

Preaching That Reaches Today's Generation

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What is Preaching?

In the book “Preaching in the New Testament” author Jonathan Griffiths states, preaching in the New Testament is a public declaration of God’s word by a commissioned agent that stands in a line of continuity with Old Testament prophetic ministry. (128-129)

1. It is more than just merely spreading the good news about Jesus. Instead, it also includes making a public declaration about God’s word.

Psalms 96:3

(NKJV)

³ Declare His glory among the nations,
His wonders among all peoples.

Matthew 24:14

(NKJV)

¹⁴ And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.

Matthew 28:19

(NKJV)

¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

Mark 16:15

(NKJV)

15 And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

2. By someone God has selected to deliver the word.

Isaiah 51:16

(NKJV)

¹⁶ And I have put My words in your mouth;
I have covered you with the shadow of My hand,
That I may plant the heavens,
Lay the foundations of the earth,
And say to Zion, ‘You are My people.’ ”

Jeremiah 1:9

(NKJV)

⁹ Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me:
“Behold, I have put My words in your mouth.

3. Stays in line with the Old Testament prophecies. Points to Jesus.

Acts 5:42

(NKJV)

⁴² And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

Acts 8:35

(NKJV)

³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him.

Acts 11:20

(NKJV)

²⁰ But some of them were men from Cyprus and Cyrene, who, when they had come to Antioch, spoke to the Hellenists, preaching the Lord Jesus.

Fred Malone, author of the article, “Preaching Christ in Every Sermon” says true preaching is not,

1. An expository sermon, even from a New Testament text, without mentioning Christ except in an evangelistic appeal at the end
2. A sermon filled with illustrations and humor, while only nominally mentioning a text, or Jesus Christ Himself, occasionally
3. A “practical series” on marriage, joy, etc., without explaining how the person and work of Jesus Christ applies to marriage, joy, etc.
4. A running commentary on a passage of Scripture without preaching Christ because He is not mentioned explicitly in the text

True preaching requires: 1. Sound Doctrine 2. Spiritual Exegesis

Sound Doctrine:

1. Uniqueness of Jesus (Virgin Birth)
2. One God (The Trinity) Oct 14
3. Necessity of the Cross (Salvation)
4. Resurrection and Second Coming

5. Inspiration of Scripture

Spiritual Exegesis:

Exegete- (verb) to expound or interpret; (noun) one who expounds or interprets

- John 14:26. The Holy Spirit will teach the disciples all things and remind them of everything Jesus had already taught them.
- John 15:26. The Holy Spirit will be a witness to the things Jesus said and did.
- John 16:8. The Holy Spirit will convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgement.
- John 16:13. The Holy Spirit will guide the disciples into all the truth.

QUESTIONS:

How do you define preaching?

What do you consider to be effective preaching?

Can it be considered to be gospel preaching, if Jesus is not the primary theme?

Is there a visible difference in the preaching from yesterday compared to the preaching of today? (If so, what is the difference?)

What does God say about the effectiveness of his preached word?

Isaiah 55:10-11

(NKJV)

¹⁰ “For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, And do not return there, But water the earth, And make it bring forth and bud, That it may give seed to the sower And bread to the eater,

¹¹ So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; It shall not return to Me void, But it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

Just like there is a purpose for the rain. There is a purpose for the word of God.

What is the purpose of God's Word?

2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV)

¹⁶ All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.

2 Timothy 4:1-2 (NKJV)

¹ I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: ² Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.

What does The Bible say about the next generation?

Judges 2:10

(NKJV)

¹⁰ When all that generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation arose after them who did not know the LORD nor the work which He had done for Israel.

2 Timothy 4:3-4

(NKJV)

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; ⁴ and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables.

Preaching To The Next Generation

Psalms 145:4

(NKJV)

⁴ One generation shall praise Your works to another,
And shall declare Your mighty acts.

Deuteronomy 6:6-9

(NKJV)

⁶ “And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. ⁷ You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. ⁸ You shall bind them as a sign on your

hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. ⁹ You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Psalms 78:1-8

(NKJV)

¹ Give ear, O my people, to my law;

Incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² I will open my mouth in a parable;

I will utter dark sayings of old,

³ Which we have heard and known,

And our fathers have told us.

⁴ We will not hide them from their children,

Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD,

And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.

⁵ For He established a testimony in Jacob,

And appointed a law in Israel,

Which He commanded our fathers,

That they should make them known to their children;

⁶ That the generation to come might know them,

The children who would be born,

That they may arise and declare them to their children,

⁷ That they may set their hope in God,

And not forget the works of God,

But keep His commandments;

⁸ And may not be like their fathers,

A stubborn and rebellious generation,

A generation that did not set its heart aright,

And whose spirit was not faithful to God.

Joshua 4:21-22

(NKJV)

²¹ Then he spoke to the children of Israel, saying: “When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, ‘What are these stones?’ ²² then you shall let your children know, saying, Israel crossed over this Jordan on dry land’;

Psalms 71:17-18

(NKJV)

¹⁷ O God, You have taught me from my youth;

And to this day I declare Your wondrous works.

¹⁸ Now also when I am old and grayheaded,

O God, do not forsake me,

Until I declare Your strength to this generation,

Your power to everyone who is to come.

