

ROBERT SNYDER

“The preacher sought to find delightful words and to write words of truth correctly.”

– Ecclesiastes 12:10 (New American Standard Bible) –

Hudson, Michigan

PastorBob@opendoorhudson.org

VOCATION

General Calling: To live for worship, and strive for discipleship.

“Whatever He says is true, I believe; whatever He says to do, I obey.”

Specific Callings: According to the grace given to me:

1. *Preacher* – showing forth Christ from the riches of biblical meditation in the original languages
2. *Pastor* – one member of the mobile ministry, shepherding the universal church
3. *Scholar* – a scribe like Ezra, writing historical expositions that preach
4. *Husband and Father* – desiring to be faithful in my own home, and to assist others in the education of their own children
5. *Church Member* – especially helping in teaching, and in one-on-one ministry

Main Spiritual Gift: Teaching.

ASPIRATIONS

Seeking the leading of the Holy Spirit, I desire to lend my aid to the following projects:

1. The greater unity of the church through both polemics and irenics— speaking doctrinal truth in love, from a biblical and historical perspective.
2. A solution to the hermeneutical crisis in the church over biblical interpretation, worship forms, and the roles of men and women in the church.
3. A stronger rhetorical expression of the Gospel in preaching and in literature.
4. The local training of ministers through deepened piety and practical experience.
5. A liberal arts education that trains both the mind and the heart, combining the knowledge of God with the knowledge of things in this world.
6. The remedial establishment of genuine discipleship-based local churches.
7. The strengthening, encouraging, and networking of current Gospel ministers.

OCCUPATIONAL OPTIONS

Writer – Expository Meditations, Poems, Catechisms, Studies in Historical Theology

Teacher – Seminary or College Professor, High School Instructor

Preacher – Pulpit Supply, Conference or Seminar Speaker

Interim Pastor – Preaching, Teaching, Visitation

Associate Pastor – Christian Education, Discipleship

MINISTRY

Pastor, Open Door Bible Church, Michigan, 2005-2011

- Preached, taught, visited, and developed a philosophy of ministry from Scripture
- Trained two ministers of the word through the Log College program
- Blogged at www.opendoorhudson.org, with sermons on www.SermonAudio.com

Headmaster, Hudson Home School Academy, Michigan, 2007-2011

- Developed and taught a full liberal-arts, high-school curriculum (Latin incomplete)

Teacher, Cornerstone Christian Academy, Kentucky, Spring 2004

- Taught Bible and math in a school with a charismatic background

Pastor, Spring Branch Baptist Church, Indiana, 1999-2003

- Emphases: Bible studies, young men’s discipleship, and nursing home services

Teacher, Oldham County Christian Academy, Kentucky, Spring 2003

- Taught Bible and science in a contentious school environment

Pastor of Youth and Christian Education, Paynesville Evangelical Free Church, Minnesota, 1995-1996

- Learned the hard way about my pride and the purpose of Christian doctrine

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, May 2005

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Kentucky

- Field: Church History

Dissertation: “William T. Brantly (1787-1845): A Southern Unionist and the Breakup of the Triennial Convention”

Committee: Thomas J. Nettles (Chair); Gregory A. Wills; Russell D. Moore

Areas of Doctoral Study: Patristics, Reformation, and American Church History

Research Topics: The Arian controversy, Martin Luther on worship and education, John Calvin on the will and faith, and J. Gresham Machen’s polemics

Master of Divinity, May 1998

Central Baptist Theological Seminary, Plymouth, Minnesota

- Emphases: Biblical languages, history of American fundamentalism

Bachelor of Science, February 1992

North Dakota State University, Fargo, North Dakota

- Majors: Mechanical Engineering, Mathematics

COMPETENT AREAS FOR TEACHING

Undergraduate: Bible, Greek, Hebrew, preaching, Western history, American history

Graduate: Church history

PUBLICATIONS

Spring Branch Book House, established 2002

- Mission: “To publish catechisms and other concise materials for Christian education at home, church, and school.”
- Self-published booklets:
 - William T. Brantly, *The Lenitive of Sorrow*, introduction by Robert A. Snyder
 - A Christian Catechism of American History*
 - How I Love Your Law, O Lord!* – devotional meditations on Psalm 119
 - My Sense of Calling as a Christian Historian*
 - The Parables of Jesus Christ, Illustrated with Woodcuts by Albrecht Dürer*
 - Themes for Meditation: Hymns and Assorted Poems*
 - Thirty Words from the Holy Book* – paraphrases of Proverbs 22:17 - 24:34
- Unfinished Projects:
 - Adagia: Proverbs from Jesus, the Apostles, and the Prophets*
 - A Christian Catechism of Biblical History*
 - A Christian Catechism of Church History* (proposed)
 - Too Wonderful for Me: A Guide for Premarital Counseling*
 - Toward a Mature Unity: The Task of Theology in the Pursuit of Peace, or, An Appeal to Fellow Ministers for a Fundamental-Evangelical Development in Christianity*
 - Your Servants for Jesus’ Sake* – a philosophy of ministry from NT survey
 - Christian Discipleship Handbook - twenty-four studies, each for ten weeks
 - Home School Academy Manual – four years of liberal arts education
 - Log College Manual – a course for local churches to use in training ministers

GENERAL WORK

Self-employed Handyman, 1999-2005

- Window washer, and occasionally a glazier, painter, farmhand, or dairyman

Manufacturing Engineer, SCIMED Life Systems, Maple Grove, Minnesota, 1997-1999

Development Engineer, Douglas & Lomason, Farmington Hills, Michigan, 1992-1995

PERSONAL

Married, with six children.

Enjoys talking over coffee, playing with words, time with his wife, and worshipping