

SERMON EVALUATION

Speaker:

Title:

Text:

Level

CRITERIA		COMMENTS	1-10
C O N T E N T	INTRODUCTION <i>attention</i> <i>first impression</i>		
	CLARITY <i>outline, transitions</i> <i>progression, point</i>		
	BIBLE <i>focus on text</i> <i>use of text</i>		
	GOSPEL <i>Christ-Centered?</i> <i>Good News?</i>		
	SDA <i>prophetic?</i> <i>use of EGW?</i>		
	ILLUSTRATIONS <i>quality</i> <i>quantity</i>		
	APPLICATION <i>clear</i> <i>practical</i>		
	AUDIENCE <i>culture, gender,</i> <i>age, (un)churched</i>		
	CONCLUSION <i>effective appeal?</i> <i>now what?!</i>		
D E L I V E R Y	USE OF NOTES <i>preparation</i> <i>eye-contact</i>		
	VOICE <i>volume</i> <i>speed</i>		
	DEMEANOR <i>body language</i> <i>mannerisms</i>		
	LENGTH <i>appropriate</i>		

Notes

Who *Speaker > Sermon!* “One beggar telling another beggar where to find bread” ... “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord” (Lk 4:18-19).

What Create, don't copy! “Preach the Word!” (2 Tim 4:2). “Bring the scrolls!” (2 Tim 4:13). “Thy words were found, and I did eat them!” (Jer 15:16) - “The Science of Salvation” (Ev 502). “Put Christ into every sermon” (1SM 158). “But *his word* was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones” (Jer 20:9) “there should not a sermon be given unless a portion of that discourse is to especially make plain the way that sinners may come to Christ and be saved.” Children! (GW 405)

When “in season, out of season” (2 Tim 4:2)
“Our people should not be made to think that they need to listen to a sermon every Sabbath” (Ev 384).

Start preparing before you have to; a sermon needs “a big push”, but also time to grow, with bits and pieces added here and there.

Where “stand in the sacred desk” (ST, July 28, 1887)
AA 363 “A pastor should mingle freely with the people for whom he labors, that by becoming acquainted with them he may know how to adapt his teaching to their needs. **When a minister has preached a sermon, his work has but just begun.** There is personal work for him to do. He should visit the people in their homes, talking and praying with them in earnestness and humility. There are families who will never be reached by the truths of God's word unless the stewards of His grace enter their homes and point them to the higher way. But the hearts of those who do this work must throb in unison with the heart of Christ.”

Why “So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17).

Resources: Index to the Writings of Ellen G. White: “Sermon”; “Preaching”; Evangelism, 168-333; Gospel Workers, 147-180, SDA Elder's Handbook, Minister's Handbook; Mervyn Warren, *Ellen White on Preaching*

How Two types of Bible study = two types of sermons: — ↔ | shallow vs depth
Process: eliminate distractions; develop discipline and focus; work on sermon without multitasking
Start a long-term sermon greenhouse by studying the Bible without an immediate product in mind:
What you sow will grow; what you plant will produce!
“The outline of the text is the outline of the sermon” (Karl Barth)

👉 Want to improve your preaching? Switch from topical to textual preaching: verse by verse, chapter by chapter

“And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself” (Lk 24:27).

- **Top Terms:** κηρύσσω kērussō officially proclaim as a herald! | εὐαγγελίζομαι euaggelizomai proclaim good news!
- **Appeal:** Ethos 🖐️ · Pathos 💖 · Logos 🧠
- **Self:** Last 3 sermons = top 3 personal problems! Danger: “most of our theology is biography” but Bible > biography
- **Growth:** Psalm 23: break-through - note-free | **New:** Hosea 3! (camp meeting: assigned texts!)
- **Introduction** examples: 1) Wedding naked?! 2) Rumors are true ... 3) You can't have your Katie and Edith, too
- **Matthew:** 5 sermons (5-7; 10; 13; 18; 24-25) **Parables:** Judgment Narratives
- **Disciples:** Analyze Acts: Preaching · Planting · Persecution · 1 Cor 2:2! · Hebrews: a sermon?! · Rev 14:6-7!
- **The Narrative Loop:** 🔄 Start · Crisis · Resolution (“new normal”)

AA 244 “In preaching the gospel in Corinth, the apostle followed a course different from that which had marked his labors at Athens. While in the latter place, he had sought to adapt his style to the character of his audience; he had met logic with logic, science with science, philosophy with philosophy. As he thought of the time thus spent, and realized that his teaching in Athens had been productive of but little fruit, he decided to follow another plan of labor in Corinth in his efforts to arrest the attention of the careless and the indifferent. He determined to avoid elaborate arguments and discussions, and “not to know anything” among the Corinthians “save Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.” He would preach to them “not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.” 1 Corinthians 2:2, 4. (AA 244.1)

MH 352 “Far more powerful than any sermon that can be preached is the influence of a true home upon human hearts and lives.”

CS 29 “The most difficult sermon to preach and the hardest to practice is self-denial.”

DA 245 “Jesus in His sermon by the sea had other audiences before His mind.”

Ev 174ff. “It is harder to reach the hearts of men today than it was twenty years ago. The most convincing arguments may be presented, and yet sinners seem as far from salvation as ever. **Ministers should not preach sermon after sermon on doctrinal subjects alone. Practical Godliness should find a place in every discourse**” (Ev 178.4).