

CHRIST-CENTERED EXPOSITORY PREACHING: THE WHAT, WHY & HOW

| Tony Merida |

| What makes a great preacher/teacher? |

1. Love for the _____ of Christ and the _____ of the Word
2. Love for _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. A _____
6. _____
7. _____ and _____
8. _____
9. The sovereign _____ of God

| Whats and Whys – Definitions, Distinctions, Motivations |

What is expository preaching?

- Expository preaching is Word-driven (or Word-saturated) preaching.
- It is taking the listeners for “a _____ in the text”
- It’s often associated with _____ by _____ preaching, but it’s not limited to this approach
 - Exposition isn’t a _____ of preaching/teaching. It’s about content and substance.
- The expositor exposes the meaning of the text
- Faithful exposition *explains* what God has said in His word, *declares* what God has done in His Son and *applies* the message to the heart
- _____ is not preaching

What is the difference between preaching and teaching?

Public Preaching versus Public Teaching

- Preaching involves _____
- Preaching involves _____
- Preaching involves _____

The New Testament uses as many as thirty-three different verbs to describe what we usually cover with the single word *preaching*.
- Sidney Greidanus

Why do exposition?

1. Exposition calls for attention to biblical _____
2. Exposition is good for both _____: believers and non-believers
3. Exposition gives _____ to the message
4. Exposition _____ Scripture
5. Exposition is _____, not man-centered
6. Exposition provides a wealth of _____ for preaching
7. Exposition _____ the person delivering the word
8. Exposition ensures the highest level of biblical _____ for the congregation
9. Exposition teaches people how to _____ the Bible on their own

What are the dangers of exposition?

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Why do Christ-centered exposition?

A Christ-centered understanding of Scripture should lead to Christ-centered exposition.

The entire Bible pivots on one weekend in Jerusalem about two thousand years ago.

– D.A. Carson

The proper way for disciples of the crucified and risen Jesus to read their Scriptures is messianically and missionally.

– Christopher J.H. Wright

Christ and His redemption are the great subject of the whole Bible.

– Jonathan Edwards

Sidney Greidanus defines Christ-centered preaching Christ as

... sermons which authentically integrate the message of the text with the climax of God's revelation in the person, work and/or teaching of Jesus Christ as revealed in the New Testament.

To see Christ formed in our people we should always emphasize in our exposition the unique person, work and/or teaching of the messiah

It ought to be the aim of every pastor to bring all members of his or her congregation to maturity in Christ. But they cannot mature if they do not know the Christ in the Bible, the Christ to whom the whole Bible, Old and New Testaments, give a unified and inspired testimony

– Graeme Goldsworthy

Four reasons why we should read the Scriptures Christocentrically

1. _____ clearly saw Himself as the fulfillment of the Old Testament writings (Jn 5:39, 46; Lk 4:20–21; 24:27, 44)
2. The _____ knew the Bible focused upon Jesus (Rom 1:1b–3; 16:25–27; 1 Cor 15:3–4; 2 Tim 3:15)
 - a. See sermons in Acts (2:14–34; 3:18–25; 8:26ff; 13; 17:2–3; 18:5; 26:22–23; 28:23)
 - b. This was how the Apostles *read* and *preached* the Bible
 - c. Clearly they followed Jesus' words about the message of the Bible
 - d. The Bible is a *Christian* book from Genesis to Revelation
 - e. The Bible is more than an inspired book of moral virtues; it is a book about salvation
 - f. Sadly, many people know Bible stories but do not know the story of the Bible
 - g. While some are minimalists rather than maximalists on the Christocentric emphasis scale, everyone should teach and apply Scripture in a redemptive manner
 - h. I am not advocating allegory or clever “Jesus jukes” (also called spiritualizing)
 - i. Like a good point guard, study the text up close in its historical context, but then use full-court vision to survey the entire biblical narrative, leading people to the Redeemer with inter-biblical themes and connections
3. The _____ and climactic nature of Scripture
 - a. Carson says there are about twenty great themes in Scripture
 - b. All of the embedded themes of salvation converge in Christ
 - c. Learn to recognize these themes and understand how they reach their apex in the Messiah; may you find your heart “strangely warmed” like the Emmaus disciples
4. The work of the _____
 - a. Consider the primary purpose of the Spirit
 - b. Jesus: “*He will testify about me*” (Jn 15:26), “*He will glorify me*” (Jn 16:14)
 - c. The primary role of the Spirit is to shine the _____ upon the Son of God
 - d. The nature of the Bible illustrates the Spirit's Christ-exalting work
 - e. On the day of Pentecost the Spirit is poured out, Peter exalts Jesus from the Scripture (Acts 2:14–36) and people are converted
 - f. The Spirit opens hearts of people to respond to Jesus in repentance and faith when the Scriptures are preached (Acts 16:14)

Implications

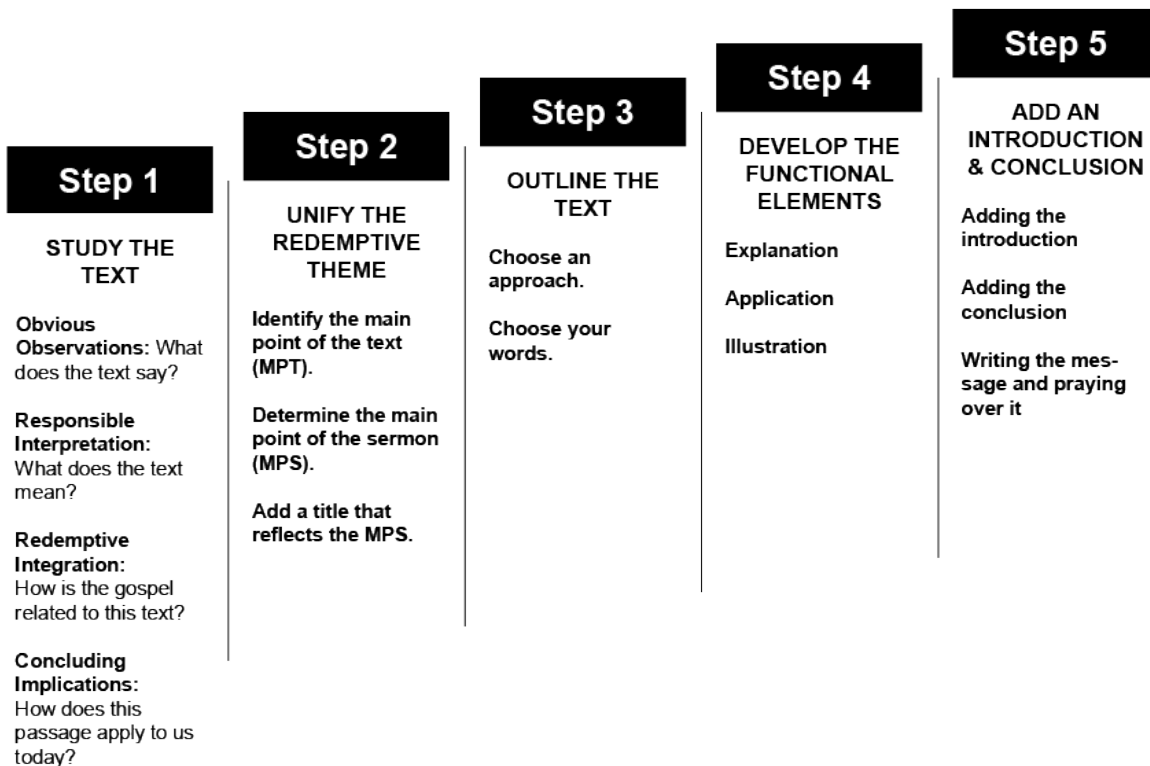
- Bryan Chapell: Use a _____ glass and a _____ lens
- No Jewish rabbi should be able to sit comfortably under our preaching from the Old Testament
- Expositors should work hard to find the redemptive connections in the text, making grace-filled applications of it
- Make the _____ of the Bible the _____ of every sermon
- You cannot preach a _____ – _____ sermon if the Life-Changer is not at the heart of the sermon
- Take them to the final resting place each week

If I have learned anything in 35 or 40 years of teaching, it is that students don't learn everything I teach them. What they learn is what I am excited about, the kinds of things I emphasize again and again and again and again. That had better be the gospel

– D.A. Carson

| How to prepare Christ-centered expository sermons |

Five steps of preparing an expositional message:



Classical Outline

Four challenges for young ministers (1 Timothy 4:11–16)

1. Exemplify your teaching personally (v. 12)
 - a. Explanation
 - b. Application
 - c. Illustration

2. Expose the Scriptures publicly (v. 13)
 - a. Explanation
 - b. Application
 - c. Illustration

3. Exercise your gift passionately (vv. 14–15)
 - a. Explanation
 - b. Application
 - c. Illustration

4. Examine your life and teaching persistently (v. 16)
 - a. Explanation
 - b. Application
 - c. Illustration

SERMON APPLICATION GRID

DATE	TEXT	SERMON TITLE	MAIN POINT OF SERMON																											
			MAIN POINT OF TEXT	UNIQUE HISTORICAL	JESUS' LIFE & WORK	INDIVIDUAL	GENDER & FAMILY	VOCATION	PUBLIC SPHERE	LOCAL CHURCH	UNITY & DIVERSITY	NON-CHRISTIANS	NEXT GENERATION	DOXOLOGICAL																
PREACHER																														

TEXTS AND POINTS