



TED Elders Training Curriculum

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Ministerial Association | General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists | Trans-European Division





General Oversight

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Communicating

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GO 3.4

How to Prepare a Sermon

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What is the PURPOSE of a Sermon?



1. Proclaim the Good News of salvation
2. Lead people to Christ
3. Make disciples
4. Help people apply the Word of God in their lives
5. Allow God to speak and minister to people



What is the PURPOSE of a Sermon?



MAIN OBJECTIVE

Changing lives is the ultimate purpose of a sermon

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Theological Foundations for Preaching

“The secret of preaching is not mastering certain techniques but being mastered by certain convictions.”

John Stott

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1) Convictions about God

- God is light

1Jn 1:5 *This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.*

Jn 8:12 *I am the light of the world.*





1) Convictions about God

- God has acted

Creation – Flood – Exodus – Return from Exile – Jesus





1) Convictions about God

- God has spoken

Isa 55:11 So is my word that goes out from my mouth: it will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.





2) Convictions about Scripture

- Scripture is God's word written





2) Convictions about Scripture

- God still speaks through what he has spoken





2) Convictions about Scripture

- God's word is powerful





3) Convictions about the Church

Both as individuals and a church, we ***“do not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.”*** (Dt 8:3; Mt 4:4)





4) Convictions about the Pastorate

Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task. 1Tim 3:1

Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God. Acts 20:28

Jn 21:15-17 ...feed my sheep.





5) Convictions about Preaching

All preaching is expository

-To expound means to bring out what is in the text, to reveal it.

- Open what seems to be closed
- Make plain what is confusing
- Unravel what is knotted
- Unfold what is tightly packed

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5) Convictions about Preaching

- Exposition sets us limits
- Exposition demands integrity
- Exposition identifies the traps of forgetfulness and disloyalty
- Exposition gives us confidence to preach



Types of Sermon



1. Topical or Textual
2. Expository
3. Narrative



Preparing Sermons



1. Choose the text

- sermon year
- external events – seasons, current affairs
- pastoral factors
- personal

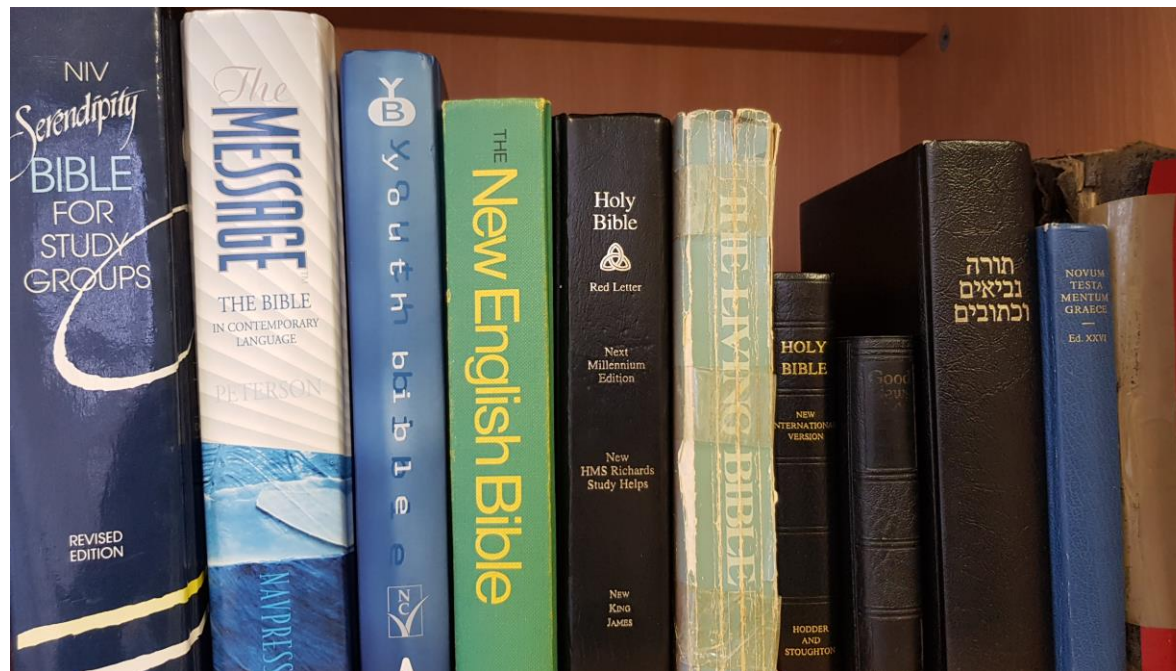


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2. Study the text

Read in as many different translations as possible



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3. Meditate on the text prayerfully

- What does it mean?
- What does it say?

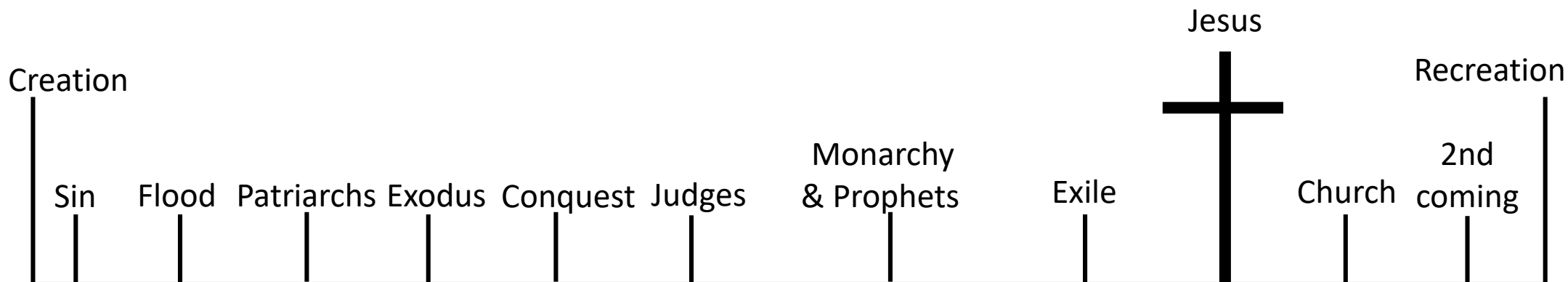


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3. Meditate on the text prayerfully

- What does it mean?



The Storyline of the Bible

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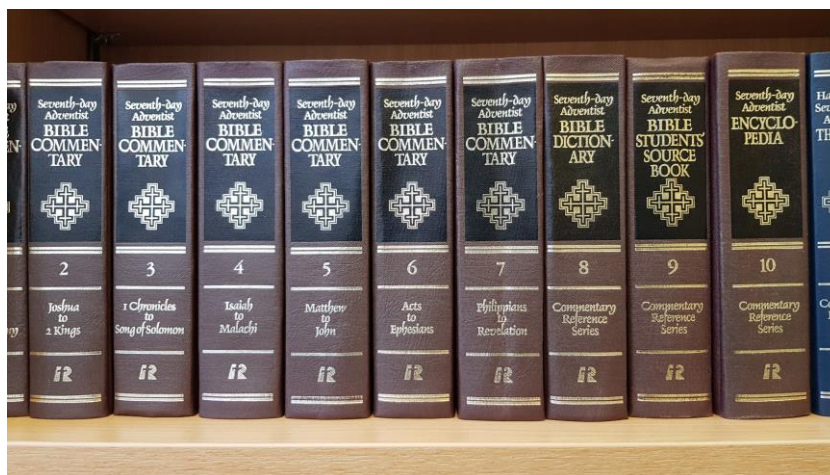


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3. Meditate on the text prayerfully

- What does it mean?
 - use dictionaries, commentaries, concordances



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3. Meditate on the text prayerfully

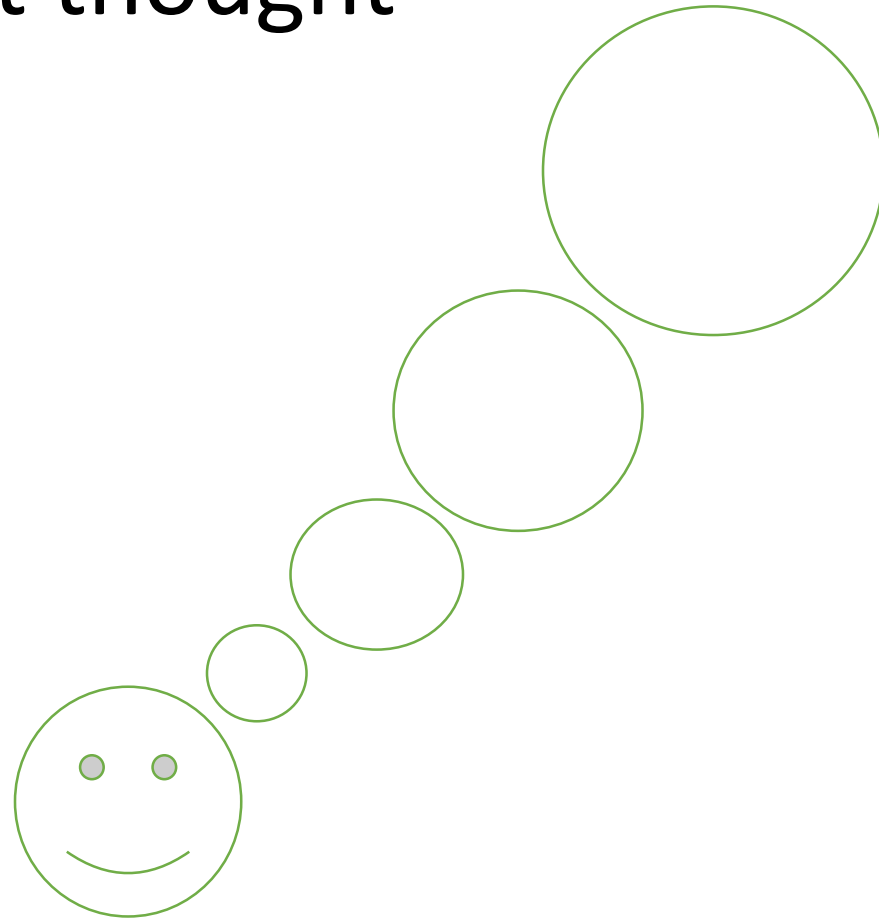
- What does it say?
 - What is the message for today?
 - What is the congregation?
 - Who are we preaching to?



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4. Isolate the dominant thought



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5. Arrange the material – allow the text to supply its own structure



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6. Add the conclusion

- Recap
- So what? - personal application



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7. Plan the introduction

- Awaken interest
- Show your qualification to speak for God from this text
- Introduce the dominant idea



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8. Visualise the message

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- Illustrations
- Use of humour
- Feedback

