

What is SEMS?

The aims of the seminars are:

- to provide a meeting for those engaged in regular Word ministry in local churches in Sussex so that they may be encouraged, challenged, informed and assisted in carrying out their responsibilities as servants of Christ and his church.
- to invite a range of speakers to address a variety of subjects. In each programme of meetings we would hope to provide: encouragement in thinking through important spiritual and theological issues in the light of the Scriptures; ministry aimed at further equipping us to be accurate in our handling of God's word; reminders of vital lessons from church history and assistance in addressing issues related to leading a local church such as evangelism, training, prayer.
- to encourage evangelical ministers across the spectrum of evangelical churches to engage with one another about ministry in a helpful way.

Who organises SEMS?

The seminars are organised jointly by

David Sprouse

(pastor of Cuckfield Baptist Church)

Phil Wells

(pastor of Calvary Evangelical Church, Brighton)

Stephen Bowen

(vicar of St John's, Felbridge, East Grinstead)

Graham Nicholls

(pastor of Christ Church, Haywards Heath)

Jon Hobbs

(vicar of Maresfield and Nutley Parish Churches)

The organisers are committed to what are often called "Reformation Principles" – scripture alone, Christ alone, grace alone, faith alone, to the glory of God alone. In the line of the Reformers we continue to be persuaded of the need to examine and re-examine all we do in the light of scripture.

SEMS is a ministry of the Sussex Gospel Partnership (SGP). SGP is a partnership of Bible-centred churches in Sussex working together to train leaders, strengthen and plant churches, and advance the gospel.

For more information see www.sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk

A few other things about SEMS

Each morning will commence at 10.00am and conclude at 12.30pm. Coffee will be served from 9.30am

Following the seminar, there will be an informal lunch from 12.30 to 1.30, which will provide further opportunity for discussion and, as appropriate, prayer for one another. Those attending may bring their own packed lunch or order sandwiches in advance at a cost of £3.

The cost of each seminar will be £5 but there is a discount for those who pay for the whole year's programme in advance.

CDs of ministry are available at £2 (including p&p). Most SEMS are also available as MP3 downloads from the website.

The seminars will be held at Cuckfield Baptist Church, Polestub Lane, Cuckfield, West Sussex, RH17 5EU

Directions can be found on the website.

There is ample car parking at the Church.

For further information or more copies of this programme, please contact: The Administrator, Veronica Campen
1 Ruthven Close, Cuckfield, West Sussex RH17 5HE
Tel: 01444 455363, email: veronica@campen.co.uk

You can also download a copy of this programme from our Web site: www.sussex-ems.org.uk



inspired
designs
www.inspiredesigns.co.uk

SGP
Sussex Gospel Partnership



Sussex Evangelical Ministry Seminars



2011 – 2012
www.sussex-ems.org.uk

Monday 3 October 2011

The Minister and Family Life
Andrew Cornes

"Of course you only work one day a week" is the witty remark pastors often hear. The truth is that most of us work 6 full days each week including many evenings. But where does church life stop and family life start? How do you care for the church family without neglecting your own family? In addition the pastor should be a model and this may cause his family to feel particularly in the spotlight or under pressure to conform. How can the busy pastor ensure he pastors and protects his own family in a way that models good practice for the church but doesn't place additional burdens on his family?

Andrew Cornes is married to Katherine and they have five children (aged 14-23). Drawing on his own experience, Andrew will address these and other related questions.

Andrew is vicar of All Saints Church, Crowborough and chairman of the Sussex Gospel Partnership. He loves (in alphabetical order!) art galleries, the Bible, his noisy children, foreign travel, Jesus Christ and the theatre.

Monday 28 November 2011

Preaching Old Testament Narrative
David Sprouse

God is the ultimate story teller. This is not only seen in the teaching of Jesus in the gospels but also in the way God has revealed himself in the story of the Old Testament. Preaching these narratives presents the preacher with a particular set of challenges. How do we preach them in a way that allows the power of the narrative to come across without being moralistic? How do we preach them Christocentrically without finding types and pictures where they don't exist? How do we teach them in a 21st century congregation many of whom are unfamiliar with the Old Testament?

David Sprouse will attempt to answer these questions with reference to Judges and particularly to Ruth.

David has been pastor of Cuckfield Baptist Church for the past 14 years during which time he has preached through most of the Old Testament narratives! He chairs the SEMS organising group.

Monday 23 January 2012

Apostolic principles for using Old Testament Law in a New Testament Church
Christopher Bennett

In rebuking the church at Corinth for allowing incestuous relationships, Paul quotes the law of the Old Testament from Deuteronomy both explicitly and implicitly and applies it directly to the church. On the one hand, the New Testament teaches that we are not under law. It was a temporary school master which is no longer needed now that Christ has come. We are led not by 613 rules but the Spirit. On the other hand, the whole Bible is God's relevant and authoritative word to us. The law has always been the law of love and God's standards haven't changed. What use, therefore should we, like Paul, make of the Mosaic Law? How might it help us to deal with issues in the church today?

Chris Bennett will lead us through some examples of the New Testament's use of the Law of Moses and help us to see what principles should guide us.

Chris is pastor of Wilton Community Church, Muswell Hill and lecturer in New Testament and New Testament Greek at the London Theological Seminary.

Monday 19 March 2012

Engaging with Islam
Jay Smith

Over the last decade awareness of Islam in this country has deepened both politically and socially. Moreover, in God's providence many of us find ourselves living alongside Muslims who might never hear the gospel in an Islamic country. This morning will help us gain some understanding of Islam, its beliefs and our responsibilities

with respect to it. We will then consider how to engage in apologetics with Muslims, answering their questions and communicating the gospel as we do so.

Jay Smith has been a full-time missionary since 1983, working in evangelism among Muslims in France and Senegal. He is currently working in apologetics among the Muslims of London, and teaches Muslim/Christian apologetics for those exploring ministry in the Muslim world. Jay has been active in debates and seminars on university campuses around the world and written a number of tracts and papers on Muslim Apologetics found at www.debate.org.

Monday 14 May 2012

Learning from the Evangelistic Preaching of Martyn Lloyd-Jones
Robert Strivens

Evangelistic preaching formed a core part of the ministry of the late Dr Martyn Lloyd-Jones and he saw a very great deal of fruit from it in terms of conversions. This aspect of his preaching, though, is not as well known as his exegetical preaching – for example, the series on Romans and Ephesians. As a result, preachers today are perhaps not as aware as they could be of what they may be able to learn from him for the purpose of their own evangelism. Although culturally our circumstances are very different from those prevailing in the mid-20th century, the principles on which Lloyd-Jones based his evangelistic ministry are still well worth considering.

Robert Strivens will give some brief introductory background to Lloyd-Jones and then explore the principles which guided his evangelistic preaching, with examples and illustrations, before examining how we can apply and/or adapt those principles for such work today.

Robert is Principal of London Theological Seminary. He was previously pastor of Banbury Evangelical Free Church.

SEMS Registration Form 2011/12

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Email address _____

Church _____

Position held _____

Tick the boxes for the relevant seminars and lunches

Seminar	Attendance £5 per seminar*	Lunch £3.00 each*	
3 October 2011 Andrew Cornes			
28 November 2011 David Sprouse			
23 January 2012 Chris Bennett			
19 March 2012 Jay Smith			
14 May 2012 Robert Strivens			
Total			

*If all seminars are booked in advance one seminar is free!
i.e. Total for all 5 is just £20.

*Lunch must be booked at least ONE week in advance.

Is a receipt required? YES/NO

If lunch is requested, do you require a vegetarian option? YES/NO

Please send bookings to

The Administrator, Veronica Campen

1 Ruthven Close, Cuckfield, West Sussex RH17 5HE

Tel: 01444 455363, email: veronica@campen.co.uk

Cheques should be made payable to SEMS



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