

H3 Sermon Prep Process

Understand Your Passage (Exegesis)

1. Pray (now and throughout)
2. Read, read, read your passage
3. Write down questions of your passage (now and throughout)
4. Read your passage in its context
 - a. Paragraph
 - b. Chapter
 - c. Book
 - d. Author
 - e. Testament
 - f. Bible
5. *Translate* your passage
6. Investigate relationships of the words to each other
 - a. Identify parts of speech
 - b. Identify function of each word in the sentence
 - c. Analyze verbs and verbals
 - d. Diagram the sentences
 - e. Block diagram the section
 - f. (tools for syntax and grammar: technical commentaries, Greek/Hebrew grammars, Bible study software, *Robertson, Nicholl*, English grammar textbooks)
 - g. Identify referents of pronouns
7. Investigate key words
 - a. Multiple uses in your passage
 - b. Other usages in near context
 - c. Other usages in your book
 - d. Other usages by same author
 - e. Other usages in Scripture
 - f. Extrabiblical usages
 - g. (tools: concordances, theological dictionaries, Bible study software, Bible dictionaries, *Robertson, Wuest, Nicholl*, commentaries.)
8. Read at least three other Bible versions of your passage – notice where they differ!
9. Investigate historical setting
 - a. Who was the original audience?
 - b. What was their life situation?
 - c. Author's/author's intent?
 - d. What applications would the original audience have been expected to make?
 - e. (tools: *Manners and Customs*, Study Bible notes, introductions to commentaries, OT/NT/Bible Introductions, Bible Dictionaries and Bible Encyclopedias)
10. Research biographical data (author and/or characters)
11. Cross-Reference (Theological/Biographical/Historical/Cultural/Grammatical)
12. Problem solving - for each exegetical "difficulty", list all possible views and the pros and cons of each.
13. Develop an exegetical proposition (write and rewrite!)
14. Develop an exegetical outline (write and rewrite!)
15. Problem solving - go back over any exegetical difficulties. refine your conclusions.

16. Compare others' outlines of your passages
17. Consult Commentaries
 - a. Broad (whole Bible commentaries and study Bibles)
 - b. Specific
 - c. Technical
 - d. Devotional
 - e. Homiletical
 - f. Sermons on your passage

Compose Your Sermon

1. "Exegete" your audience (yourself and your hearers).
2. Develop a homiletical proposition (write and re-write this!)
3. Develop a homiletical outline (write and rewrite this!)
4. Develop the content of your outline points
 - a. Prove it from the text
 - b. Illustrate it
 - c. Apply it (under each outline point, or in your conclusion)
5. Construct an introduction
6. Construct a conclusion
7. Develop transition statements between your intro, body, and conclusion, and between each outline point
8. Incorporate an effective and appropriate bridge to the Gospel

Deliver Your Sermon

1. Prayer (public, visible, corporate dependence!)
2. Scripture Reading (no human tranquilizers!)
3. Your tone should reflect the tone of the passage
4. Eye-contact
5. Verbal dynamics (speed and volume)
6. Repetition
7. Strategic Pauses
8. Gestures
9. Apparel (not distracting)