EVANGELISTIC PREACHING

STUDY GUIDE
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INTRODUCTION

Church history produces a fascinating gallery of preachers. I’m always amazed that God in His Sovereignty has always seen fit to use the preaching of the Gospel to impact society.

Writing to Timothy, Paul exhorts the young preacher to “preach the Word; be constant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, ……do the work of an evangelist.” 2 Timothy 4 : 1 – 5.

Preaching has been defined as “the communication of truth through human personality”. Evangelistic preaching is first of all a gift from God, but it also needs to be cultivated, developed and matured. Preaching for a verdict is the thrust of the evangelist. Pastoral expositions and lecturing certainly have their place in the Church, but there is a need for clear, cutting edge relevant preaching that is flexible enough to reach each generation and culture without compromising the essential content.

I have also included a section on “The Evangelistic Meeting” as there seems to be confusion between this and a Celebration service.

The big issue is relevancy to the target audience.

May there emerge a crop of dynamic preachers whose audiences will cry out in response to the message delivered “What must we do to be saved?” – Acts 2 : 37 and Acts 16 : 30.

If Elephants can be taught to Dance
If Seals can be taught to Perform
Then Preachers can be taught to Preach

1. THE PASSION (2 Corinthians 5:14)

2. THE PREPARATION

Samuel R Schutz of Gordon-Conwell Seminary says there are four groups of people to whom we must minister:

- ______________, who are unreceptive
- ______________, who are converted but backslidden
3. **THE PEOPLE**

No apology, no shame - preach the Word. Basic needs:

- __________
- __________
- __________
- __________
- __________
- __________
- __________

**Generation Gaps**

There are four distinct Generation Gaps:

- The __________ (1910 – 1946)
  - They survived two world wars and a depression
  - Have traditional values

- The __________ (1946 – 1964)
  - The largest generation – make up 30% of the population
  - Materialistic
  - Achievers

- The __________ (1965 – 1984)
  - “Generation X” – kids of the Boomers
  - Purposeless – from broken homes
  - Value the media, cyberspace, the body (how it looks and feels)

- The __________ (1985 onwards)
  - Second largest generation, being 29% of the population
  - The bridge to the 21st Century
4. **THE PURPOSE**
   - A declaration of _____________
   - The Call for a _____________

   "The communication of Truth through human personality so that listeners can make a clear response of the will"

   “Preach for a verdict — allow this to come through all the time.” (Moody)

5. **THE PITFALLS**

   “20% of New Testament is composed of the actual words of Christ. According to Ralph and Greg Lewis, the total recorded words of Jesus “would equal approximately ten thirty-minute sermons” (The Pastors Best Friend, James O Davis)

   ✓ ________________
   ✓ ________________ - no response
   ✓ ________________ - compromise
   ✓ ________________ - do not have to prove truth
   ✓ ________________ - gimmicks
   ✓ ________________ - terminology

6. **THE PRESENTATION**

   **Focus of Message**

   - Sermon moves towards _______________
   - Ask _______________ – Are you sure?
   - Give Statements of _______________
     “You can’t remain neutral!”
     Gospel demands decisions effecting the ___________. ___________ and ___________
   - Offer Statements of ______________
• Deal with barriers: __________, ________________.
   Etc.

Kinds of Evangelistic Sermons

➢ _________________
➢ _________________
➢ _________________
➢ _________________
➢ _________________ Study

Sermon must be:

✓ Simple
✓ A Clear Outline
✓ Illustrated - not overdone - to illustrate a point
✓ Progressive Thought
✓ Concise Conclusion - sting in the tail - decision

Questions in Minds of Listeners: (Design for Preachers – H Grady Davis)

i. What is he talking about?
ii. What is he saying about it?
iii. What does he mean?
iv. Is it true? Do I believe it?
v. So What?

Issues a Preacher needs to be aware of:

• ________________ Issues
• ________________ Issues
• ________________ issues

7. THE APPEAL

Purpose of Invitation

Not simply a neat wrap up. It is the __________, the ____________

A. ____________________________
   No neutrality. Not to decide is to decide not to.

B. ____________________________ following the preaching of the Gospel.
C. __________________________________________, one can look back to a day and date.

D. __________________________________________ i.e. Salvation, Restoration and Rededication.

Decision-Making Process, determined by:

➢ ___________ cues (55%) – mannerisms; gestures; head and facial expressions; platform deportment; eye contact; clothing. Project overall presence of Evangelist.

➢ ___________ cues (38%) – quality intonation, pauses and fillers. Voice projects the “landscapes” of sermon – volume, speed and tone. Pause – helps preacher and audience to catch up. Fillers (padding) – avoid at all cost.

➢ ___________ cues. Actual words of presentation account for 7% of presentation (average person responds by feelings then by facts), therefore, words should be chosen carefully for maximum impact. Caution: Words saying one thing but voice saying another causing confusion.

The Appeal must be:

- ___________ – Not general
- Not ___________
- Given with ___________
- ___________

8. THE PROOF

Responses:

________________________

________________________

________________________
Be Prepared:

- Salvation - Counsellors
- Restoration - Materials
- Re-dedication
THE DYNAMICS OF AN EVANGELISTIC SERVICE

1. THE PREPARATION
   a. TIMING:
      • ______________
      • ______________
      • ______________
      • ______________
      • ______________
   b. ORGANIZATION PROCESS:
      • ______________
      • ______________
      • ______________

   Goals to be set:
   Prayer
   Personal Contact
   Promotion
   Punctuality

2. THE PROGRAM

   It is **NOT** a Celebration, Conference or Congress.
   It must be: ______________
                  ______________
   All about ______________
   With a _______ of ______________

   Who are we trying to reach?

3. THE PRESENTATION (To be relaxed)

   • Professional without ______________
   • A __________ flow from beginning to end
   • Your ___________________ …
Who is he?  A Pastor/Evangelist
What does he need to know?

The Appeal is the moment of truth, faith and risk. It must be:

• __________________
• __________________
• __________________

4. PRESERVATION

• __________________ to follow up immediately
• Follow through
• The great follow up again – 30%, 60%, 100%

Additional Considerations

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Recommended Reading:
Preachers & Preaching by Martin Lloyd Jones