

PRCC Chaplains Talks—6.2013

2013 PCA General Assembly: Greenville, SC

Sunday Evening, June 16th (1830 hrs)

Introduction

- A. Early Childhood Background (War Between the States; WWI; & WWII; Distant Cousins)
- B. Training at The Citadel (1963-1967)
- C. Tank Platoon Leader (1967)
- D. Instructor of Tank Gunnery (1968-1970)
- E. The Amazing Providence of God (Knoxville, TN)
- F. Conversion to the Faith
- G. Seminary (Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary [1973-1975])
- H. The Dutch Connection (Free University of Amsterdam & the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Churches in the Netherlands)
- I. An American in a Dutch Pulpit (1981-1985)
- J. Oh, Canada! Eh? (Toronto, Ontario, Canada [1985-1994])
- K. Stopping for a Cup of Coffee (1994-1995)
- L. Walking Through the Valley of the Fruits and Nuts

Monday, June 17th (3 Talks)

0915 hrs (Session II): *The Chaplain's Personal Spiritual Life*

- A. You and I are in *dangerous* callings
- B. Everything not always as seem (*The Karate Kid*)
- C. The indispensable need for daily Scripture reading and prayer (Heidelberg Catechism, Lord's Day 1)
- D. Life is both head and heart (Heidelberg Catechism [Lord's Day 7, Q/A 21])
- E. Using devotional helps
- F. Avoiding the subtleties of ministry
 - 1. Dirty secrets
 - 2. Mediocrity
 - 3. It is not about us
- G. Protecting ourselves against sins of the flesh
 - 1. Finding a "band of brothers"
 - 2. Pushing each other for excellence
 - 3. Men in prayer
- H. Fleeing from wasting time (time management)
 - 1. How easy is it to waste time?
 - 2. Operating from a schedule
 - 3. Staying on track
- I. Combining your public and private personas
 - 1. Always be who you are
 - 2. Become comfortable in your own skin
 - 3. Character is what you are when no one is watching
- J. Developing a Christian life and worldview (God, man, society, truth, knowledge, and ethics)

1315 hrs (Session III): The Chaplain and his Family

- A. If you cannot minister at home...
- B. Which is easier: ministering at home or ministering away from home?
- C. Have a spiritual plan for your family
- D. It is not rocket science, but it is more important
- E. Time management—again!
- F. Consistency & failure
- G. Dealing with all the difficult, “taboo” issues
- H. The concept of “accompanied confrontation” with culture
- I. A godly wife wants her husband to lead her spiritually
- J. You are their dad; lead them and teach them
- K. Catechesis for the whole family—and you!

1430 hrs (Session IV): The Chaplain and his Men

- A. We are all pastors

- B. Make certain that this is your calling

- C. Lead from the front; lead by example

- D. What do you expect from a good waiter?

- E. Get to know your people and show genuine concern for them

- F. Take informal time with them whenever you can

- G. Manage your time well!

- H. Be reading and encourage them to read

- I. Catechize them and teach them Scripture

- J. Teach them how to listen

- K. Pray with them and teach them to pray

Tuesday, June 18th

1400 hrs (Session V): The Chaplain's Intellectual Life

- A. Our intellectual life is an ongoing process

- B. Always be reading one book that is too hard for you

- C. Christian scholars best place is in the pulpit

- D. Stick with the masters and the classics

- E. John Calvin

- F. Heinrich Bullinger

- G. Herman Bavinck
 - 1. Pastor
 - 2. Theologian
 - 3. Churchman
 - 4. Statesman

- H. Abraham Kuyper

- I. Do not forget Greek and Hebrew