

LEADERSHIP

3

THIS COURSE IS DESIGNED TO HELP THE STUDENT IMPROVE THEIR PREACHING SKILLS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THEIR OWN CULTURE AND TO HELP THEM BECOME BETTER COMMUNICATORS OF THE GOSPEL.

HOMILETICS

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SERVANT LEADERS

MENTOR GUIDE



Servant Leaders RESOURCE

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HOMILETICS

Description:

This course is designed to help the student improve their preaching skills within the framework of their own culture and to help them become better communicators of the Gospel.

Objectives: Upon completion of this course, the student should be able to...

- Define what is meant by expository preaching.
- Explain each part of the definition and clarify how crucial each part is to the aspect of preaching.
- To understand the importance of ONE main idea for each given passage of Scripture.
- To be able to identify the two parts of the main idea
- To be able to identify the main idea of any given passage of Scripture.
- Explain the value of stating the purpose of the sermon.
- Develop a meaningful outline that will be easy for the congregation to follow.
- To help the preacher determine what kind of congregation he is preaching to.
- To identify supporting materials that will help make the sermon meaningful and practical.
- Help the preacher understand the meaning of an introduction.
- Explain the functions of an introduction.
- To learn the purpose of a conclusion.
- To learn the three characteristics of a conclusion.
- To learn different ways in which to conclude a sermon.
- To understand why physical appearance is important.
- To understand what can be done with physical appearance that will enhance the message.

Learning Inputs:

1. Attendance of course lectures
2. Completion of assigned reading

Outcome Activities:

1. Complete Homework Assignments
2. Complete Final Project



LESSON 1

THE DEFINITION OF EXPOSITORY PREACHING

OVERVIEW

The Apostle Paul tells Timothy to, "Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction" (II Timothy 4:2). Our assignment as pastors is not to entertain others or preach some political agenda. Our assignment from God is to preach the Word of God with authority. The type of preaching that best fulfills this assignment is expository preaching. This lesson will begin the process of sermon development by defining what it means by expository preaching.

I. DEFINITION OF EXPOSITORY PREACHING

A. Haddon Robinson states that, "Expository preaching is the communication of a biblical idea, resulting from the study of a passage in its context, which the Holy Spirit first applies to the preacher, then through the preacher, applies to the hearers.

II. EXPLANATION OF EACH PART OF THE DEFINITION OF EXPOSITORY PREACHING

A. The passage governs the sermon

- i. The sermon is NOT a collection of my ideas.
- ii. The sermon is derived from going to the Scriptures and allowing the Scriptures to speak for themselves.

B. The expositor communicates a Concept

- i. As communicators of God's word we must be concerned not only what the individual words mean but what the biblical writers meant through their use of words.
- ii. The concept is what God uses to change lives.

C. The concept comes from the text

- i. As communicators, it is essential that we communicate God's Word and not our own ideas.
- ii. As communicators, we must first go to the text and allow the text to speak to us and not go to the text looking for support of our own ideas.
- iii. It is important to read and reread the passage, praying that the Holy Spirit will show us what truths He wants to be preached to our hearers.



D. The concept is applied to the preacher

- i. The concept must minister to the heart of the preacher first in order to minister to the hearts of the congregation.
- ii. Seven steps must be followed for the concept to move from the head of the preacher to his heart.
 1. Wait –A few moments before studying the text, sense the presence of God, seek His purpose, and see His power preparing the heart for study.
 2. Read –Reverently open the Bible and read the text in its entirety several times.
 3. Think –Reflecting on the passage is of great value. Ask the following questions:
 - a. Is there a promise to claim?
 - b. Is there a lesson to learn?
 - c. Is there a blessing to enjoy?
 - d. Is there a command to obey?
 - e. Is there a sin to avoid?
 - f. Is there a new revelation of God in Christ or the Holy Spirit?
 - g. Is there a new thought about the devil?
 4. Write –Record briefly the thoughts gleaned for personal and practical application.
 5. Pray –Praying back the text to God will help adjust the preacher's will to the will God.
 6. Share –Sharing thoughts with others help formulate ideas that can be presented in a sermon so that the congregation can understand.
 7. Obey –Many times when the preacher is studying a text he will discover a truth that he needs to obey. Blessings always follow obedience.

E. The concept is applied to the congregation

- i. Every person in the congregation asks, “so what?” and “what difference does it make?”
- ii. As preachers, it is important to translate the message of God's Word to the congregation's every day life.
- iii. Questions that the preacher can ask himself that will help to apply the idea of the text to his congregation.
 1. How do the characters in the text relate to one another?
 2. How are they related to God?
 3. What values lie behind the choices they made?
 4. What went on in the minds of those who were involved?
 5. How can we today relate to the world of the biblical writer?
 6. Are the issues the same or similar?



REVIEW

1. It is important to allow the passage to govern the sermon
2. It is important to communicate a concept and not just words of the text
3. It is important to receive the concept from the text
4. It is important that the concept is first applied to the preacher himself
5. It is important that the concept is then applied to the congregation

ASSIGNMENT

Read carefully James 1:1-8. Practice the following steps:

1. Read the text carefully at least seven times.
2. Practice the steps in II. d. (The concept is applied to the preacher)

SCRIPTURE FOR REFLECTION

“But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does” (James 1:22-25 NASV).



LESSON 2

DEVELOPING THE MAIN IDEA

OVERVIEW

A major part of Haddon Robinson's definition of expository preaching is: "expository preaching is the communication of a biblical concept."⁴ A sermon should not present many small, unrelated ideas, but a single idea supported by other ideas, all from a main passage. The purpose of this lesson is to understand how to identify the main idea of a given passage of Scripture.

I. THE IMPORTANCE OF ONE MAIN IDEA FOR EACH GIVEN PASSAGE

- A. One common practice of the biblical writers was to preach a single idea directed at a particular audience in order to receive a specific response.
- B. Most congregations today cannot and will not remember a sermon that has many minor points. However, they will remember a sermon which has been developed around one major point.

II. THE TWO PARTS OF THE MAIN IDEA

A. The question

(There are only six questions that a passage of Scripture will ask)

- i. Who –Some passages center around a person and their actions.
- ii. What –Some passages center on an event that has or is taking place. Some passages center on an object or action that has taken place.
- iii. Where –Some passages center on a place that an event has happened.
- iv. Why –Some passages center on a reason for certain actions that have taken place.
- v. When –Some passages center on a time that something has or will happen. Some passages center on a time that someone did or will do something.
- vi. How –Some passages center on an explanation for certain actions that have taken place.

B. The answer

- i. A question cannot stand alone. It needs an answer.
- ii. The answer responds to the question, "What am I saying about what I am talking about?"



III. AN EXERCISE THAT WILL HELP IDENTIFY THE MAIN IDEA OF A GIVEN PASSAGE OF SCRIPTURE

A. James 1:5-8 will serve as a good example of discovering the main idea.

“But if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all generously and without reproach, and it will be given to him. But he must ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind. For that man ought not to expect that he will receive anything from the Lord, being a doubt-minded man, unstable in all his ways.” (NASB)

B. Which of the six questions does James answer in this passage?

This passage is a “how” passage. He answers the question, “How to obtain wisdom in the middle of trials?”

C. What is the answer or answers to the question, “How to obtain wisdom?”

The answer is, “Ask God for it in faith.”

D. By placing the answer with the question, we form a sentence that becomes the main idea of the text.

The main idea of the text is, “Wisdom in trials is obtained by asking God for it in faith.”

REVIEW

1. Each passage of Scripture has only one “main idea.”
2. Each “main idea” is made up of two parts. The question and the answer.
3. The question and the answer go together to form a sentence that is the “main idea.”

ASSIGNMENT

The following is an exercise that will help the expositor in forming questions and answers.



Determine the question and answer in the following statements:

1. A good sermon leaves you wondering how the preacher knew all about you.

Question: ***What is the text of a good sermon?***

Answer: ***It reveals what you are.***

2. "Trust in the LORD with all your heart and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight." (Prov. 3:5,6 NASV)

Question: ***How can I know that I am going in the right direction?***

Answer: ***By trusting in the Lord and not myself.***

3. "There is a way which seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death." (Prov. 14:12 NASV)

Question: ***What way leads to death?***

Answer: ***Ways that may seem right to man.***

4. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." (John 3:16 NASV)

Question: ***How can I have eternal life?***

Answer: ***By believing in the Only Begotten Son.***

5. "Jesus said to him, I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me." (John 14:6 NASV)

Question: ***How can I come to the Father?***

Answer: ***Through Jesus Christ.***

6. "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 7:21)

Question: ***Who enters the kingdom of heaven?***

Answer: ***Those who do the will of the Father.***



7. "Remember your Creator in the days of your youth before the days of trouble come and the years approach when you say, 'I find no pleasure in them.'" (Ecclesiastes 12:1)

Question: **When should you think about God?**

Answer: **While you are still young.**

8. "Do not speak harshly to a man older than yourself, but advise him as you would your own father; treat the younger men as brothers and older women as you would your mother. Always treat younger women with propriety, as if they were your sisters." (1 Timothy 5:1-3)

Question: **How should we relate to others as we minister to them?**

Answer: **Treat them as you would members of your own family.**

9. "For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast." (Ephesians 2:8, 9 NASV)

Question: **How can a person become saved?**

Answer: **By faith and not by self.**

10. "Blessed is the person whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the person whose sin the Lord does not count against him And in whose spirit is not deceit." (Psalm 32:1-2)

Question: **Who is a blessed person?**

Answer: **The honest individual whose sin the Lord has forgiven.**

SCRIPTURE FOR REFLECTION

"Now you, son of man, listen to what I am speaking to you; do not be rebellious like that rebellious house. Open your mouth and eat what I am giving you." Then I looked, and behold, a hand was extended to me; and lo, a scroll was in it. When He spread it out before me, it was written on the front and back, and written on it were lamentations, mourning and woe. Then He said to me, "Son of man, eat what you find; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel." So I opened my mouth, and He fed me this scroll. He said to me, "Son of man, feed your stomach and fill your body with this scroll which I am giving you." Then I ate it, and it was sweet as honey in my mouth. Then he said to me, "Son of man, go to the house of Israel and speak with My words to them." (Ezekiel 2:8-3:4 NASV)



LESSON 3

DEVELOPING THE PATH OF THE SERMON

OVERVIEW

The focus of this lesson will now center on the congregation. No sermon is affective unless the congregation understands and can apply it to themselves. To make the sermon meaningful, we will develop the purpose of the sermon followed by an outline that the congregation will be able to follow.

I. THE PURPOSE OF THE SERMON

- A. Sermons are meant to change lives and if the sermon has no practical purpose it accomplishes little.
- B. The purpose of the sermon is what you expect to happen in the hearts of the congregation after the sermon is preached.
- C. The “main idea” states the truth of the text in modern terms and the “purpose” states what that truth is to accomplish.

II. THE OUTLINE OF THE SERMON

- A. The purpose of the outline is to organize thoughts that the congregation can follow.
 - i. The outline clarifies the relationships between the different parts of the sermon.
 - ii. The outline places in order the parts of the sermon so that the congregation can follow.
 - iii. The outline helps to recognize the required additional supporting materials that must be used to develop the points of the sermon.
- B. The parts of the outline
 - i. Introduction –This is at the beginning of the sermon where the main idea is introduced. This will be discussed at length in lesson five.
 - ii. Body –This is the main content of the sermon.
 - iii. Conclusion –This is at the end of the sermon and is where the main applications are to be made. This will be discussed at length in lesson six.



C. Example outline of James 1:1-8

- i. The "main idea" is, "Wisdom in trials is obtained by asking God for it in faith."
- ii. The purpose of the sermons may be, "Encouragement for the congregation knowing that when they go through trials they can ask God in faith for wisdom."
- iii. The Outline
 1. Introduction
 - An illustration of a Burmese family trying to care for their elderly parents and not having enough food or housing to meet the need.
 2. Body
 - a. Trials work for our good
 - i. They produce endurance
 - ii. They produce more Christ-likeness.
 - b. God gives wisdom to those who ask
 - i. God gives generously.
 - ii. We must ask in faith that does not doubt.
 3. Conclusion
 - A further illustration of the family in the introduction and how they were able to discover how to produce more rice on their land as well as find more bamboo in order to add on to their existing house.

REVIEW

1. The purpose of the sermon is to change lives.
2. The "main idea" states the truth of the sermon.
3. The purpose of the outline is to organize thoughts.
4. The parts of the outline are: introduction, body, and conclusion.

ASSIGNMENT

Read James 1:1-8 again. Write your own purpose statement as well as an outline that your congregation could easily follow.



SCRIPTURE FOR REFLECTION

"I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: preach the Word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires, and will turn away their ears from the truth and will turn aside to myths."
(II Timothy 4: 1-4 NASV)



LESSON 4

MAKING THE SERMON MEANINGFUL TO YOUR CONGREGATION

OVERVIEW

In order for a sermon to become meaningful it has to come to life. This lesson helps the preacher bring the sermon from the skeleton of the outline to a living sermon that has flesh and personality.

I. EVALUATING THE CONGREGATION

- The following questions will help determine what kind of audience the preacher will have.
 - A. How old is the congregation?
 - Is the congregation primarily young, middle age, or old people?
 - B. How mature is the congregation?
 - Is the congregation primarily young or mature Christians?
 - C. Do they understand the text and what the biblical author is generally saying?
 - Is the congregation familiar with the passage or not?
 - D. Are they interested in spiritual things or are they in the audience for other reasons?
 - Some people come to hear the Word of God while others come to be with their friends.

II. SUPPORTING MATERIALS

- A. The need for supporting materials
 - i. It creates greater interest in the subject.
 - ii. It helps to explain the points of the sermon.
 - iii. It helps make the subject meaningful.
 - iv. It helps the congregation to remember the points of the sermon.
- B. Kinds of supporting materials
 - i. Illustrations are the most used form of supporting materials.
 - 1. Illustrations make the truth clear.
 - 2. Illustrations make the truth believable.
 - 3. Illustrations apply ideas to people's daily lives.
 - 4. Illustrations help to remember points of the sermon.



ii. Types of illustrations that are most effective.

1. The most effective illustrations are those where the preacher's personal experience and the congregation's personal experience is the same.
 - Building a bamboo house
2. The second most effective illustrations are those that have been learned by the preacher but are experienced by the congregation.
 - visiting a Buddhist temple
3. The third most effective illustrations are those that have been experienced by the preacher but have been learned by the congregation.
 - Flying an airplane
4. The fourth most effective illustrations are those that have been both learned by the preacher and congregation.
 - Walking on the moon

REVIEW

1. Supporting materials are important in bring life to a sermon.
2. The best supporting materials come from a variety of personal experiences.

ASSIGNMENT

Select a personal illustration that fits into each of the descriptions under the topic, "Types of illustrations that are most effective."

SCRIPTURE FOR REFLECTION

"For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart." (Hebrews 4:12 NASB)



LESSON 5

INTRODUCTIONS

OVERVIEW

Introductions are a very important part of the sermon. Without a good introduction, the congregation will very seldom participate in the sermon as an attentive listener. This lesson will help the preacher develop effective introductions by understanding its meaning and characteristics.

I. DEFINITION OF AN INTRODUCTION

- An introduction introduces the congregation to the sermon idea and its development.

II. THREE FUNCTIONS OF AN INTRODUCTION

A. An introduction gets attention.

i. Why is it important to get attention?

1. People come to church with many different thoughts on their minds. They may be thinking about their jobs, or what they are going to cook after church. They may be thinking about going to the house church in the afternoon and what will be served there. They may be thinking about school or how they are going to care for their elderly parents in such a small house and income.

2. People need to care before they will listen.

ii. How does an introduction "get attention" for the idea?

1. It demonstrates that the idea is important

2. It demonstrates that the idea is practical

3. It is important to pay close attention to the first few sentences of the introduction

iii. Illustration of an introduction for James 1:1-8

- Zin Wa has been providing food and shelter for thirty-four orphans for the past six years.

Many of these children's parents have either died or have abandoned their children.

B. An introduction generates interest in the idea.

i. Why is it important to generate interest in the idea?

1. Interest "holds" their attention for the duration of the sermon.



2. Interest is essential to call for life-change.
- ii. How does an introduction generate interest in the idea?
 1. It must create a need that is relevant to the listener.
 2. It must be a need that *this* sermon idea clearly addresses.
 3. There are five levels of human need that can be used in an effective introduction.
 - a. The highest level is call "self-actualization."
 - People want to help and be involved.
 - b. The next level is called "love/acceptance."
 - People want to be needed.
 - c. The next level is called "esteem."
 - People want to feel good about themselves.
 - d. The next level is called "job security/safety."
 - People want job security, safe marriages, freedom.
- Lowest level is called "physiological."
 - People want to know they have shelter and food.

iii. Further illustration of James 1:1-8

- Zin Wa has been providing food and shelter for thirty-four orphans for the past six years. Many of these children's parents have either died or have abandoned their children.
- However, over the years Zin Wa has noticed that the girls in the orphanage have no hope of an education. Zin Wa wants to provide an education for these girls but needs help.**

C. An introduction moves the congregation into the idea of the text.

i. Why is it important to move into the text?

1. The congregation must see that this text addresses their needs.
2. The authority to address this need is found in the text, not the preacher.

ii. How does an introduction move logically into the text?

- Zin Wa has been providing food and shelter for thirty-four orphans for the past six years. Many of these children's parents have either died or have abandoned their children. However, over the years Zin Wa has noticed that the girls in the orphanage have no hope of an education. Zin Wa wants to provide an education for these girls but needs help. **Zin Wa knows that she could provide for the education for awhile. The problem is what would happen if she were to die? Why has God placed this burden and responsibility on her shoulders? How will she know what is the best way to provide for these girls? Our text gives the answer.**



REVIEW

1. We have learned that an introduction introduces the biblical idea to the congregation.
2. We have learned the three functions of an introduction.
 - a. It gets attention.
 - b. It generates interest in the idea.
 - c. It moves the congregation into the idea of the text.

ASSIGNMENT

Write an introduction of James 1:1-8 using the three functions of an introduction.

SCRIPTURE FOR REFLECTION

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105 NASV)



LESSON 6

CONCLUSIONS

OVERVIEW

Conclusions are like landing an airplane. It is important to make a smooth and safe landing. Some pastors conclude their sermons abruptly. That is like an airplane falling from the sky. Some pastors continue to conclude their conclusions. That is like an airplane running off the runway. This lesson will teach the pastor how to make an effective, smooth conclusion that will be safe and have lasting results.

I. THE PURPOSE OF A CONCLUSION

- A. The purpose of a conclusion is to conclude.
- B. It should produce a feeling of finality.
- C. It is the place for the preacher to call for a response from his congregation.

II. THE THREE CHARACTERISTICS OF A CONCLUSION

- A. It reaches the hearts of the congregation.
 - The conclusion should touch their emotions and create concern.
- B. It reaches the will of the congregation.
 - The conclusion should motivate them to action.
- C. It reaches the mind of the congregation.
 - The conclusion should give them suggestions as to what they should do.

III. WAYS IN WHICH TO CONCLUDE A SERMON

- A. A summary
 - A summary is restating the main idea of the sermon.
- B. An illustration
 - An illustration is the most effective way to conclude a sermon. The preacher can either finished the illustration that he started in the introduction or tell a new story.



C. A quotation

- Sometimes a fitting quote from someone that everybody knows and respects will conclude a sermon well.

D. A prayer

- Sometimes the last point of the sermon summarizes will and a fitting prayer at the end becomes an appropriate conclusion.

E. An example conclusion

Zin Wa had no idea what to do for the girls that God had burdened her to help. So she began to pray and ask God for direction. Time went by and no answer from heaven. God seemed to be ignoring her. However, she never stopped praying for she knew in her heart that God was more concerned for these girls than her. One day as she was traveling from Rangoon to Mitchena she passed an orange grove. Then the idea came to her about starting an orange grove that would produce enough money to pay for the girl's education. The problem was, she had no idea how to grow oranges. Then, in God's timing, a man from America came to her town who was a Christian businessman and his business was growing oranges. Because Zin Wa waited for God's timing, He showed her His way of providing for the girls education. I am sure you have burdens that God has placed on your heart. I want to encourage you to wait and trust God for the wisdom to deal with your burdens as Zin Wa did.

REVIEW

1. The purpose of a conclusion is to conclude.
2. The characteristics of a good conclusion is to:
 - a. Reach the hearts of the congregation.
 - b. Reach the will of the congregation.
 - c. Reach the minds of the congregation.

ASSIGNMENT

Based on James 1:1-8 develop a conclusion that involves the three characteristics mentioned above.

SCRIPTURE FOR REFLECTION

"The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person. For God will bring every act to judgment, everything which is hidden, whether it is good or evil." (Ecclesiastes 12:13, 14 NASV)



LESSON 7

THE IMPORTANCE OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

OVERVIEW

The best sermons in the world will have little effect if the preacher does not present himself well to the congregation. In a famous study, psychologist Albert Mehravian offered this formula: "Only seven percent of a speaker's message comes through his words; thirty-eight percent springs from his voice; fifty-five percent comes from his facial expressions." This lesson will help the preacher discover what he can do to present himself well to his congregation.

I. THE IMPORTANCE OF PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

- A. Sermons are not only heard but are also seen.
- B. The word of God should be the center of every sermon. If the preacher's appearance draws attention to himself then he becomes the center of the sermon.
- C. The preacher is God's representative in the pulpit. Therefore, he must look and do his best to represent God properly.
- D. The congregation, because of the way the preacher greets people before the service or how he approaches the pulpit, have already made up their minds as to whether they will listen to him or not.

II. THINGS THAT THE PREACHER CAN DO THAT WILL MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE CONGREGATION

- A. The clothes we wear
 - i. Clothing supports the message. It is possible to over dress as well as under dress. It is important to dress for the occasion. What we wear should represent God well.
- B. The movements and gestures we make
 - i. The preacher's body is expressing a message as well as his voice.
 - ii. It is important that the body says the same things that the message says.
 - iii. Movements mean body motion such as: walking forward, backward, side to side.
 - iv. Gestures means what the preacher does with his hands such as: raising and waving them, point and pounding with them.
 - v. Movements and gestures help convey the message.



1. If the preacher is preaching a subject that is full of excitement he can enhance that excitement by movements he makes on the platform.
2. If the preacher is preaching a subject that has a progression of thought (such as before, during, and after) he can illustrate by moving from right to left on the platform.
3. If the preacher is describing a thought (such as going *down* to Egypt) he can enhance the image by pointing his hand downward.
4. If he is describing a thought (such as going *up* to heaven) he can enhance the image by pointing his hand upward.
5. Movements and gestures also help with stage fright. When the body moves freely the speaker will feel more confident and alert. The congregation easily recognizes this confidence and alertness.
6. Movements and gestures also help the congregation experience what the speaker is feeling as they identify with him.

C. Eye contact

- i. The way we look at people conveys a message.
- ii. Christ conveyed an impressionable message to Peter after the rooster crowed in Luke 22:61.
- iii. Eye contact helps the preacher understand whether the congregation understands what he saying or not. If they do not understand they will have a puzzled look on their face. If they do understand they will show signs on their faces such as nodding or smiling.
- iv. When the eye of the preacher meets the eye of an enthused listener it encourages the preacher to keep pressing the point home.
- v. Eye contact also conveys the message that the preachers wants to speak to them. The opposite is also true. The preacher that makes no eye contact conveys the message that he does not want to speak to them.

D. The voice we use

- i. The voice helps the preacher convey ideas, feeling, and emphasis of thought.
- ii. The voice also conveys the preacher's health, confidence, and emotions.
- iii. Three things that must be kept in mind about the voice we use.
 1. The preacher must speak correctly.
 - He must not strain his voice by speaking too loudly or use too high of a pitch in his voice.



2. The preacher must speak fully.
 - Each preacher has a range of sound. He can raise his voice to a high pitch or lower his voice to a low pitch.
3. The preacher must speak attractively.
 - The congregation should find the preacher's voice interesting and pleasant.

III. A WORD ABOUT STAGE FRIGHT

- A. Signs of stage fright are: the knees become wobbly, the mouth becomes dry, the throat tightens, and the speaker forgets what he wants to say.
- B. Stage fright is not a spiritual problem but a preparation problem.
- C. The best way to cure stage fright is to be fully prepared.
- D. The best way to be fully prepared is to practice preaching in front of a mirror.
- E. A little stage fright is a good thing. It helps the preacher to stay alert and not become too relaxed.

REVIEW

1. Physical appearance is as important to the message as words.
2. Things that a preacher can do that will make an impact on his congregation:
 - a. The clothes that he wears.
 - b. The movements and gestures he makes.
 - c. The eye contact we have.
 - d. The voice we use.
3. Stage fright is not a spiritual problem but a preparation problem.

ASSIGNMENT

Preach the sermon on James 1:1-8 in front of a mirror at least five times. Pay close attention to movements, gestures, and eye contact.



SCRIPTURE FOR REFLECTION

"Having arrested Him, they led Him away and brought Him to the house of the high priest; but Peter was following at a distance. After they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and had sat down together, Peter was sitting among them. And a servant-girl, seeing him as he sat in the firelight and looking intently at him, said, 'This man was with Him too.' But he denied it, saying, 'Woman, I do not know Him.' A little later, another saw him and said, 'You are one of them too!' But Peter said, 'Man, I am not!' After about an hour had passed, another man began to insist, saying, 'Certainly this man also was with Him, for he is a Galilean too.' But Peter said, 'Man, I do not know what you are talking about.' Immediately, while he was still speaking, a rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked at Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how He had told him, 'Before a rooster crows today, you will deny Me three times,' And he went out and wept bitterly." (Luke 22:54-62 NASV)

