matthew 4:4 (ESV)

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. Psalm 119:105 (ESV)

And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the