

SECTION 4 - DELIVERY  
Chapter 13 - Approaching the Preaching Situation

I. Introduction - The Difference Between Preaching and Oratory I Thess. 1:5 John 16:8

II. Attitudes to Bring to the Pulpit

A. Humility - Self Forgetfulness

1. Absolute Dependence upon God II Cor. 12:10 I Cor. 2:5
2. People Should Walk Away Saying "What a Great Savior!", not "What a Great Preacher."

B. Respect for Your Audience

1. Don't Talk Down to your Hearers or be Patronizing.
2. Don't Create Offense, other than the Offense of the Gospel. II Cor. 2:16
3. Convey Warmth and Love. Be Friendly!.

C. Sincerity - Preach from the Heart! II Tim. 2:15

This Only Comes When You are Genuinely Affected by the Truth.

D. Earnestness - Preach to the Heart!

1. Urgency and Passion

*"I preach as if never to preach again, as a dying man to dying men"* (Baxter)

2. Both Heat and Light are Vital - *Logic and Emotion.*
  - a. Not a matter of choosing one or the other - "*Logic on fire*" (Lloyd-Jones).
  - b. The power of God's truth evokes an emotional response.
  - c. Manipulative tricks and gimmicks are an abomination.

E. Authority and Boldness - Unction Acts 4:31 14:3 19:8

You are a Herald with a message from God Eph. 6:19-20

F. Confidence - Control Nervousness I Cor. 2:3

1. Realize that Nervousness is Usually Caused by Concern over what People Think about you.
2. Concern for God's Glory and the Welfare of your Hearers should Produce a Holy Fear. Rom. 9:2
3. Use the Intensity of the Preaching Situation to your Advantage - The Jelling Factor.

4. Other Helps in Controlling Nervousness.
  - a. Be prepared.
  - b. It is especially important to begin well
  - c. A story or humor can break the tension
5. Do not call Attention to the Fact that you are Nervous.

#### G. Expectancy Isa. 55:11

1. Powerful Preaching Demands (and Gets) a Response. Acts 2:37 7:51ff
2. Trust God for the Results I Cor. 3:6-7 John 6:37,44
3. The Lord is Able to Mightily use Even our Feeblest Efforts

### III. Other Considerations in Delivery

#### A. Final Preparation

1. Physical Preparation - Rest, Food
2. Mental Preparation - Rehearsal
  - a. With a live audience (spouse, close friend)
  - b. In front of a mirror (or video camera)
  - c. With a sotto voice
  - d. Reading over your notes
3. Spiritual Preparation
  - a. Personal prayer
  - b. Personal holiness
  - c. Prayer support Heb. 13:18 II Thess 3:1 I Thess. 5:25 Rom. 15:30 Phil. 1:19
4. Preparing the Preaching Environment
  - a. Other aspects of the meeting - Service leader, music, pianist
  - b. Podium - preferably one that does not block your body from view. Neh. 8:4-5
  - c. Climate
  - d. P.A. system
  - e. Be thorough and plan!
  - f. Expect the unexpected

#### B. Immediately After You Speak

1. You will be Exhausted
2. Don't Seek Approval
3. Instead, Seek to Minister to Others

### C. Continually Work at Improving Your Delivery

1. Listen to Yourself (Cassette tape, video)  
This is painful, but necessary
2. Get Help from Others
  - a. Objective criticism Prov. 27:5-6
  - b. Specialized help and instruction - grammar, speech
  - c. Not every piece of advice will be valid.
3. Practice New Speech Patterns in Casual Conversation  
(diction, eye contact, gestures, vocabulary, etc.)
  - a. Can old habits be broken?
  - b. Work at one or two at a time
  - c. Put off and put on
4. Learn from Others - Be a Student of Oral Communication
  - a. Preachers and Teachers
  - b. Other models - i.e. newscasters, political speeches, story tellers
5. Practice Teaching - Take every opportunity
  - a. With your family
  - b. Be willing to start "small" - children, small groups, short teaching segments
  - c. Don't promote yourself as a teacher

### IV. Conclusion

*"Be yourself, and forget yourself" (Jowett)*

*"While it is true that a man must be himself, he is nevertheless obligated to be his **best self**" (Baumann)*

Be Satisfied to Work with the Time and Ability that God Has Given You. The Results are Up to Him. II Cor. 3:3,5 Rom. 12:3 Matt. 25:26-27

Assignment for Section 4, Chapter 13

1. Prepare an Expository Message 20 minutes in length.
2. Give the Message to a group.  
Not for a grade, but to glorify God and to edify His People.
3. Have your Pastor/Mentor/Instructor fill out the attached form evaluating the message, and go over the form with him.