

What's the Big Idea

[This lecture corresponds to assigned Reading # 2: *Christ-centered Preaching*, pp. 43-57.]

For mid-term review:

Who or what alone has power to change hearts?

What aspect of preaching is most persuasive (ethos, pathos, or logos)? Define each.

Goal of this lesson: To understand the essential components of a well constructed sermon.

Introduction: Every sermon must have:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

I. Unity

Key Concept: How many things is a sermon about?

A. The Need for Sermonic Unity.

B. The Nature of Sermonic Unity: The Big Idea!

1. In Expository Preaching the meaning of the _____ is the _____ of the _____.
2. The meaning of the passage that becomes the message of the sermon is the _____ (or, the unifying concept) for the sermon.

Definition: In expository preaching, Unity occurs when the elements of a passage (or "expository unit") are legitimately shown to support a single major idea that is the theme of a sermon.

Robinson says the "Big Idea" of a sermon is a subject and its _____.

C. What is the Process by Which Unity is Obtained?

1. Read and digest the passage to determine:

a.

b.

2. Melt down the supporting ideas into . . .

D. The Mark of Success: "The _____ a.m. Test"

E. Unity Strives for . . .

◊ TMT/ITK/TMT/TMT

II. Purpose: the "Fallen Condition Focus"

A. Introducing the F. C. F.

I Tim. 3:16, 17 "All Scripture is inspired by God and is profitable for doctrine reproof correction and instruction in righteousness that the man of God may be perfect (artios=complete) thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

Our fallen nature requires Scripture's completion, and all Scripture has this purpose of completing us; thus, every passage has a Fallen Condition Focus.

Rm. 15:4 "Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope."

◊ Everything written in Scripture has the purpose of giving us hope in our fallen condition.

B. Implications of the F.C.F.

C. How to Determine the F.C.F.

3-Step Process: (Ask these things ...)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

D. Examples of the F. C. F.

E. The Import of the F.C.F.

III. Application: The "So What" of all preaching

A. The Need of Application

1. Biblical Instruction

- a. II Tim. 3:16f.
- b. Titus 2:1ff.
- c. The pattern of the Epistles:

2. Preaching Implications

B. Consequences of Non-application

1. A message is _____ until its ideas and components are applied to an F.C.F.

<u>Pre-sermon</u>	—>	Applied to an F.C.F. = SERMON
God is good		fear
loving		anger
kind		doubt
patient		wrong idea re. God

2. Pre-sermons Only _____ the Text; Sermons _____ the Text to an F.C.F.

Assignment for next class:

Reading #3: *Christ-centered Preaching*, pp. 58-81, scan pp. 363-371; and read J. I. Packer article (at end of notes for Lecture #3).