Steps in Developing the Expository Sermon

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Definition

The overall theme, points, and ideas of an expository sermon are (1) taken directly from a given text (2) by <u>exposing</u> and <u>expounding</u> the meaning of the text (3) through the examination (reading), interpretation (explaining), and application of the text itself

Definition

In an expository sermon, a given text supplies both the substance and the structure of the sermon

In short, the H.S. writes the sermon outline for you and you present it originally (or as close as possible) as God intended it

1. Determine the boundaries/limits

- Decide where you will start and stop and read the text more than once

- The beginning and end of a story or event

- The beginning and end of a doctrine

- The beginning and end of pericope (paragraph[s]) of thought, or even a thought within it

2. Locate the substance and structure

- Find the main thought and break it down into its component parts

- Parts of speech: nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, tenses (past, present, future)

- Repeated words, phrases, ideas

- Clauses, sentences, paragraphs, etc.

3. Outline text

- Follow the flow of the text and outline according to the "outline" <u>that is already there</u> by the H.S.

- Let the number of points/subpoints be determined by the text itself and let the wording used for each point be governed by the flow of thought

- You can use the actual wording of the text or you can reword it using your own thoughts as long as it does not stray from the original meaning of the text

4. Meaning of each point

- Study the meaning of the text

- Interpretation, context, word studies, cross-references, use of commentaries (last)

5. Supporting texts / applications

- Decide if you will bring in supporting verses, or not; <u>you do not have to have supporting verses</u>

- Note: the more supporting verses you bring in from other places, the more you take away from the effect of the expository sermon

- Add in any applications for today