

Engage360 Episode 111 | Preaching or Teaching: Understanding Two Styles of Sharing the Bible; Dr. Scott Wenig, Dr. Doug Moo, Dr. Ramona Spilman, Dr Steve Mathewson

Intro [00:00:04] Welcome to Engage360, Denver Seminary's podcast. Join us as we explore the redemptive power of the gospel and the life changing truth of Scripture at work in our culture today.

Don Payne [00:00:16] Hey, friends, welcome again to Engage360 at Denver Seminary. We're glad you're with us for another great conversation. My name is Don Payne. I'm your host and want to start off our conversation in this episode with a question. What would you say is at the irreducible core of Christian ministry, something without which a ministry is not actually Christian? Now think about that for a moment, but I guess we would have to say at the very least, the gospel, the gospel message and all that's entailed in that. But interestingly, the New Testament often affixes the message of the gospel to the proclamation of that message. And in whatever informal or creative ways that message is shared, the baseline of that proclamation is what the New Testament would consider the act of preaching. The act of preaching may take on different cultural expressions, but there is something essential to it that needs attention and perhaps even some retrieval. I'm really glad to say that an emphasis on biblical preaching has been a key feature of Denver Seminary's ethos for over four decades, and we're pleased to host, this coming summer in June 2023, a special course and event on preaching that's actually going to be part of our Doctor of Ministry program. So, I'm joined for this conversation by four participants, including the leader of this whole event, Dr. Scott Wenig, who is professor of Applied Theology and Haddon W. Robinson Chair of Biblical Preaching here at Denver Seminary. And those of you who are grads or current students will know Dr. Wenig very, very well. Scott, welcome.

Scott Wenig [00:02:04] Thanks, Don. Great to be here with you and everybody else on this podcast.

Don Payne [00:02:08] I joined also by Dr. Ramona Spilman, who is pastor of adult ministry and missions at Cherry Hills Community Church here in the Denver metro area.

Ramona Spilman [00:02:18] Good to see you too, Don.

Don Payne [00:02:18] Yeah, good to have you here, Ramona. Joined by Dr. Doug Moo, who is Kenneth T Wessner professor of New Testament at Wheaton College. And Dr. Moo's whose name will be well known to many. Doug, welcome.

Doug Moo [00:02:31] Thank you. Thanks for having me.

Don Payne [00:02:33] And then finally, Dr. Steve Mathewson, who is director of the Doctor of Ministry program at Western Seminary. He's going to have a role in this as well. Steve, welcome.

Steve Mathewson [00:02:41] Thanks so much for having me.

Don Payne [00:02:44] Steve is brother to our own beloved doctor, Dave Mathewson. And there are probably some great stories to that sibling relationship.

Steve Mathewson [00:02:56] Oh, yes. Absolutely.

Don Payne [00:02:58] I would love to get into, but that might be more for my own interest than anybody else's. First, Dr. Wenig, Scott, tell us a little bit about this upcoming event this summer. It's related to what we used to call the Shannon lectureship. Give us a little bit of that history and what we can anticipate for this summer that will set the stage for this conversation.

Scott Wenig [00:03:19] Yeah, Thanks, Don. Back in the 1980s, there was a very generous benefactor to Denver Seminary, Dr. Shannon. And he was a judge, and he was really, really, really concerned about the development of preaching and preachers. And he made a substantial contribution to Denver Seminary. And

so, we created a lectureship named after he and his wife, the Shannon lectureship in preaching. Well, just due to some changes at the seminary over the last few years, we have decided to shift the focus of that lectureship, which we used to do in chapel, to creating a preaching seminar this summer in which it will just be called the Shannon Preaching Seminar. And so, what we're going to do is we've invited Dr. Doug Moo to come in and exegete ten passages out of the Book of Hebrews and give us an overview of the book. And then Dr. Matheson and I are going to tag team and take turns, you know, talking about how those passages might be preached. And so, at the end of three and a half days, all the participants, whether they're local pastors or students in the DMin or homiletics in the MDiv program, they're going to be able to walk away at the end of three and a half days with the foundation for a Sermon series out of the Book of Hebrews. But it's going to be more than just academics. We're going to do a lot of fellowship and have a good time along the way.

Don Payne [00:04:44] Now, apparently the origins of this came out of some instruction at Gordon Conwell Seminary that Ramona, I think you were part of.

Ramona Spilman [00:04:53] And Steve was part of the original group, weren't you, Steve?

Steve Mathewson [00:04:57] Right. I joined after about a year or so after the first group. So, Ramona and I both graduated from the DMin program of preaching at Gordon Cornwell with Haddon Robinson, and I was part of the second class. The first class that went through, when they were done, they asked Haddon, is there any way we could continue to get together and talk preaching? So, in 2000 he said, sure, we'll get together the week after Mother's Day. You find a place. And so, there were a few students from Canada, so they met at a camp in Canada, and Dr. Robinson invited his friend Bruce Waltke. And Dr. Waltke taught on Proverbs and then Haddon led the discussion. All right, how are we going to preach this? And they did that for four days. And then the next year, yeah, they moved it. They found a place in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, which is about an hour north of where I live in the Chicago area. And yeah, it's been held there ever since. I think I started in 2002 and that year Haddon brought in Danny Carroll, who used to be a Denver seminary faculty member. And Dr. Carroll did the minor prophets. And it's happened ever since. Even when Haddon went home to be with the Lord, a couple of us, myself and Chris Tolson, kind of inherited the responsibilities. And, you know, Ramona can speak to this, too. I think initially we all got together. We were just thrilled to sit under Haddon's teaching, and we do miss that. But over time, I think it's become a wow, this is a place where we can come for four days and work on a book of scripture. We go back and forth between Old and New Testament, you know, take ten, eleven passages. And we have a biblical scholar who kind of walks through those passages with us, exegetes it, and then, it used to be Dr. Robinson, now poor substitutes, Chris and I lead the preaching discussion, but it's become rich. We love the camaraderie, but also going home and having a good start on a sermon series or at least ten sermons. Ramona, you can fill in some details, I suppose.

Ramona Spilman [00:07:25] I would say it's even a little more than that. I think at least sometimes in the daily grind of ministry, as great as it can be, you don't always have the concentrated time to actually think about things you may be preparing exegesis, you may be studying, but the opportunity to not just focus on a particular book, but to discuss it with your peers. The fun part about this is everybody's in a different setting. Everybody's preaching and teaching, but everybody's in a different setting, come from different, somewhat different theological backgrounds. Though we all believe scripture, in the authority of Scripture and that Jesus is Lord. So, there's no question there. But the ability to be stimulated by those kinds of discussions is invaluable.

Don Payne [00:08:12] Well, and this really harkens back to a long legacy that Dr. Robinson left here at Denver Seminary when he was president in bringing together exegetical work with homiletical work, building a bridge between those disciplines so that homiletical work is not merely focusing on methodology and elocution and delivery, and the exegetical work gets fused into the act of preaching, which is just a beautiful legacy he has left. And that continues. And I hear that in what you're describing with this annual event. We'll come back to some of the logistics of the event and what people can look forward to if they are able to access that in any way, but I'd love for us to have a discussion about preaching. A distinction is

often made in lots of conversations between preaching and teaching. Since the biblical word for preaching actually pertains to gospel proclamation, have we changed how those terms, preaching and teaching, are used in the modern Christian vocabulary? Are we using them well or do we need to kind of scrape and retrieve some of the terminology we use for preaching and teaching?

Scott Wenig [00:09:32] I think that's a great question. My own observation is that we use those terms synonymously in church world. I'm going to do a teaching series on the Book of Hebrews, or I'm going to do a preaching series out of the Book of Joshua. So, I think in church world, a lot of times we use those as synonyms. I mean, I've always made the distinction in my own mind, because I'm a preacher, love to preach in local church. I've been a pastor on the staff for four churches, you know, so I've preached on and off over the last 40 years pretty consistently. But I'm also a teacher. I teach preaching, church history, pastoral leadership. I've always said this. And then Dr. Moo and Drs. Spilman and Mathewson can weigh in on this. I've always thought that teaching was primarily cognitive, or content oriented with, at least in my case, some emotion. I'm going to bring some passion and emotion to the classroom. That's the Irish in me coming out. But preaching is primarily, while it's got content and it should have content, as you just said, especially if it's expository preaching, it's coming from the scripture. But I've always thought that preaching was persuasive, wasn't just going for your mind. It is trying to instruct your mind. It's going for your heart and your will. It's trying to change your direction in life, whatever that might look like. So, sure, there's overlap. But I do think that there's still a distinction between what I would call the two disciplines.

Don Payne [00:10:58] Okay. Yeah, I'd love to hear what others of you weigh in on that. Is there a difference between preaching and teaching? Are we using those words in the ways we need to use them?

Doug Moo [00:11:09] Yeah. Maybe I could jump in quickly to both confirm what Scott just said, but maybe to tweak it a little bit. Well, not in a major way. I think, as I am mainly a teacher, professor, taught at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School for 23 years. And I've been at Wheaton for 23 years. Long, long time. Hard to believe. But the teaching I do at those kinds of institutions as a Christian and to committed Christians, there is a call for response. There is a focus on changing the heart, not just the mind. I think any teaching that is worthy of the name that has to do with the Christian scriptures, has to respect the point of Scripture to transform humans and not just to sort of engage our minds. To me, a key difference between teaching and preaching is that preaching is a bit more formal, and particularly teaching is often dialogical, at least the way I teach. I like to teach and constant interaction with my students back and forth of dialog, which is different than what we do in preaching.

Don Payne [00:12:24] Those sound like largely methodological distinctions. Is there a theological distinction between preaching and teaching?

Steve Mathewson [00:12:31] Yeah, I know there are several words in the New Testament for what we might describe as preaching or teaching. I mean, probably the mean two, I mean, Kay Rousseau, to proclaim, to herald, and that's where we get preaching. We think a proclamation, we proclaim the gospel. But Paul says, preach the word, proclaim the word. And then, of course, *didasko* would be the word for teach. And you can't go simply on the basis of just words. But I think when you look at usage, yeah, the preaching is, you don't want to say it's exhortation, and teaching is not exhortation, but there is a heralding. There is an element of proclamation where, I agree with Dr. Moo. I think teaching can be more dialogical. Now, I think good preachers and Haddon Robinson was great at this, he could preach in a way where, yes, it's a monologue, but he's incorporating dialog within his monologue. But I do think teaching can tend to be more dialogical. I don't know if that answers the question. Is there a theological distinction? But I think you could, you know, looking at New Testament, not just the words, but the words used in their context, I think you can see some shades of difference between the two.

Ramona Spilman [00:13:54] In thinking about what you are saying, I, of course, will agree with most of it. I think for me, let's just talk basics, preparation itself. There's no difference for me. When I prepare to teach versus preach, I do the same kind of exegetical studies. I'm looking for the same kind of examples. I will say the formality to use Dr. Moo's words, the formality of preaching sometimes makes me be more concise and

maybe a little clearer, because sometimes when I'm in a teaching situation, I have more of an opportunity to expand on my understanding of the words. And in preaching, at least in my context, you have a certain time frame at which they want the clock to stop. And so, I think I may be a little bit more serious about how tightly I hold my proclamation or my words in preaching, but whether that's a theological difference, to me, I don't necessarily see that, though I do understand the difference in the words.

Don Payne [00:15:02] How would any of you describe the importance and the value of preaching, particularly of what we might consider excellent preaching, when there have for some years been trends, at least in some cultures or subcultures that want to emphasize the importance of preaching? I know of evangelical communities where preaching is just not held in that high regard for a variety of reasons. But why do we need to lay claim to the importance and value of preaching and particularly excellent preaching?

Scott Wenig [00:15:41] I'm going to answer from two different perspectives. Number one, I'll answer from the historical perspective. Preaching has a long and glorious history in the church. I mean, you can start with John the Baptist and go through the ministry of Jesus all the way through the ministry of the Apostles, you know, all the way through church history. I mean, you think about great preachers, Bernard of Clairvaux, Luther, Calvin, Whitfield, Spurgeon, Mathewson, Spilman. Historically, you can't get away from preaching if you're going to talk about the history of Christianity, the history of the church. So that's the historical perspective. Let me put my pastor hat on, and I'm kind of an amateur sociologist, I love church world. I love the local church. And I can tell you from my own observation, over 40 years now, I just don't know of any really going and growing churches that are making an impact, both inside the walls and in the community, where the preaching and the ministry of the preaching is not highly valued, and that is not done at least with a very, very high level of excellence. I just think it's so important.

Ramona Spilman [00:16:51] Within our church, one thing I am conscious of when you preach is even though in any setting in our church, you probably have unbelievers, when you preach, you can assume there's a large proportion of the congregation that may be first timers. So, to me, it's important, the preaching and the development of the craft and the gifts is critical because you don't know if that will be the opportunity, the one opportunity one has to actually communicate the truth of the gospel so that someone can get it in their own world. When I teach, I usually know better my audience, and so therefore I can hone it any way I want. When I preach, I'm aware that I know the people who come to my church, but I also know there's a lot of people there coming from whole different worldviews.

Don Payne [00:17:46] Which really speaks to that proclamational character of preaching.

Ramona Spilman [00:17:49] Without the proclamation character, that would not happen, you know. And then sometimes your verbiage. Now maybe, I don't know of your setting, but in mine I do use different words. I will even say things like, well, I would never say Spurgeon or even Tim Keller or even Haddon Robinson's name without saying some preacher dude or a guy in New York City. Because I know in my audience there are people who may really like the quote, but they don't know who it is.

Steve Mathewson [00:18:20] I think we have this moment in our culture where some in the evangelical community have wondered, well, if this preaching really translates in this late modern world in which we live. And yet when you look around there are still presidential addresses, there are still TED talks there. There's actually a lot of, if you want to call it a kind of monologue. I agree. As one who loves preaching, and I'm where Scott is, I'm absolutely convinced it's critical for the growth of the church. I agree that it's not everything. And maybe some of the pushback comes when churches or church leaders give the impression that if all you do is preach the word, everything else will fall into place. And there certainly has to be, you know, one on one discipleship and there needs to be opportunities for dialogue. So, yes, preaching is not everything, but I think it is foundational and maybe it goes back to being at that little bit more formal, even though your style might be more conversational or a bit less formal, I think there is something powerful when a preacher opens up the word of God and proclaims it, and that word has the authority. So, I don't think it's at all obsolete. I think if we're careful, we can do it in a way that connects with the contemporary cultures in which we serve.

Don Payne [00:19:56] Talk about, if you would, some trends that you see in preaching that you think need attention, either by way of correcting those trends or emphasizing and reinforcing those trends.

Steve Mathewson [00:20:07] I still see, I'm surprised sometimes how many, when it comes to sermon structure, that we in our culture, we love bullet point lists that, you know, give me a list. And I think a lot of preaching that I hear is, take the text and press it into a bullet point list, five principles about this, four keys to whatever. And that doesn't damn your preaching or necessarily distort the message. But I think there's something to preaching a Bible shaped word in the Bible shaped way and even using the strategy of the biblical writer. And I get asked all the time, how do I keep my preaching from being boring. It kind of sounds the same week after week. I say, well, you know, follow the lead of the text. I mean, we have all these different kinds of biblical literature and, you know, even the letter to the Hebrews is an extended sermon. I'm actually preaching through it now. My timing's not good because I should wait until after we're together with Dr. Moo.

Don Payne [00:21:25] Yeah, you don't want to have to re-preach all those sermons.

Scott Wenig [00:21:26] Yeah, that's right. I'll get another chance. But I'm just struck by some of the literary strategies of the writer. And I think those can be used at times. Follow the same set of tracks that the biblical writer did. And I think that can create some variety. So that that would be one. Maybe that's a trend I would like to see. I don't know that I see it enough.

Don Payne [00:21:52] Any other thoughts on that?

Doug Moo [00:21:55] I would just say this the same thing. I think we can be thoroughly biblical preachers and be innovative and creative about the way we present the scriptures. Of course, the challenge of that, and I have great understanding, I think, of this. Pastors are so busy. It is easier to kind of work with a template that you just pour the text into week after week because that's timesaver to some degree, to do creative, innovative structuring and so forth. That can take more time. And so, part of this gets back to churches being willing to support pastors on staff to give them the time to preach well. And I think that's something that congregations, elders, church boards, whatever we call them, need to get behind a little bit more than they have sometimes.

Scott Wenig [00:22:53] Don, one of the things that I see on occasion, and I just ran into this a couple of weeks ago, is where people will do a book study, but they'll come to a text in a book, and because the text is really hard, they preach on a piece of it that they can make relevant to the audience rather than really wrestling with, why did the author write this text this way? What's going on here? What's the author's flow of thought? What's the author's intent? Because it's going to take a lot more time, a lot more energy, a lot more thought. I just came across this pastor and he's the senior pastor of a really big church, and he's had a great ministry. He's a guy that, in all honesty, I have tremendous respect for. In fact, I almost reverence him. But he was preaching out of an Old Testament narrative. And it's a hard narrative. If you read it, you're going, yeah, that's a hard text. But what he did was, he preached what we call a proverbial message out of Romans chapter 12 from an Old Testament narrative and only reference the narrative one time. And I remember thinking, okay, I know you guys are going through this book study of the Old Testament, but why didn't you just say, okay, I'm going to either skip this narrative and go to the next one or you know what? I'm just going to do a proverbial message out of Romans 12 and forget the Old Testament today. And so, I think one of the reasons I'm excited about what we're going to do this summer with Dr. Moo is, he's going to unpack for us what I've always considered to be an exceptionally challenging book in the New Testament for all kinds of reasons. So, I'm thrilled to just sit at his feet and say, yeah, what is the author of the Hebrews doing here?

Don Payne [00:24:40] And then how do we proceed?

Scott Wenig [00:24:41] Yeah, and then how do we preach that?

Don Payne [00:24:44] Wow. How is it, do you think, that solid preaching, good preaching, can actually promote the gospel, whether or not it's explicitly and directly proclaiming the gospel message, you know, as we would crystallize that? How is it that solid preaching actually promotes the gospel? And then conversely, how unskilled preaching might be a detriment to the gospel.

Steve Mathewson [00:25:10] One way that happens is sermons that are heavy on exhortation, but the exhortation is divorced from what God has done for you in Christ. And it just strikes me, it's no secret that some of the New Testament letters, you have sections of what we often call indicative, this is who you are in Christ, this is what Christ has done for you. And then you get the imperative. Then you get the commands. And I think we have to do better at showing from the scriptures themselves. It's right there. But to show that these commands flow out of what God has done for us, really out of the gospel, you know, the gospel is not just something for nonbelievers that gets them into a relationship with God through Christ. And that's wonderful. But we never leave it behind. Philippians 1:27, where were Paul calls people to live lives, you know, worthy of the gospel. Or when he tells us to forgive, he says, forgiving one another, even as God, for Christ's sake, is forgiving you. So, he's tying that back to the gospel. And I think that's something that we can all do. And when we do that, I think it'll free people from this, yeah, you have to try harder. But on the other hand, you don't want to just say, well, you know, Christ has done it all. You just, you know, sit back and be passive. No, you have a responsibility, but you can do it in the power of Christ.

Don Payne [00:26:45] Yeah, that sounds, Steve, like a theological skill and preaching is to tie together properly the indicative and the imperative. This is what Christ has done and therefore this is how we respond. And that is a skill to do that.

Steve Mathewson [00:27:03] Definitely.

Ramona Spilman [00:27:04] I think it takes work, though. And I think what does bother me a little bit is the number of people I know who are great communicators, but who will openly say they just don't have time to study. And I know that gets back to what Dr. Moo was saying in regard to churches have to give people that space. But of all the things that concern me on the preaching front is to have some great communicators preaching that don't have time to actually do the work of study.

Don Payne [00:27:33] Okay, Ramona, you're putting your finger on something that is, I think at the core of a lot of misconceptions about preaching. I'm going to ask a somewhat rhetorically, okay, is it possible to be an excellent communicator and not be a good preacher?

Ramona Spilman [00:27:48] Well, I obviously think so. Is that a trick question?

Don Payne [00:27:52] No, it's not a trick question, just as a rhetorical question. But is it possible to put so much emphasis on communication and methodologies and still fail to be a good preacher? Now, maybe a more difficult question is, is it possible to be a good preacher without being a good communicator?

Ramona Spilman [00:28:10] I don't think so.

Scott Wenig [00:28:11] Yeah, I don't think so either. I think you have to lean into merging those two together.

Don Payne [00:28:17] Okay.

Ramona Spilman [00:28:19] You could be a good writer and not be a good preacher.

Don Payne [00:28:23] Yeah, clearly. I think we have lots of anecdotal evidence to that to that point.

Steve Mathewson [00:28:30] And you can be a good preacher and not a good writer.

Ramona Spilman [00:28:33] That's true.

Don Payne [00:28:34] Plenty of anecdotal evidence on that as well. What are some ways that each of you might suggest for anybody who is preaching or wants to preach or wants to preach better? How do they enhance and improve their preaching skills?

Steve Mathewson [00:28:48] That's easy. Come to the Shannon Preaching seminar.

Don Payne [00:28:54] Well there you go. I set you up for that.

Steve Mathewson [00:28:55] Yeah, I'm serious about that. It has just boosted my preaching because one thing it does is, as we've identified, time is difficult just to have that extended time where you're thinking deeply about a book or a section of scripture. And it's not like you go home with, you know, ten messages that are ready to heat and serve, but you go home with the grist for it. You've thought deeply about not only the exegesis, but how do you communicate this. And so, you've got a running start. Plus, you're in dialogue with, you know, other women and men who are preaching on a regular basis. You pick up ideas and so I'd say, you know, become part of a community of preachers. And this is one way that you can do it.

Doug Moo [00:29:44] My experience in the seminar, I've done two of these seminars, I've had the privilege of working with pastors there, and as is often the case in my experience in these kinds of things, I would like to think that I'm, you know, hot stuff, that I'm giving people really good material and maybe the material I'm giving is adequate. But I consistently find the most important part of that week is the interaction among the pastors who are there. You know, I think the pastorate should be a pretty lonely place and for the opportunity to get pastors of various backgrounds and contexts together over four days and really think together about the word here, hear different ideas from other folks. It just is a very encouraging time, I think, for the pastors who are there and a stimulating time in terms of revisiting what preaching could and should be and picking up ideas from others.

Don Payne [00:30:41] Ramona, Scott, your top keys on improving preaching skills.

Ramona Spilman [00:30:47] Well, I was a little less direct. I was going to say reading. I mean, I think, it won't help your delivery, but if you if you only have the same information, you had when you graduated from seminary or whatever it may be, it's going to be tough to come up with illustrations and or application and or even understand what the latest developments in research is. But as far as a seminar like the one that you're going to host here, the Shannon Lectureship, it's been invaluable to me. It's made me look at things differently. I mean, I don't know what the attendance will look like here at Denver Seminary, but we've had all sorts of people from ecclesiastical bents that differ. And the way they would apply those things might not ever fly in my church, what we learn. But I always learn something from it. I always do. And usually sometimes it's about my own spiritual growth as well as what I bring out to teach on.

Scott Wenig [00:31:51] As somebody who loves to preach and teaches preaching, one of the things that I would encourage anybody who is a preacher to do is to be willing to submit themselves to evaluation by some people, either on their staff and or in their congregation. I have a couple of pastor friends, and what they do is they gather together a group of four or five people every week and they lay out for them the initial direction their sermons are going to go, and then they go around the room and say, okay, how is this going to work with your demographic? How's this going to work with the people that you represent? What do you think about what the angle that I'm taking here is? And then they take all that feedback, and they go back, and they'll refashion the message for that Sunday coming up. Years ago, this is when I was on staff at a church out in Littleton. And I think I got this idea from Ramona or Steve or Haddon or somebody. But I had people that I asked to evaluate my sermons and they were people that I knew liked me but would be honest with me. And it was interesting. I've shared this in my preaching classes. My most effective critic was a young woman who was in junior high, and she'd come up and say, that worked or that illustration

didn't work. And she really helped me improve. And she eventually grew up, came to Denver Seminary, got an M.A. here, went on staff at her church. I'm eternally grateful for her input in my preaching. I mean that.

Don Payne [00:33:15] Well, Scott, tell us something about how people can get involved with, how they can access and benefit from the event coming up, the Shannon event coming up this summer.

Scott Wenig [00:33:25] Yeah, there's a link on the Denver Seminary website related to future events and you can just go there and look at that link. I think you have to scroll down on coming events, and you'll find the link to the Shannon lectureship. It's \$150, which I'll quote my best friend who is my wife, and she said, man, given that you have Doug Moo and Steve Mathewson helping you out, Scott, she said, that is a deal. That is a deal. And I think she's absolutely right. \$150 for three and a half days. And as Ramona has said, as Dr. Moo said, as Steve said, we're going to have a really good time. So, you can go on there. There's a QR code I think on there and it just will help you register. We'd love to have anybody and everybody who's interested come join us.

Don Payne [00:34:07] Yeah, Great friends. Thank you all. Dr. Steve Mathewson, Dr. Doug Moo, Dr. Ramona Spilman, Dr. Scott Wenig. Grateful just for the many different levels of contribution that each of you make to the church, to God's kingdom work. I know you've coached there. Ramona. I'm thinking about all the people you have coached in homiletics labs here, and Steve and Scott and Dr. Moo, your input in so many students for so many years. Thank you for that kingdom work and then for bringing that together with what we're going to be doing here at the Shannon event this summer. We're really excited about it and excited to have you all come here and interact with people for a few days and see what comes of that for the Lord's purposes. Glad you all been able to spend some time with us. Thank you.

Scott Wenig [00:34:56] Thank you.

Ramona Spilman [00:34:57] Thanks for having us.

Steve Mathewson [00:34:58] Thank you.

Don Payne [00:34:59] Friends, we're grateful for the time you spend with us here, listening to our conversations and hope they're beneficial to you and your personal walk with the Lord and in your ministry, whatever that is. And wherever you are, we're grateful for your interest in and your connections with Denver Seminary, whatever those are, and would love to hear from you and let us know how we can serve you better through these conversations. Till the next episode, next time we have with you, we wish you all the Lord's best and would love to have you maybe give us a rating or review or communicate with us in some way and let us know how we can pray for you. Take care, friends.