



# IRBS Theological Seminary

Preparing men to serve Christ and his church

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## “How we Ought to Speak: Paul’s Two Prayerful Priorities for his own Ministry”

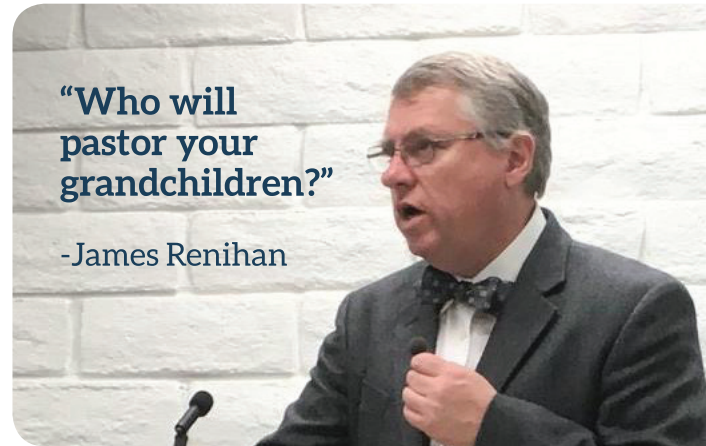
Rev. Jason Walter

May 24, 2018 IRBS Commencement Address Excerpts

See full remarks: [www.irbsseminary.org/2018-graduation](http://www.irbsseminary.org/2018-graduation)

**Clarity:** The first of these necessary aspects of Paul’s ministry of the Word is clarity. In Col. 4:4 he asks for prayer “that I may make [the mystery of Christ] clear, which is how I ought to speak”; and in Eph. 6:19 “that words may be given to me . . . to proclaim [or make known] the mystery of the gospel.” In both places Paul emphasizes the nature of the gospel he’s proclaiming as a “mystery,” which is a very loaded term but that indicates, among many other things, that the gospel is a profound and weighty matter, one that requires careful and clear explanation as it is to be rightly understood. Our job as pastors is to communicate the deep mysteries of the truths of God’s Word – really to express the inexpressible, to describe the ineffable, to help people comprehend the incomprehensible. Clarity, in that respect, is a difficult thing to achieve; and yet it is necessary. Speaking the Word of God *clearly* is how we “ought to speak,” how we must speak.

**Courage:** Paul emphasizes this quality twice in Eph. 6:19-20. This need for courage or boldness in preaching reminds us that there is much that must be proclaimed from the Word of God that does not appeal to an unbelieving world and even to still sinful believers. The fear of man is an ever-present danger for the pastor that tempts him to compromise or to tone down the full force of God’s truth; so pastors desperately need true courage to proclaim the whole counsel of God. This fear of man might be directed toward the unbelieving world around us; and, from a human, perspective, understandably so. I try not to be an alarmist, but our culture is rapidly becoming more and more hostile to certain aspects of the Christian message, aspects that they are deciding are not just wrong and backward but dangerous.



### WILL YOU JOIN US?

The IRBS Board of Trustees established a Board of Regents in December 2016. This group of business and church leaders advise and guide the Trustees in financial and business matters. Regents Russell Allsup, Wes Becker, Tom Castillo, Paul Gullickson, and Scott Thomas invite you to consider participating in Project 1689, a formal effort to fund the IRBS Theological Seminary through multi-year financial commitments. Your help will make a big difference in bringing the IRBS Theological Seminary vision to fruition, providing vital financial support to its startup.

Contact us at [giving@irbsseminary.org](mailto:giving@irbsseminary.org)

To make a one-time, monthly, or quarterly commitment to the founding of this important work visit [irbsseminary.org/donate](http://irbsseminary.org/donate)

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A CONFESSIONAL REFORMED BAPTIST SEMINARY

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## Save the Date: September 11, 2018 Inauguration & Convocation Details to follow

IRBS Theological Seminary is the recipient of a \$100,000 challenge grant from the Foundation for the Advancement of Reformed Baptist Causes. Thank you, FARBC!



\*\* Current Commitments Total 43% of goal \*\*

Help us meet the Challenge!

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## Language classes begin July 31, 2018

Go to  
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to be a part of this historic  
first class!

Contact Matt Stahl with  
questions:

682-400-4926  
[mstahl@irbsseminary.org](mailto:mstahl@irbsseminary.org)

## Other Important Dates

Dr. Renihan's July Speaking Engagements

- July 7. "Meeting the Challenges of Tomorrow's Church", Stanmore Baptist Church, Sydney, Australia
- July 14 "Meeting the Challenges of Tomorrow's Church", Westminster Christian School, Auckland, New Zealand
- July 22 - 24 TAARBC Pastor's Conference, Heritage Baptist Church, Mansfield, TX

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