

Interview with Steven Lee,
President of SermonAudio.com (1)

Puritan Pod

By Dr. David P. Murray

sermon**audio**.com

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Dr. David P. Murray:

It is my great pleasure and privilege to have with me here today at PRTS Steven Lee, the founder and president of SermonAudio.com. SermonAudio.com is probably the world's largest and most popular sermon website.

Steven, tell us how did SermonAudio begin?

Steven Lee:

SermonAudio.com began to fill a need that we had in our own small local church. The desire of my heart was to try to get our minister's preaching to many more people.

I was sitting there one day on a Sunday and the church was seemingly empty and the people that were there didn't seem very interested and the preacher was, you know, really preaching and going at it. And I felt kind of discouraged because I just felt like this was such a blessing to me. I wanted so many more people to hear what he was saying.

And so I wanted to create a site where churches like ours, small churches that couldn't afford a lot of advertising or outreach could put a sermon on there and thousands of people would be able to hear it. So that is how it started.

Dr. David P. Murray:

Well, yes. That is how it started. But it has grown a lot bigger.

What is your mission now, Steven?

Steven Lee:

The mission of SermonAudio is really to get great Bible preaching out to as many different people as we possibly can, as economically as we can.

We like to partner with doctrinally solid churches and what we consider conservative churches to get great preaching out to the four corners of the world. And we have achieved something of that mission, but there is just so much more ground to cover and we are just taking it a day at a time.

In connection with that we are also very desirous to promote and give as much exposure to the local church as much as possible. We believe very strongly and I am very passionate about this. I believe that the local church is the God ordained institution and whatever we can do to help promote the local church and to help find good local churches to strengthen that local church body, I believe that that is what we need to be doing in these days.

Dr. David P. Murray:

Sure, Steven. Yeah, I mean, the local church is the center of everything, isn't it?

Where are you in terms of statistics? How many sermons are on line? How often are they listened to and things like that?

Steven Lee:

Statistically, we have currently the largest number of sermons anywhere online that we are aware of. We have, I think, 250,000 mp3 sermons that are completely searchable by Bible reference, by topic, by speaker, by church, by language, key word. You name it, you can find it.

So we currently have the largest collection of mp3 sermons on the internet, completely free of charge. We have a very active listening audience on the site. There are over a million sermons that are downloaded each month and we are very thankful for that. People are obviously starving for great preaching. And I know myself I listen to many, many sermons a week. And people write in telling us that they listen to sermons on their way back and forth to work and so people are starting to listen to great preaching and sermons even as a substitute for music.

Dr. David P. Murray:

Good.