

UNIT 1 *PREACHING AND THE PREACHER*

Chapter 1 The Place of Preaching

Lessons

- 1.1 Relationship of Preaching
- 1.2 Importance of Preaching
- 1.3 Improper Use of Preaching

Chapter 2 The Purpose of Preaching

Lessons

- 2.1 The Presentation of Christ
- 2.2 The Goal of Preaching
- 2.3 The Social Impact of Preaching

Chapter 3 The Preparation of the Preacher

Lessons

- 3.1 The Preacher's Walk with God
- 3.2 The Preacher's Burden for Souls
- 3.3 The Preacher's Call to the Preaching Ministry

UNIT 2 *SERMON PREPARATION*

Chapter 4 The Preparation of the Sermon

Lessons

- 4.1 The Planning Stage
- 4.2 The Research Stage
- 4.3 The Reflection Stage

Chapter 5 The Material for the Sermons

Lessons

- 5.1 The Challenge
- 5.2 Faulty Solutions
- 5.3 An Ideal Solution

Chapter 6 The Aim of the Sermon

Lessons

- 6.1 Evangelistic Preaching
- 6.2 Doctrinal Preaching
- 6.3 Ethical Preaching
- 6.4 Apologetic Preaching

Chapter 7 The Illustration of the Sermon

Lessons

- 7.1 Purpose
- 7.2 Types
- 7.3 Sources
- 7.4 Use
- 7.5 Storage

UNIT 3 *SERMON CONSTRUCTION*

Chapter 8 The Outline

Lessons

- 8.1 Advantages
- 8.2 Principles
- 8.3 Dangers

Chapter 9 The Introduction

Lessons

- 9.1 The Purposes
- 9.2 The Method
- 9.3 The Principles

Chapter 10 The Conclusion

Lessons

- 10.1 The Purpose
- 10.2 The Methods
- 10.3 The Principles

Chapter 11 Sermon Delivery

Lessons

- 11.1 Speech
- 11.2 Gestures
- 11.3 Methods

UNIT 4 *SERMON TYPES*

Chapter 12 Topical Sermons

Lessons

- 12.1 Definition
- 12.2 Forms
- 12.3 Evaluation

Chapter 13 Textual Sermons

Lessons

- 13.1 Definition
- 13.2 Forms
- 13.3 Evaluation

Chapter 14 Expository Sermons

Lessons

- 14.1 Definition
- 14.2 Forms
- 14.3 Evaluation

INTRODUCTION

Preaching is the one subject that combines biblical and theological studies and applies them to the purpose of ministry—evangelization of the lost. It is through preaching that men, women, and children are brought to Christ and established in His Word. Preaching, therefore, must always remain at the center of our ministry focus.

In this course you will begin by studying the place and purpose of preaching in the church. You will discover examples of preaching in both history and Scripture. Then you will focus on preaching as it relates to you in your preaching ministry. You will also examine the call of God and how it affects the place that preaching will have in your ministry. In addition, you will note that not only is it important for the preacher to understand the tools and mechanics of preaching, but also for him or her to prepare him- or herself physically, mentally, and spiritually for this task. In these chapters, then, you will study the practical aspects of setting preaching goals. You will also learn how to schedule time for sermon organization and personal devotions as well as for rest and relaxation, for only as the ministers take care of themselves are they able to help others.

These chapters present a clear, step-by-step approach to sermon preparation. They will teach you how to research, categorize, outline, and deliver biblical messages. Since this course also focuses on the hearer—the people to whom you minister—it will help you to be sensitive to the needs of your congregation. So if you allow God to speak to you through these chapters, He will use you to preach well-planned, balanced, and relevant messages that will help the people to whom you minister grow in grace and be effective in Christian service.

The preaching ministry, though extremely rewarding, is not an easy task. It demands that you be the best you can be. It demands the best you can give. We pray that you will accept this challenge as you take part in fulfilling the Great Commission.

Course Objectives

At the conclusion of this course, you should be able to:

1. Justify the importance of preaching as it relates to other aspects of the ministry.
2. Define the purpose of preaching.
3. Establish clear goals in your preaching ministry.
4. Be more aware of your own sense of calling and its effect on the urgency of preaching.
5. Develop an effective weekly work schedule for sermon preparation.
6. Create a year's preaching calendar.
7. Analyze a passage of Scripture and determine the best structure or form for a particular sermon.

8. Distinguish between topical, textual, and expository sermons, and determine the appropriate use of each one.
9. Apply the principles of sermon preparation in building sermons.
10. Construct and preach sound biblical sermons.