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"He delights in mercy" (Micah 7:18)

I'm Going To Be A Preacher Some Day

by Steve Higginbotham

The story is told of a little boy, who after worship services one morning announced to his mother, "Mom, when I grow up, I'm going to be a preacher!" A bit surprised at the boy's desire and a little proud, the mother asked her son, "What made you come to this decision?" To which the little boy said, "Well, I have to go to church every Sunday anyway, and I figured it would be more fun to stand up and shout than to just sit and listen."

Well, I don't need to tell you that a preacher's job involves more than just "standing up and shouting," and the motive to become a preacher should be greater than just avoiding having to sit quietly through a worship service.

Someone has attempted to sum up the work of a preacher in the following paragraph:

"A preacher is a teacher, a comforter, a writer and often a social worker. He is something of an editor, a desktop publisher, a computer 'wiz,' a bit of a philosopher, and a salesman. He is a scholar of the Bible, runs a taxi service, visits the sick, buries the dead, marries people, and labors to console those who sorrow. He must admonish those who sin, encourage the fainthearted, challenge the strong, and try to keep peace within the congregation. In between times, he prepares sermons and Bible class lessons which he must preach on Sunday to some who do not listen. Then on Monday, he smiles patiently when some jovial chap slaps him on the back and roars, "What a job! Only one day a week!"

Have I had a bad week? Not at all! You see, I'm one of the lucky ones. The church where I serve understands my work and supports me in it. They hold up my hands and encourage me daily. But what about you, and the congregation where you worship? When's the last time you encouraged your preacher in his work? You see, the church needs...no, the Lord needs young men to grow up who have within them the desire to preach. That desire isn't "inbred," it's "implanted." In other words, good preachers aren't born, they're made. Friends, do what you can to encourage young men to aspire to such a work and support those who are already engaged in such a noble work.