Institutes at Union University’s Stephen Olford Center consist of four days of intensive training. They blend theological foundations, practical teaching and personal spiritual growth.

Few seminar opportunities offer this unique combination of instruction, reflection and even relaxation. You will study with some of today’s most gifted professors and teachers. You will spend time in discussion with fellow pastors, teachers and students. You will stay on our beautiful and tranquil campus, yet remain in the heart of Memphis – just minutes from the airport and downtown.

The institutes focus on faithful biblical exposition as the Word of God is preached and taught. Each institute will focus on a different aspect of biblical exposition.

Join scores of other pastors and teachers who have seen their ministries enhanced through study at the Stephen Olford Center at Union University.

STEPHEN OLFord (1918-2004) was one of the world’s most dynamic Christian leaders of the 20th Century. Throughout his life, he taught boldly and effectively about the importance of expository preaching, evangelistic teaching and spiritual growth. The Institutes regularly feature classic instruction from Dr. Stephen Olford via video lecture.

Join us for our 2014 Institutes

Detailed schedules will be available closer to the institute date.

Tuesday — 10:00 a.m. Registration | 10:30 a.m. First Session
Friday — Institutes conclude at noon, followed by lunch

April 29–May 2
Essentials of Expository Preaching: Communicating Biblical Truth Today

May 6–9
Evangelistic Preaching: Preaching the Gospel and Making Disciples in the Context of the Local Church

September 23–26
Strengthening Expository Preaching: Preaching Christ in All the Scriptures

September 30–October 3
Essentials of Biblical Leadership: Church Leadership by the Book

November 18–21
Practical Preaching Workshop

Cost
$199 per institute
(includes class materials and meals— dinner Monday through lunch Friday)

Lodging available on site: $30 per night
Shuttle is available from the bus station, train station and airport.
One-way fare is $15 per person
Two way fare is $25

uu.edu/centers/olford

4000 Riverdale Road | Memphis, TN 38115
2014 Olford Center Institutes

Essentials of Expository Preaching
This Institute will provide practical instruction concerning the preparation and delivery of expository messages. Defining expository preaching, and how to preach the “whole counsel of God” will be addressed. Emphasis will be placed on your own personal preparation, the concept and experience of incarnational preaching and the vital role of the Holy Spirit in preaching. Helpful guidelines regarding sermon delivery are given. The institute schedule includes lectures, messages, interactive sessions, worship, fellowship and food. April 29–May 2

Evangelistic Preaching
Evangelism and discipleship are non-negotiable aspects of the Great Commission. Our enthusiasm to share the good news and to help new believers must be matched by knowledge of the gospel, how to communicate the gospel, and the ability to make disciples, not just decisions. This Institute is designed to ignite a passion for evangelism and to equip participants to faithfully proclaim the gospel message. Included in this institute are subjects such as critical aspects of discipleship and church growth, the content, preparation, and delivery of evangelistic messages as well as the importance of the invitational portion of the message. September 30–October 3

Strengthening Expository Preaching
This Institute is designed to help the participant add depth and strength to his/her preaching and teaching ministry. Instruction includes interpreting different genre of biblical literature, preaching Christ in all the Scriptures, the use of illustrations and applications, and developing your preaching and teaching gift. Challenging instruction and helpful interaction will be framed by times of worship, prayer and fellowship. September 23–26

Essentials of Biblical Leadership
A considerable amount of preaching is done within the context of church life and leadership. This Institute will explore the relationship between preaching and leadership from various angles. The personal life of the preacher and leader, and handling pressures and problems in ministry, and leadership dynamics in the life of the church will be discussed. Preaching for change and leading through change will receive specific attention. The institute schedule will allow for times of interaction, fellowship and prayer. November 18–21

Practical Preaching Workshop
This special and intensive workshop offers a small-group atmosphere designed to improve the teaching and preaching skills of the participant. In addition to instructional sessions dealing with important aspects of incarnational communication and delivery, the participants will gain practical experience in preaching a message and receiving constructive feedback and critique. Prior to the workshop, each participant will be required to submit one sermon manuscript. They will bring another message to preach during the workshop. November 18–21