



Preach The Word!

By Pastor Dan Nell



Preach
The
Word!

***I wrote this
compact book
to help
someone to
be more affective
in preaching the
Word of God***

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Contents

<i>Preaching</i>	(4)
<i>Nine fundamental truths of Preaching</i>	(6)
<i>Three phases to study any portion in the Bible</i>	(8)
<i>Seven sources of downfall of a Preacher</i>	(10)
<i>The technical side of Preaching</i>	(11)
<i>How to organize a sermon</i>	(14)

PREACHING

Paul wrote to Timothy as a young preacher the following words in **2 Tim.4:1,2**

*"I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: **Preach the word ! Be ready in season and out of season** (The Living Bible says: "whenever you get the chance, in season and out, when it is convenient and when it is not") Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching."*

In **2 Tim.2:15** Paul says: *"Study to show yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth"*

(This means there is a RIGHT way and also a WRONG way in preaching the Word of the Lord !)

In **2 Tim.3:16,17** *"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is Profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."*

HOW DO YOU PREPARE YOUR SERMON ?

1. First get a Word from the Lord.

How do I get a Word from the Lord ?

The best answer is: Read your Bible enough and you will get more sermons than you can use. Do not run to books to find a sermon. Use books after God has given you a message only to fill in on your own notes.

Do not read the Bible for a sermon. But by reading your Bible sermons will come to you. You will experience the same as Ezekiel.

Ezek.1:3 "the word of the Lord came expressly to Ezekiel"

Ezek.3:16 "the word of the Lord came to me, saying..."

Ezek.6:1 "Now the word of the Lord came to me, saying..."

2. Write down all thoughts concerning your message. Even if they are not in sequence. Make notes even in the night when God gives them to you. Get up out of your bed and write these notes down. If you do not do this the devil will steal them from you.

3. Do good research on the Scriptures you will use in your sermon. Ask questions when you read the Scriptures. God will give you answers

4. Also read them in other translations of the Bible
5. Always ask: “What is the occasion and who is the audience ?”
6. What is your theme ? And stick to it !
7. What is the goal you want to achieve ?
Never preach without a goal !
8. Before you preach: Take time to meditate on your message and each scripture. Pray over your sermon. Pray over each point.
9. Let your sermon first preach to your own heart before you give it to others.
WHEN PREACHERS LIVE HOW THEY PREACH AND PREACH HOW THEY LIVE, THEY WILL ALWAYS BE ANOINTED AND EFFECTIVE IN THEIR PREACHING !
10. Your message must have a **introduction** and a good **climax**
11. Your sermon must have three to five points. Anything more you must put into a second sermon.

A GOOD PREACHER WILL ALWAYS TAKE NOTES OF ANOTHER PREACHER AND LEARN FROM THEIR PREACHING

NINE FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS OF PREACHING

- (1) Sermon preparation and how to deliver it is something we grow in
- (2) Any skill is built by DESIRE, CONSISTENCY, HARD WORK
- (3) Work on wrong habits
- (4) Be clear on what you say if you want others to understand it as you do.
- (5) You cannot know what you are going to say if you do not put it in words
- (6) Let your preaching always be Biblical
- (7) Never use preaching to get rid of your frustration
- (8) Give good information in your sermon mixed with revelation
- (9) Be sure that you can say "Thus says the Lord"

PREACHERS STYLE:

"*Style*" is not something new. Everyone has their own style. It is there every time when you open your mouth to preach.

Ask yourself the following:

- (1) Is my style full of vitality and interesting ?
- (2) Is my style boring ?
- (3) Is my preaching clear and loud enough or too soft ?
- (4) Am I nervous or calm ?
- (5) Am I flexible or rigid ?

God uses our style as we are. Do not try to be someone else. The Lord may say to you that He has someone like that already and doesn't need another one like that.

God used Paul as he was with his long sentences and Mark with his wrong grammar. His whole book is full of "And" "And when"

Use notes when you preach your sermon. But never be a slave of your notes. Good preaching takes place while you are busy delivering your message. When you open your mouth the Bible says that God will fill it.

Practise to use words in your preaching that will describe certain thoughts better.

But never try to use words that normal people do not understand. Or at least explain what you are saying when you use such words.

Effective preaching is when you preach plain as Jesus did so that everybody can understand what you want to say.

Do not shout when you preach and learn to use your breath in such a way that you will not “swallow” some of your words. And please do not “chase rabbits” (This is when you don’t stick to your subject.)

Your “BODY LANGUAGE” is very important. You will not show your fist to your wife when you tell her that you love her ?

Be neat on yourself (and that includes your shoes) when you stand up to preach

Do not preach with your hands in your pockets

Do not play with your tie while you are preaching

EYE CONTACT ! Do not keep looking into the sky or somewhere in the back of the building when you are preaching. Learn to make eye contact with the people while you are preaching. Find people in the congregation that are opening their hearts towards the Word of the Lord and preach to them. Ignore those that do not listen to you.

Be relevant in your preaching. Preach to meet the needs of the people.

What to do with your sermon notes:

Keep a record of where you preached each sermon (Write it at the back of your notes)

Keep a filing system for all of your sermon notes

Use some of them to write your books

Note: ***I want to encourage every preacher to write books. Start by using your sermon notes and write as if you were talking to a person.***

THREE PHASES TO STUDY ANY PORTION IN THE BIBLE

(1) OBSERVATION

Panoramic: Read the background sketch in a Bible dictionary
 Learn something about the author
 Originally it was written for ?
 Where did this take place ?
 Why was this written to them ?
 What is the important theme ?

Microscopic: Look at the words in phrases
 Study the key words

(2) INTERPRETATION

The preacher comes to an understanding of the meaning of the text

(3) PROCLAMATION

The text's meaning is proclaimed (preached) in a way that the listeners can understand.

HERMENEUTICS

The Greek word is "dierneneuo"

The meaning of "Hermeneutics" is the art and science of the interpretation of scriptures

Luke 24:27 "And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself" (this is "Hermeneutics")

God must help us to develop the art and science to interpret the scriptures

That is why we need INFORMATION but also REVELATION to be good preachers

Therefore: (1) A **word** must be understood in terms of its sentence

(2) A **sentence** in terms of its context

(3) Scripture should be **compared** with other scriptures because scripture will interpret scripture

(4) Give close attention to **spelling and grammar**

(5) We must get **meaning** from the Bible and not put meaning to it

(6) Never be **absolute** concerning any text in the Bible

Reference and Research Material

You need:

- (1) A few translations of the Bible
- (2) A Bible Atlas
- (3) A Bible Dictionary
- (4) Concordance
- (5) A good explanatory Dictionary

We know it is through the “foolishness of preaching” that God has chosen to impregnate the world with His Word. Paul said in *1 Cor.9:16* “*Woe is unto me if I preach not the Gospel.*”

Bill Hybels once said: “Preaching can soften people to the truths that will affect them for all eternity. But if I don’t do it well, preaching can harden them and drive them away from God.”

Preaching is a skill that can be built by DESIRE; CONSISTENCY and HARD WORK.

For those already preaching this is an opportunity to re-examine your skills and to those beginning as a preacher you can do it right the first time.

Preaching skills and effectiveness come from knowing:

- (1) Biblical interpretation
- (2) Sermon structure
- (3) Language use
- (4) How to Communicate

THREE WAYS TO STUDY A TEXT

- (1) Do observation by studying the text by reading the background of who wrote it and to whom it was written. What the theme of the book or chapter is all about.
- (2) Then get revelation (real meaning) of the text
- (3) After this proclaim with boldness what God has given you

When using an interpreter

- (1) When you use an interpreter use complete statements. Finish one thought at a time so that your interpreter can interpret correctly.
Some languages will start with the verb first.
- (2) Make sure that the expressions you use are understood. You may talk of a “robot” and they of a “traffic light”
- (3) Make sure that the texts you use are in the same places as the Bibles of the people you are preaching to.
The Russian Bible does not have 1 Samuel and 2 Samuel.
They have 1st Kings; 2nd Kings; 3rd Kings and 4th Kings
From Psalm 11 the Psalms in the Russian Bible are one less than in our Bible.

SEVEN SOURCES OF THE DOWNFALL OF A PREACHER

- (1) Poor textual study
- (2) Negative mentality
- (3) Physical fatigueness
- (4) Deadline pressure
- (5) Spiritual dryness
- (6) Laziness
- (7) Poor planning

Paint Pictures and tell Stories

H.W. Beecher once said: *“He, who would hold the ear of the people, must tell stories or paint pictures”*

We see children come running out of the church with their artwork and telling their parents the story the teacher told them with excitement. The “artwork” is destined for the door of the refrigerator.

WHY DO WE NOT SEE THIS ENTHUSIASM WITH THE ADULTS WHEN THEY COME OUT OF CHURCH?

Jesus told many stories that were life changing to the people. Ask the Lord to give you your own stories (even from your life) that you can add to the preaching of the Word. These “stories” will “paint the pictures” Figurative language will help you paint the pictures.

THE TECHNICAL SIDE OF PREACHING

- It's not just what we say that's important but also what we don't say.
- We must communicate with a heart of love.
- Children perceive differently from adults
- As a minister, we have a great responsibility and that is getting Gods message to people
- We must have the right beliefs, because the Bible says:
- *“For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.”*
(Matthew 12:34)
- *“For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the Lord, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel.”* (Ezra 7:10)
Ezra first prepared his heart, otherwise the message would have meant nothing.
- Christian Character
Oswald Chambers: "My worth to God in public is what I am in private."
D. L. Moody: "Character is what you are in the dark."
John Owen: "If a man teaches uprightly but walks crookedly,
more will fall down in the night of his life than in
the day of his doctrine."
Success is a desire to please God more than wanting the praises of man.

Teaching with Style

- Reasons for losing attention
 - i Monotone Voice
 - ii Lack of motivation
 - iii Too predictable
 - iv No enthusiasm
- Ways to keep attention
 - i Eye contact
 - ii Participation (Get your listeners involved)
- Style is how you get 'the what' to 'the who', it's the process of delivering
 - i It has more to do with eliminating boredom than anything else.
 - ii The speakers role is to extend himself beyond himself to others.
- A way to lose people is to do it the way things have always been done
- Be unique
- Give examples from the Scriptures
- Use your own experience

Special Techniques and Keys to Communication

- The mind is a wonderful thing that starts the minute we're born and stops the minute you step up and speak in public. (You “freeze” all together!)
- What can we do on the external that can help us with presentation?
 - Voice
 - Volume - We can control it with softness and loudness-pause
 - Pitch - high and low
 - Rate - Fast and slow
 - Eyes - Make eye contact
 - Face - Proverbs 15:13,30 – “ A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance – the light of the eyes rejoices the heart”
 - Gestures
 - Posture - Tells us a lot about a person -- too stiff, too relaxed
 - Appearance - Should always be one notch above the audience

Whatever you do, always depend on the Holy Spirit

Sermon Classifications

Topical

A topical sermon takes only a topic or subject from the text and then expands on that topic.

Textual (Analytical)

A textual sermon takes the subject and main divisions from the text

For example:

1 Tim. 4:12 “Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity”

- I. An example in Word
- II. An example in conduct
- III. An example in love
- IV. An example in faith
- V. An example in purity

Advantages

- It is more scriptural in design than topical sermons
- It permits great variety in construction and selection
- In most cases it will be remembered longer than a topical sermon because the hearer can follow along in his Bible
- A single passage will give the principle points to meet the needs of the people.
- It helps a lot when you are preaching about moral issues because a text carries more authority when preaching a specific truth.
- It also helps when preaching on a specific doctrinal truth.

Expository

- An expository sermon takes a subject, main divisions and sub-divisions from the text
- It is usually based on a longer passage than the topical or textual sermon
- Often the text is a whole paragraph, whole chapter or even a whole book of the Bible
- It is an exposition of the given passage and that only

Example: Temptation James 1:12-15

- The origin of temptation (v. 13,14)
- Not from God (v. 13)
- From inward desire (v. 14)
- The results from yielding to temptation (v. 15)
- The reward of enduring temptation (v. 12)

Usages

When preaching a series

When preaching on a book of the Bible

HOW TO ORGANIZE A SERMON

- Just as paints, an easel and brushes do not make a painting. Facts, illustrations, proofs and application do not make a sermon
- The difference between materials and the finished product is **organization**
 - Not all preachers preach organized sermons; either because organization is not important to them or because the methods of organization are not known to them

Advantages of organization in a sermon

Organization helps the delivery

- i It is easier to remember sermon thoughts if they are arranged logically
- ii It is easier to keep the whole body of material in mind if it has a plan

Organization helps a sermon to be more easily understood

- i Sensational stories, humor nor good illustrations make up for a poorly planned sermon
- ii One of the best ways to determine if you really understand a subject is to attempt to organize it

Organization helps a sermon to be more easily remembered

A sermon has permanent value only if it can be remembered. If you recall a sermon that meant a lot to you, you will probably recall its design and purpose.

Organization increases the effectiveness of the sermon

The Holy Spirit is the greatest power in the effectiveness of a sermon.

A sermon needs to be prayed over and committed to God.

But the person creating and giving the sermon also has a part in its effectiveness, and that person should make his part as effective as possible. Organization does this.

Climax of any Sermon

- The climax is the final, most important point of the sermon
- A sermon can have progress without a goal or climax being reached
- A good sermon must be like an arrow not shot into the air but at a target.
- Climax is achieved in the construction and the delivery of the sermon.

Preparation for a Sermon

When choosing a text, make sure that it is in context.

Give a clear theme.

Don't let it be too long (if your sermon is not a blessing let the length be a blessing!)

Conclusion

Don't introduce a new idea in the conclusion.

Let your sermon make an appeal to the needs of the people.

I challenge you: “Be a good and strong preacher.”

Other books by the author:

- **Discover Yourself**
- **Back to Acts**
- **Manna from Heaven**
- **Spiritual Warfare**
- **Truth that will set you free**