



# School Of Ministry

## Lesson 33

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## CHURCH PIONEERING, Planting, & Leading (2) (Preaching and Shepherding)

### (1) Introduction

God's primary objective for the creation of human beings was to have relationship with them. He wanted a family of people made in His image that He could share all He had with. That's why Jesus was sent to die to reconcile us to God (Ephesians 2:11-22). God calls us to Himself and builds us into the stature of Christ through the ministry of preaching the Gospel (Romans 10:8-17), while He nurtures us, tends us, leads us, and prepares us for His ultimate plan for our lives through the ministry of shepherding (I Peter 2:24, 25). God anoints His servants primarily for these 2 (two) ministries. He is the Great Shepherd and the ultimate Preacher (Hebrews 13:20; Galatians 3:8).

- (2) **The Ministry of PREACHING...** Isaiah 61:1-4; Matthew 4:17, 23; Matthew 11:1-5; Hebrews 2:12; Luke 9:1,2; Luke 16:16; Mark 16:15-20; Acts 1:8; Acts 28:30-31; Romans 1:15-17; Romans 15:18-20; I Corinthians 1:17-24; Philippians 1:15-18; Ephesians 3:8-11; 2 Timothy 4:1-5; Matthew 24:14; Revelations 14:6-7.....

Preaching the Word of God is one of the most important assignments given believers by God. It is through the "foolishness" of preaching that God reveals Himself to people, and transforms them into the image and likeness of God. There are 2 distinct aspects to preaching: First, the Divine; and second, the Human. ***Preaching is the art of communicating divine truth to people through human personality***" God gives the 'Revelation' while man offers the 'Presentation'. Preachers are God's "mouthpieces" telling forth what is in His heart that he desires to share with us. This can be done in large as well as small gatherings; public as well as private meetings; through regular speeches, songs, exhortations or dramatic proclamations as the Holy Spirit leads and gives utterance.

### **(a) Preambles about Preaching.....**

There are 4 (four) steps to preparing or “gathering” a sermon or message: These are: **1. Receiving the concept** of the Message which usually begins with a ‘seed-thought’ dropped in our hearts by the Holy Spirit; **2. Composing the truths and body** of the message, which involves studying and analyzing God’s Word on the truths that we seek to communicate; **3. Construction of the Message**, which involves assembling the thoughts on the subject matter that has been exhaustively studied, so that further prayer and meditation can be given to them; and **4. Presenting the Message** in a powerful, relevant, and constructive manner, so that the hearers receive the Word from God’s heart.

### **(b) Styles of Message Presentation....**

Since Preaching involves human personality, the manner of presenting God’s message will vary from one minister to the other. There isn’t one “Divine style” that God blesses over all others. However, it is important to seek God in preparation for specific messages and how best to present them, as well as being true to oneself and personality, so that the Holy Spirit can move freely through our vessel, while ministering to us as well in the process.

The 3 (three) different styles of Presentation are: **(1) The Written Sermon** which involves writing out most of the message to be preached, and then reading it out to the listeners. This works well for many preachers and listeners but can also tend to be boring for many others; **(2) Skeleton-type Notes** which is the most commonly used style, and involves brief skeletal notes affording sufficient outline of the message to prompt the memory. This style allows more flexibility to the preacher and more openness to the “real time” inspiration of the Holy Spirit; **(3) Extemporaneous Preaching** which is usually a spontaneous style of presentation that can be very exciting and stimulating, but may be more effective for an evangelistic ministry rather than a shepherding ministry. This is also very effective for one-on-one ministry on the go when sharing one’s faith with non-Christians in an informal setting.

### **(c) Ten (10) things Growing Preachers Need to Improve on....**

Most ministers, starting out in their Word ministry need to focus on these key issues in order to develop strong pulpit skills. They are: 1. EYE CONTACT...develop a ‘laser gaze’; 2. COUNTENANCE...keep a bright interesting ‘glow’; 3. ENUNCIATION...speaking clearly in the right tone; 4. BOLDNESS...confidence and Voice volume need to be assertive but not distracting; 5. GESTURES...need to be appropriate and timely; 6. READING...should be smooth flowing not jerking and incoherent; 7. DISCERNMENT...sensitivity first to the Holy Spirit, and then to the listeners; 8. ILLUSTRATIONS...ability to tell real life stories (sometimes personal...); 9. KNOWLEDGE...Use of quotes from the Bible; and 10. POSTURE....appearance, dressing, carriage, etc...

**(d) Overcome Self Consciousness....**

Self consciousness, insecurity, lack of confidence, and fear stops the flow of the Anointing of the Holy Spirit. It also hinders authority, creativity, thinking, discernment, and the power of God... **Proverbs 29:25; Ezek 3:8, 9; Jer 1:6-8...** In order to overcome self consciousness, a minister should take the following steps: **1. FEAR GOD**...become more God-conscious; **2. WALK IN FAITH**...not emotions or how you feel before or after ministering; **3. SET YOUR MIND ON THE SPIRIT** (Rom 8:5, 6); **4. BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT** (Eph 5:18); **5. BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE**...know & practice the Word; **6. PRACTICE**...Take every opportunity (Billy Graham...); **7. BE STRONG IN GOD'S GRACE**... (2 Tim 2:1)... **LEARN AND TRAIN YOURSELF** to be Natural (yourself), Dramatic (out of yourself), Sure (repeat yourself), Simple (easy to understand), Anointed (Stir yourself), and Involved (avail yourself by developing messages & preaching to yourself) Be humorous and patient with yourself.

**(3) The Ministry of Shepherding...** Psalms 23:1ff; Ezek 34:11-31; John 10:1-18; I Peter 5:1-4; Acts 20:28

God's Primary reason for setting up shepherds (Pastors), ministers, and leaders in His Church is for the effective nurturing of His people. The other pre-occupations of the Church are secondary to this primary assignment. The 3-fold Ministry of the shepherd to the sheep is: **(a) Feeding and nurturing** the sheep with God's Word (Jer 3:15, 16); **(b) Leading and Guiding** the sheep by providing direction in destiny (Psa 32:8, 9; Psa 23:2, 3); and **(c) Tending and Protecting** the sheep from enemies within and without the sheepfold (Ezek 34:14-16, 22-25; Acts 20:28-30). God's appointed shepherds are called to watch over the souls of God's people, and will give an account for those entrusted to their care (Hebrews 13:17). It is important that shepherds appreciate the gravity of this assignment. And it is important that believers come to grips with the reality of God's divine plan for their well being, and submit to their own shepherds.

The most important quality shepherds must develop to help them oversee God's people is the 9-fold fruit of the Spirit, LOVE (Galatians 5:19-23). In addition, shepherds must develop Divine perspective, Graciousness, Listening, Discretion, Conflict Resolution, Pleasant Countenance, and Sense of humor.