

Dress and Style

[This lecture corresponds to assigned Reading #19:
Christ-centered Preaching, pp. 338-343; and,
Ryle reading on "Simplicity in Preaching."]

For mid-term review:

What are three essential components of voice to consider when evaluating effectiveness of delivery?

What are three types of monotone?

What are the horns of the pulpit?

Where should hand gestures be made relative to the body?

Goal for this lesson: To understand how messages can be delivered with greater effectiveness by considering how the preacher can identify with his congregation in dress and delivery styles.

Introduction:

I Cor. 9:19-25

¹⁹ Though I am free and belong to no man, I make myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.

²⁰ To the Jews I became like a Jew, to win the Jews. To those under the law I became like one under the law (though I myself am not under the law), so as to win those under the law. ²¹ To those not having the law I became like one not having the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law), so as to win those not having the law.

²² To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.

²³ I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.

I. Styles of Dressing

Watchword is "appropriate":

A. Present Self Appropriately for the Situation

B. Present Yourself as a Testimony

1. Avoid

2. Display

C. Consider the Drama of the communication event

<> **Concluding verses on Dress and other Aspects of Pulpit Presence:**

Make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way. Rm. 14:13

Be careful that the exercise of your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak. I Cor. 8:9

*I have become all things to all men that I might by all means save some.
I Cor. 9:22*

II. Styles of Delivery:

A. Cultivate a Personal Style (I Thess 2:3-8)

1. Do not be afraid to be _____, but ...

2. Speak as though explaining _____

3. Speak to _____

4. Use the We of _____ address vs. royal (or "editorial") we.

5. Use _____ speech

B. Cultivate a Plain Style (see handout on what "puts off" listeners):

1. Speak in _____

a. Scriptures for Plain Speaking

I Cor. 2:4,5 "My message and my words were not with wise and persuasive words but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on man's wisdom but on God's power."

II Cor. 3:12 "Seeing that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech."

II Cor. 4:2 ". . . by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God."

I Cor. 14:19 five intelligible words preferred over 10 thousand not understandable.

b. Principles for Plain Speaking Today:

Cautions: [Read WLC # 159]

2. Speak _____

Conclusion:

Be the best you rather than trying to be a better Billy Graham or Spurgeon.

Assignment for Next Class:

Reading Assignment # 20: *Christ-centered Preaching*, 344-345; and, Kroll reading on "Preparation Procedures," pp. 127-141.