

**“PREACHING FOR
THE AUDIENCE OF
CENTURY TWENTY-ONE”**

Pre-conference Seminar for
VALLEY FORGE CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

& “The Gathering”

Women in Ministry Conference

8:30 AM – 12:00 Noon,
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EXEGESIS AND EXPOSITION

Basic Sermon Craft: A Little Lesson in Expository Preaching

I. Terms

- A. Expository Preaching
Its goal: _____
- B. Exegesis
Its goal: _____
(Eisogesis
Its result: _____)
- C. Inductive Bible Study
Its progression: _____
(Deductive Bible Study
Its progression: _____)
- [Thus Deductive Preaching _____ the outline first,
Inductive Preaching let's it _____ throughout.]

II. Thesis

Truly great biblical preaching or teaching involves both
_____ and _____.

"The best kind of preaching for me is when both
my _____ and my _____ have been satisfied." Gordon Fee

III. Technique

- * Begin with _____, ask for illumination of the Word.
- A. Start with _____, ___-__ verses of connected text.
- B. Study the passage thoroughly (at least three times), read in as many versions as possible.
1. _____ These considerations must of course
2. _____ { include matters of background,
3. _____ introduction, and context.
- C. Evaluate your result, check a _____—LAST!
- D. Determine the _____ of the passage, the _____
of the text. Make this the purpose of your message, the point
of your sermon. State this subject in _____.
- E. Decide on the theme, i.e., what you plan to say about the subject.
This can be a _____.

There are four (4) ways to approach develop a theme.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| There are sermons of: | Then the key word is: |
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | _____ |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | _____ |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | _____ |

Check off your development technique, then state your theme. (It is helpful to keep this in mind in terms of your **Sermon Objective**, i.e., what you hope this sermon will accomplish.)

- F. At this point you may choose to brainstorm for a _____. Try to generate a creative one that catches the interest of your audience. A good way to do this is to think of _____ or _____ that have points of contact with your theme. A secular connection will communicate far better with the unchurched than a well-worn religious _____.

- G. Now organize the information into a message.
 1. Let the outline come from _____.
 2. State the main points in a _____, _____ fashion, i.e., make sure your points are parallel to one another and logically subordinate to the theme. (If you've already arrived at a title it could be of great benefit in structuring your outline!) Recall your theme in terms of the approach you took, that is your development technique.

- | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| With sermons of: | Your points should be: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> _____ | _____ |

Evaluate your outline with this in mind.

- H. Add supporting material (here's where we employ our resources).
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 6. _____
 7. _____
 8. _____, etc.

- I. Apply the Message
 1. Know the _____ of the congregation.
 2. Know the _____ you desire.
 3. Know the _____ you expect.
 4. _____ the conclusion accordingly.
 5. Design an _____.
(Clarify its meaning for the listeners.)

HOMILETICAL FOCUS AND OUTLINE DEVELOPMENT

Developing A “Sermonette:” Seminar Practice

- I. Using the Passage Below, We Will Perform Group Exegesis
(i.e., III. Technique of Lecture 1)**

***, A., B., C**

***May you be filled with the knowledge of His will,
in all spiritual wisdom and
understanding,
to lead a life worthy of the Lord,
fully pleasing to Him,
bearing fruit in every good work, and
increasing in the knowledge of God.***

***May you be strengthened
with all power
according to His glorious might,
with all endurance and
patience
with joy
giving thanks to the Father.***

Colossians 1:9-12 (NIV)

D. _____

E. _____
(Identify your development technique: _____)

F. _____

II. Organize the Exegetical Material into an Expository Message
(i.e., Step G of Lecture 2)

III. Add Supporting Material
(i.e., Step H of Lecture 2)

IV. Think of Appropriate Application(s) (for each point as well as the
conclusion, i.e., Step I of Lecture 2)

V. Design an Appeal

METHODS OF APPLICATION AND ILLUSTRATION

Refresher Course on Application The Art of Illustration & Story Telling, How to Develop a Narrative Sermon

I. Let's Talk About Applications

You should apply each point to your audience.
Here is one formula to use:

- A. Determine a **general area** in which this specific point impacts your audience.
Clues: Ask— when
 where does this happen to us
 why (to my congregation)?
 how
 who has done this to us
- B. Describe a **specific scenario** in the life of your audience.
Clues: Be pointed
 concrete
 detailed
 brief
- C. State the application in terms of your **point and sermon objective**.
Clues: Think subject
 theme
 title
- D. Repeat the process **several times** per point each time changing the general area and specific scenario being as *inclusive* and as *efficient* as possible.
- E. **Practice** with your last Sunday's sermon.
Pick one point try the steps on it.

II. Three Techniques of Bringing the Message to Life

- A. Telling an _____ Story in an Interesting Way
This is the traditional technique of illustration.
You find an appropriate story from your life or research (balance these two categories), make the point, and draw the application.
- B. Telling the _____ Story in an Interesting Way
The "Message of Zion" in the "Lip of Canaan"
1. Either chock full of fresh insights on the biblical story, or
2. As a contemporization
Frederick Buechner is our model of this creative way of telling the "old story" in a new way. Refer to *Telling the Truth: The Gospel as Tragedy, Comedy, & Fairy Tale* for more information.

C. _____ a Story to Illustrate the Point
 Gary Smalley and John Trent on “ in their book, *The Language of Love*, describe the technique of communicating in Word Pictures.”
 They explain that things experienced emotionally are remembered better—remembered more intensely and remembered longer. Therefore, we want to communicate the gospel in a way that activates both sides of the brain and causes all people (male and female) to remember our message in a manner that, in a sense, they have “experienced” it as well as heard it. Smalley and Trent teach this method called “emotional word pictures.”

III. **The Steps to Creating Emotional Word Pictures (Abridged)**

- A. Establish a Clear Purpose
- B. Carefully Study the Other Person’s Interests
- C. Draw Your Analogy From Four Inexhaustible Wells:
 Nature, Everyday Objects, Imaginary Stories, and especially, the
Listener’s Past Experience.
- D. Rehearse Your Story (Practice On Someone!)
- G. Milk Your Word Picture for All Its Worth

IV. **Preaching a Bible Story The “Mirrored Arches” of: Exegesis/Exposition & Illustration/Application**

Organizational Techniques

V. **How to Develop a Narrative Sermon**

An excellent summary is found in Michael E. Williams, *The Storyteller’s Companion to the Bible*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1991.

- A. Read the story aloud at least twice.
 (Pay attention to where, when, who, what, and chronology)
- B. Close your eyes and imagine the story taking place.
- C. Restudy the story to see if you’ve left out any important people, places, things, or events. [The following list of elements of stories can help you analyze the biblical story and retell it with greater interest.
 - 1. Plot, the story’s dynamic sequence
 - 2. Characters and Characterization, how they are described
 - 3. Point of View, the relationship between teller and tale]
- D. Try telling the story (practice on someone else).
- E. Exegete the story, then evaluate your results. Decide what lesson you will draw from the story.
- F. Practice your story to heighten the message of the narrative sermon. Tell it 10, 20, or 50 times over several weeks. Listen as you tell it, refine it each time.

THE EFFECTIVE INVITATION

Preaching is more than entertaining speech, it must bring the Word to bear on the hearts of the congregation, it must confront the audience with the truth, it must show the demands or requirements of the text. Therefore, it is necessary every time the Word is preached to bring the listeners to a point of decision, to offer an invitation, to present a challenge, to design an appeal to commitment.

We will introduce, brainstorm, and practice one formula. Always seek to offer an appeal that is appropriate to the audience; clear in its intent; fresh (i.e., not redundant) in style; and creative (if possible). Really pray through on your invitations. This is where one of the major responsibilities in ministry is played out!

A CLEAR INVITATION/APPEAL/ALTAR CALL

FOUR ESSENTIAL PARTS:

ADMISSION invite hearers to admit a need	WILLINGNESS elicit a desire to change	COMMITMENT show them what to do	SIGN ask for an evidence of decision
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CLUES:

Invitation (Question), Condition, Possibility	Emotional/ Volitional Desire	Practical, Concrete, Specific, Objective	Empirical, Observable, Measurable
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KEY WORDS:

admit ... need recognize acknowledge see ... problem feel sense realize understand discover come to terms open your eyes face the music	want wish hope desire long (for) yearn crave thirst hunger dissatisfied	start by ... the first step ... begin by ... commit challenge you to ... dare you to ... you will affirm determine decide surrender repent (change mind, attitude, habit, ...) confess ...	lift your head catch my eye raise your hand kneel stand come forward find a place to pray write in your Bible sign a blank contract destroy credit card put pack of cigarettes altar
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FORMULAS:

Are you but you don't want	If today you will
How many here ...	to be that way		
Are there any/ are	... and are dissatisfied	... and you will start by	
there those but you want/wish/		
Do you ...	desire/long-/yearn-/	Here's what to do/	
If today ...	crave-/hunger-/	where to start ...	
Possibly/Perhaps ...	thirst for ...	The first step ...	
Maybe today ...		Begin by ...	

3/30/06

Practice now writing out an effective invitation (word for word) including these four parts.