

THE PREACHER **(The Communicator)**

The purpose of this study is to examine how we can confidently stand before an audience and communicate our message successfully.

Public speaking is not natural for all people, but is an essential skill for Christians.

As a communicator we will learn the value of preparation and the skills of presentation.

NOTHING JUST HAPPENS

At the conclusion of the study you see that, with practice, your public communication skills can grow to become a very rewarding and fulfilling experience for both you and your audience.

THE PREACHER / COMMUNICATOR

As children of God, and Ministers of the Word of God, it is fundamental that we learn the basic skills of communication.

Our work is to speak.

Note the following scriptures: 2 Cor 5: 18-19, Is 55:11, Is 51:16, Jer 1:9, Rom 10:8 “*The Word of God in our Heart and in our Mouth*”

Comments: 1. “ effective communication is 20% what we know and 80% how we feel about what we know”

2. “ Good communication is not about slick sentences and clever words- simple and clean go a long way”

3. “Communication is a skill that can be learned”

4. “The single biggest problem with communication is the illusion that it has happened”

5. “ to be an effective communicator is crucial to any leader’s success”

(A) PREPARATION IS EVERYTHING

To be successful in any endeavour we must prepare well. How much more for the minister of God? No success can ever be experienced without adequate preparation for the particular activity we are engaged in. Success is directly related to preparation.

PART ONE – DAILY PERSONAL LIFE PREPARATION

Proverbs 16:1 “Preparation is in the heart of man ...”

2 Cor 4:7 treasure in earthen vessels Excellency ..”

What preparation, what excellency? “ the Word of God”

We must fill our lives with the Word of God, this is the resource God will use to minister.

Romans 8:14 “.....led by spirit are the sons of God” (led by the Word)

2 Timothy 4:2 “.....Preach the Word, be instant in season and out... “

It is essential that we are always in a state of spiritual preparedness.

2 Timothy 2:15 “Study to show thyself approved unto God”

Matthew 6:33 “...seek first ...”

Gal 5:25 “Walking in the spirit..” “Led by the spirit”

Walking in God , in the Word of God

Word of God is:

- Healer
- Deliverer
- Saviour
- Inspirer

Therefore: **PREACH THE WORD**

- We cannot minister the gospel unless we study the Word of God

- Our daily reading of the Word of God is fundamental to our preparation
- Reading it and studying it, rightly dividing the Word
- The standard you set yourself is as high as you will go

We are NOT MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKERS

“Incorruptible seed” 1 Peter 1:23-25

“My ways are not your ways” Isaiah 55:8-11

As we prepare ourselves God can quicken to us the things that He wants to say. God cannot draw out what’s not there. We are only as effective as our preparation enables us to be .

Daniel 11:32	“..know God.. do exploits”
Matthew 3:3	“Prepare ye the way of the Lord.”
1 Chronicles 15:1	“David prepared place for the Ark”
Isaiah 10:27	“anointing breaks the yoke”
Zech 4:6	“ not by might or power ..”

If we want the anointing and the presence of God we need to prepare a place for the Ark. Pure vessels bring pure Word.

The maturity of the ministry will only be as the maturity of the vessel.

1 Pet 4:11 “.... Oracles of God.....”

PART TWO : TASK – SPECIFIC PREPARATION

- Prayerfully consider the specific task;

Goal – What to accomplish?

Aims and purpose of meeting ?

- Everything we do we need to prepare
- We need to know what we want to achieve and then plan the strategy
- Every meeting has a purpose Nothing left to doubt
- Every encounter with people should accomplish something
- Inspiration comes out of preparation
- Personal satisfaction and fulfilment comes out of preparation (fruitfulness)
- Excitement and vitality comes out of preparation (confidence)

PART THREE : PRACTICAL PREPARATION

A FIRST I NEED A TOPIC

- Either given
- Or believed (not what others believe). “Lord, what is it you want to share?” “ I being in the way, the Lord led me”

B THEN I SEARCH MY OWN HEART

- What's my understanding of this topic ?
- What's the Lord saying?
- What scriptures are in your heart?
- What revelation do you already have ?

C DO SOME FURTHER RESEARCH FROM THE BIBLE

Concordance/Bible Dictionary

- Search for balanced truth and scriptures (in context) – Heart of God from scripture.

D OTHER RESOURCE

- Books, tapes
- Other preachers Be careful – must add to your revelation
- Commentaries Must be compliant to God's word

E THEN COMPILE ALL NOTES AND THOUGHTS

- From resources
- Put in order

F THEN PREACH YOUR MESSAGE THROUGH

- Confirm everything is in order and make adjustments if necessary.
- Opportunity for God to add more inspiration

Now everything comes from the abundance of the heart! (In the time available)

G PREPARE A STRONG INTRO AND ALTAR/CONCLUSION

In summary:

Out of preparation everything else comes. God can only withdraw out of your life what you've put in, therefore we must be stewards of the Word of God and of our relationship with Him. Then we have the vitality, the confidence, and the joy of successfully completing our tasks.

Exercise : Read 1 Tim , 2 Tim and Titus and bring 1 minute message.

We are looking for : **Introduction/ greeting**

Clear Scripture reading

1 minute message from scripture

Conclusion

Good voice (Must be clear pronunciation and volume)

Good eye contact. (Must communicate eye to eye with audience)

PART FOUR : NATURAL PREPARATION

- What is the occasion? Church, cell group youth etc ??
- Who is there? Children ,elderly, youth etc ??
- What to wear? Casual, tie, jacket etc ??
- What time/place?
- What are the expectations? Alter call , preaching, teaching etc ???

Important to ensure practical questions are covered. All the preparation in the world is pointless if we are late, or go to the wrong venue etc.

It's the obvious things we sometimes overlook.

Exercise : During your Bible daily reading, receive the Lord's message / teaching and share it with the class for 1 minute. Each day of the school be available to share the message the Lord is giving you. We are learning to hear from the Lord as He teaches us from His Word. And we are learning to communicate to others in a clear manner.

(B) PRESENTATION

PRACTICE –PRACTICE--PRACTICE

In any presentation there are three aspects:

- 1 Introduction/gathering – capture their attention, strong, concise & deliberate
- 2 Body (your prepared presentation – methods differ)
- 3 Conclusion

The importance of OPENING & CLOSING.

Someone said “by their entrances and their exits ye shall know them.”

1st Impression & last impression.

OPENING

- Keep it short
- Keep it concise
- Capture the people’s attention
- Keep it simple
- Rehearse

Not: *“Well, I don’t know why they asked me to do this but...”*

CLOSING

- Embraces what you’ve just said
- Clearly and precisely conclude the matter

People need to know where they are being taken.

People need to know they’ve been taken there.

And they need to know what’s required of them (what’s the point).

Must be planned

- Can be illustration
- Can be humorous
- Must challenge (could be altar call)

Not: *“Well, that’s about all I have to say so”*

“I tell them what I’m going to tell them, tell them, and then I tell them what I’ve told them”

TIPS: Having done all the preparation work!

- 1 Remember that you are just learning – we must accept that there will be failures. Don’t set yourself too high expectations early.
- 2 Nervousness is perfectly normal - nervousness is only overcome by doing it more.
- 3 Don’t worry if you are disappointed – don’t take life too seriously. Remember you are learning.

- 4 Be enthusiastic - it's contagious (real, not put on).
- 5 Get involved in presentation –
 - Tone of voice
 - Gesture
 - Body Language
 - Release in presentation
- 6 Don't talk down to audience (servants to audience)
- 7 Don't take yourself too seriously (message yes, audience yes, yourself – no) Attitude of vessel – God's audience, God's message, God's vessel.
- 8 Don't put on airs – pompous etc
- 9 Audience acceptance – must capture audience (credibility)
 - How we look (appropriate dress)
 - What we do (mannerisms)
 - What we say (content)
 - How we say it (presentation)
 - Avoid irritating words habits; um, and/um, err etc
 - Avoid repetition of words; right?, you know?, ay etc
 - Also adjectives; excited, tremendous, awesome etc
 - Mispronunciation of words; yep, yuz, mondee, etcIf you have trouble with pronouncing words, get it right or drop it.
- 10 Listen to recording of your message and critique it (better you critique than others)
- 11 Come slowly but deliberately to the podium
- 12 Do not rush in (speech – all over in a flash)
- 13 Dress as well as best dressed person
- 14 Don't wear distracting apparel
- 15 Look at audience
- 16 Stand tall – positive
- 17 Watch annoying mannerisms:
 - Speech
 - Dress – appropriate, clean
 - Get microphone right
 - Not hands in pockets
 - Look at audience
 - Don't fiddle – pens, change in pocket etc

- Don't rock backwards and forwards
- Distracting habits; tie fiddle, handkerchief fiddle, glasses on and off, hair, nose, ear button/unbutton etc
- Get out from behind the pulpit and connect with people

Not a performance, not competition, nothing to prove

Critique yourself

Don't take yourself too seriously – enjoy

Learn from your mistakes

Practice at home

Pray without ceasing

Just share your heart

Additional Practice :

Pulpit manner

Microphone use

Use of notes

Working with interpreter

Alter call