

ESSENTIALS CLASS

Lesson 8, Part 1

Message of the Local Church.

What makes a good sermon?

2 Timothy 4:1-5 ¹I SOLEMNLY charge *you* in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom: ²preach the word; be ready in season *and* out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction. ³For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but *wanting* to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; ⁴and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths. ⁵But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

Paul gives Timothy four foundational principles about preaching.

1. Pastors should be most concerned what _____ thinks.

2 Timothy 4:1-5 ¹I SOLEMNLY charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by His appearing and His kingdom:

What Paul said about his own ministry.

Galatians 1:10 For am I now seeking the favor of men, or of God? Or am I striving to please men? If I were still trying to please men, I would not be a bond-servant of Christ.

2. We are to preach the word even when it's

_____.

²preach the word; be ready in season and out of season;

“in season and out of season”

“be ready” [ephistemi]

Jeremiah 20:9 But if I say, “I will not remember Him Or speak anymore in His name,” Then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; And I am weary of holding it in, And I cannot endure it.

How should preaching be done?

*Nehemiah 8:6-8 ⁶Then Ezra blessed the LORD the great God. And all the people answered, “Amen, Amen!” while lifting up their hands; then they bowed low and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁷... explained the law to the people while the people remained in their place. ⁸**And they read from the book, from the law of God, translating to give the sense so that they understood the reading.***

"read it"

“translating it”

“so that they understood the reading.”

E S S E N T I A L S C L A S S

12 All the people went away to eat, to drink, to send portions and to celebrate a great festival, **because they understood the words which had been made known to them.**

**3. The tone must be balanced with _____
and _____ exhortations.**

2b. reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction.

Negative - “reprove / rebuke”

Positive - “exhort”

Paul relates shepherding and preaching to parenting.

1 Thessalonians 2:11 ¹¹just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children,

**A. An effective message has very little to do with
style, _____ or personality.**

The Apostle Paul’s critics.

2 Corinthians 10:10 For they say, “His letters are weighty and strong, but his personal presence is unimpressive, and his speech is contemptible.”

E S S E N T I A L S C L A S S

B. Preaching can become ineffective if the goal is to be _____.

1 Corinthians 1:17 For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach the gospel not in cleverness of speech, that the cross of Christ should not be made void.

Paul's goal was to avoid being entertaining.

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 ⁴And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.

4. Never _____ in difficult times.

2 Timothy 4: 3 For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but wanting to have their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers in accordance to their own desires; ⁴and will turn away their ears from the truth, and will turn aside to myths. ⁵But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

How do pastors fail to honor God's Word?

1. Peaching that does not show the people what the text means and what those implications are for their lives is

E S S E N T I A L S C L A S S

failing to _____ the nature of the text of God's glorious revelation.

Ephesians 3:4 By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,

2. Preaching that is not rooted in the text diminishes the _____ of the passage and the authority of the message.

3. Pastors that make points that are not from the text are preparing their people to _____ in the days to come.

Ephesians 4:14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

E S S E N T I A L S C L A S S

4. Pastors who preach without drawing attention to the details and specificity of scripture train the people to _____ and inattentive to the supremacy of God's Word in their lives.

5. Pastors who are lazy rob their people of the _____ that Jesus intends them to have.

ANSWERS: God, unpopular, positive, negative, charisma, entertaining, compromise, honor, authority, waver, careless, joy