

THE PURPOSE OF PREACHING

“Many are the plans in a man’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails.”
Ps. 19:21 (NIV)

1. GOD’S PURPOSE FOR MAN

“For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brothers.” Romans 8:29 (NIV)

GOD’S PURPOSE: _____

“Then God said, ‘Let Us make man in Our image, in Our likeness...’ Gen. 1:26 (NIV)

“...And as the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like Him and reflect His glory even more.” 2 Cor. 3:18b (NLT)

“Just as we are now like Adam, the man of the earth, so we will some day be like Christ...”
1 Cor. 15:49 (NLT)

TO BE CHRISTLIKE MEANS TO...

_____ like Jesus (Phil. 2:5)

_____ like Jesus (Col. 3:15)

_____ like Jesus (Col. 3:17)

The objective of Purpose-Driven Preaching is to develop:

Christlike _____, Christlike _____ & Christlike _____

HOW does God form us into Christ-likeness?

1. Through _____

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose. For those God foreknew He also predestined to be conformed to the likeness of His Son...” Rom. 8:28-29 (NIV)

(James 1:2-4, Rom. 5:3-4, 1 Peter 1:6-7, etc.)

2. Through _____

“Now I commit you to God and to the Word of His grace, which can build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified.” Acts 20:32 (NIV)

“Sanctify them by the truth; Your word is truth.” John 17:17 (NIV)

One day:

“We know that when Christ comes again, we will be like Him, because we will see Him as He really is.” 1 John 3:2b (NCV)

But right now:

“But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.” 2 Cor. 3:16 (NASB)

“Anyone who listens to the Word but does not DO what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it – he will be blessed in what he does.” James 1:24-25 (NIV)

* When we get people to _____, _____, and _____ God’s Word, they are inevitably changed!

The problem:

“Never before in the history of the United States has the gospel of Jesus Christ made such inroads while at the same time making so little difference in how people actually live.” George Gallup

II. GOD'S PURPOSE FOR THE BIBLE

Pa`sa grafh; geovpneusto" kai; wjfevlimo"
All scripture is God-breathed and helpful

pro;" didaskalivan,
for doctrine (teaching)

pro;" ejlegmovn,
for rebuking

pro;" ejpanovrqwsin,
for correcting

pro;" paideivan th;n ejn dikaiosuvnh/,
for training the in righteousness

i{na a{rtio h\ oJ tou"
geou" a[nqrwpo",
So that complete might be the man of God

pro;" pa`n e[rgon ajgaqo;n ejxhrtismevn".
for all work good having been thoroughly equipped

*"All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable
for doctrine,
for reproof
for correction,
for instruction in righteousness:*

*THAT the man of God may be perfect
thoroughly furnished unto all good works." 2 Tim. 3:16-16 (KJ V)*

Doctrine, reproof, correction, and training in righteousness

are _____

"For...for...for...for... SO THAT!"

THE PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE IS _____ ?

Specifically

To change our _____ (perfect, mature, complete)

To change our _____ (good works)

*“So that the person who serves God may be **fully qualified and equipped TO DO EVERY** kind of good deed.” 2 Tim. 3:17 (GN)*

“The Word of God is not to teach us to prattle or be eloquent and subtle... It is to reform our lives, so that we desire to serve God, to give ourselves entirely to him, and to conform ourselves to his good will.” John Calvin

“The Bible was not given to increase our knowledge but to change our lives.” D. L. Moody

THE BIBLE IS NOT _____. IT IS _____.

“The words I have spoken to you are Spirit and they are Life.” John 6:63 (NIV)

“... hold out the word of life.” Phil. 2:16 (NIV)

“... this we proclaim concerning the Word of Life.” 1 John 1:1 (NIV)

“Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life.” Acts 5:20 (KJV)

“I have come that you might have life...” John 10:10

IMPLICATION: If I intend to be a biblical preacher, my messages must always be

_____ not _____

III. GOD’S PURPOSE FOR PREACHING

“(Christ) gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers.

*to prepare God’s people **for works of service**, so that the **body of Christ may be built up***

*until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and **become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ**.*

Eph. 4:11-13 (NIV)

NOTE:

* The purpose of preaching is the same as the purpose of the Bible.

* There is both a _____ and _____
Purpose in preaching and teaching

“The purpose of my instruction is that all the Christians there would be filled with love that comes from a pure heart, a clear conscience, and sincere faith. But some teachers have missed his whole point. They have turned away from these things and spend their time arguing and talking foolishness.” 1 Tim. 1:5-6 (NLT)

*“We preach Christ to each person, using all wisdom to warn and to teach everyone, in order to bring each one into God’s presence as a mature person in Christ.”
Col. 1:28 (NCV)*

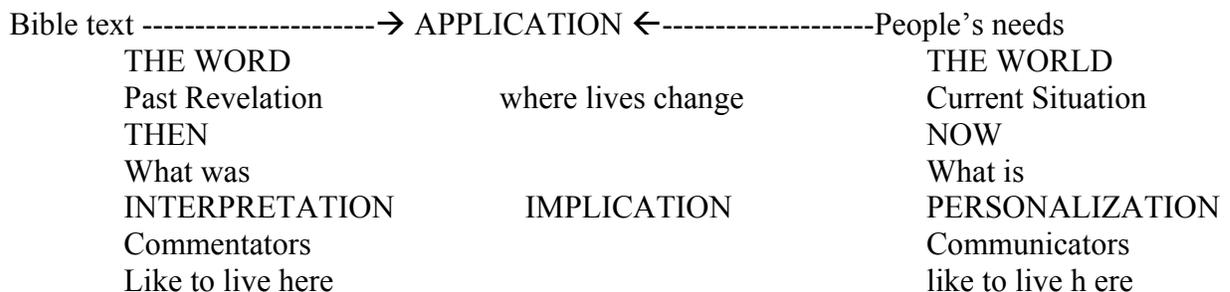
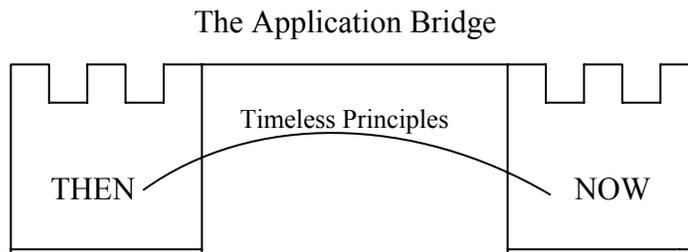
HOW DOES THIS LIFE-CHANGE HAPPEN? _____

“My word will not return void.” Isaiah 55:11

“If people are not sharing their faith in your church, if they’re not having a quiet time, if they’re not living godly lives, then you need to change your style of preaching. You are obviously not seeing lives changed through the Word of God. So what is the problem? The problem isn’t the Word? The problem is your preaching style!” Bruce Wilkinson

IV. GOD’S PURPOSE FOR THE PREACHER

We are to be _____



THE CHALLENGE OF PREACHING

To declare eternal truths that _____

AND _____ them in a world that is _____

“David served God’s purpose in his own generation...” Acts 13:36a (NIV)

*“The men of Issachar understood the times and knew what Israel should do.”
1 Chron. 12:32 (NIV)*

“If you preach the Gospel in all aspects with the exception of the issues which deal specifically with your times – you are not preaching all the Gospel.” Martin Luther.

FOUR STAGES OF BRIDGE-BUILDING

1. _____ (Exegesis; Observation & Interpretation)

2. Find _____ (Implication)

ASK:

3. Think of _____ (Contextualization)

6 things I know about every audience:

1) Everybody wants _____

2) Everybody wants _____

3) No matter how wealthy or successful _____

4) Many of these people are _____

5) Many are consumed with _____

6) There is a universal _____

4. Apply the truth _____ (Personalization)
The Secret of the Master Communicator

“With many stories like these, he presented his message to them, fitting the stories to their experience and maturity.” Mark 4:33 (Mes)

WHY AREN'T MORE SERMONS BUILT AROUND APPLICATION?

1. We _____ people will make the necessary connection.
2. We “ _____ .”
3. Personal application is _____ and makes people uncomfortable.
4. Because we haven't applied it _____ .
5. Because it takes _____ in preparation.
6. We are afraid of being _____ .
7. Because we've never been taught _____ .
8. We haven't realized _____ of it.

“I always make this my rule: That those who hear me may profit from the teaching I put forward... If I have not that affection, and do not procure the edification of those who hear me. I am a sacrifice, profaning God's Word.” John Calvin

The Danger of Teaching Information without Application

1. Knowledge without application _____
“Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up.” 1 Cor. 8:1 (NIV)
2. Knowledge without application _____
“Anyone who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.” James 4:17 (NIV)

HOW MUCH OF A SERMON SHOULD BE APPLICATION?

Some New Testament Examples:

PAUL: Romans : _____ % Application
Ephesians: _____ % Application
Galations: _____ % Application

JAMES: _____ % Application

1ST PETER _____ % Application

JESUS' SERMON ON THE MOUNT: _____ % Application!

V. BECOMING A PURPOSE-DRIVEN PREACHER

Our marching orders: The Great Commission

*“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and **TEACHING THEM TO OBEY** everything I have commanded you.” Matt. 28:19-20 (NIV)*

* The goal of purpose-driven preaching is _____ !

* The result of purpose-driven preaching is _____ .

JESUS *ALWAYS* EXPECTED PEOPLE _____ AS A RESULT OF HIS PREACHING.

“Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.” John 13:17 (NIV)

“Jesus told him, “God and do likewise.” Luke 10:37 (NIV)

“But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand.” Matt. 7:26 (NIV)

“For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother.” Matt. 12:50 (NIV)

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven.” Matt. 7:21 (NIV)

“If anyone loves me, he will obey My teaching...” John 14:23-24 (NIV)

“Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and obey it.” Luke 11:28 (NIV)

ALL THE NEW TESTAMENT PREACHERS EMPHASIZED CONDUCT

JOHN THE BAPTIST:

“Do the things that show you really have changed your hearts and lives.”

JAMES:

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.” James 1:22 (NIV)

“What’s the use of saying you have faith if you don’t prove it by your actions?” James 2:14 (NLT)

JOHN:

“It is by our actions that we know we are living in the truth.” 1 John 3:19 (NLT)

You only really believe the parts of the Bible you _____

“The world and its desires pass away, but the man who does the will of God lives forever.”
1 John 2:17 (NIV)

“Let us stop just saying we love each other; let us really show it by our actions.”
1 John 3:18 (NLT)

“We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands.” 1 John 2:3

PAUL:

“For though once your heart was full of darkness, now it is full of light from the Lord, and your behavior should show it.” Eph. 5:8 (LB)

Paul’s Preaching Tip for Titus:

“It is for you to preach the behavior which goes with healthy doctrine.” Titus 2:1 (JB)

“You must tell everyone what to do to follow the true teaching.” (NCV)

“Tell believers to live the kind of life that goes along with accurate teachings.” (GWT)

WHAT I’VE LEARNED ABOUT PREACHING FOR LIFE-CHANGE

1. All behavior is based _____

2. Behind every sin is _____
*“At one time we too were foolish, disobedient, **deceived** and enslaved by all kinds of passions and pleasures.”* Titus 3:3 (NIV)

3. Change always starts _____
“... be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” Rom. 12:2 (NIV)

Think... Feel... act

4. To help people change, we must change _____ first.
“Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” John 8:32 (NIV)

5. Trying to change people’s behavior without changing their beliefs is _____.
“What people say with their mouths comes from the way they think; and these are the things that make people unclean.” Matt. 15:18 (NCV) autopilot

6. The Bible term for “changing your mind” is _____
metanoia – “to change your mind!”

7. You don’t change people’s minds, _____

“We speak words given to us by the Spirit, using the Spirit’s words to explain spiritual truths.” 1 Cor. 2:13b (NLT)

“The Spirit of the Lord spoke through me, his word was on my tongue.” 2 Sam. 23:2 (NIV)

“Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ says the Lord.” Zech. 4:6

“Our weapons have power from God that can destroy the enemy’s strong places. We destroy people’s arguments and every pretension that raises itself against the knowledge of God. We capture every thought and make it give up and obey Christ.” 2 Cor. 10:4-5 (NCV)

8. Changing the way I act is the _____ of repentance.

“Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.” Matt. 3:8 (NIV)

“I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds.” Acts 26:20b (NIV)

9. The deepest kind of preaching is _____.

Repentance: the central message of NT preachers:

John-B *“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near.” Matt. 3:2*

Jesus *“From that time on Jesus began to preach, ‘Repent...’” Matt. 4:17
“Repent and believe the good news!” Mark 1:15*

The 70 *“They went out and preached that people should repent.” Mark 6:12*

Peter *“Repent and be baptized, every one of you...” Acts 2:38*

Paul *“I preached that they should repent...” Acts 26:20b*

John *“Repent!” Rev. 2-3*

“Jesus told them, ‘This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations...’” Luke 24:46-47 (NIV)

10. To produce lasting life-change you must _____
_____ and _____

Every message comes down to 2 words: _____

“Fear of man will prove to be a snare.” Prov. 29:25 (NIV)

“Where there is no word from God, people are uncontrolled...” Prov. 29:18 (NCV)