

**Baptist Basics University**  
Truth Must Be Preserved For Future Generations

**Homiletics 101:**  
**An Introduction To Preaching**  
**Lecture Notes**

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## Lesson 1

# What is Preaching?

In a traditional Baptist church service, the sermon is the centerpiece. The entire order of events revolves around it. The song service prepares the congregation. Special music trains their attention. Then, with full attention of the audience the preacher stands to deliver the message God has given Him. An altar call is given to allow time for personal work and prayer. Everything is centered on that delivery of the sermon.

So what is preaching? It is more than a speech. It is more than teaching, though that may be a portion of it. It is the expounding of a Bible-based truth that is delivered so as to press its hearer for a decision and action.

Let us consider the necessary ingredients of preaching:

### **I. The Man - Romans 10:14**

Preaching is when a man of God stands to deliver God's message. A preacher is a man that God has called and gifted for the task of sermon delivery. Sermons are not spontaneously created, they are borne and delivered by men.

### **II. The Message – Romans 10:15**

What is the man of God to say? It is not his duty to entertain or impress. He is to have a message given to him by God for the people. The Holy Spirit works through study and prayer to guide the preparation of the sermon.

### **III. The Method – Acts 8:35**

Preaching is quite different than any other form of speech. It presses for a decision and action based on a truth. It may include other elements, such as teaching or motivation, but in the end it brings to hearer to the point of decision.

### **IV. The Motivation – Acts 8:5-6**

There may be different goals in preaching, but the result is technically the same: bring people to action. This may be in bringing the lost to accept Christ as Saviour, inspiring workers to faithfulness, strengthening a believer's walk by application of principles, or any other action. In the end, there should be action. Sermons are not just to fill time, they are to accomplish things.

### **V. The Mandate – II Timothy 4:2**

God has chosen to work in this day through preaching, not through angels or miracles. We have the Bible as a foundation and we have the Spirit to guide and empower. We are to take the message of the Gospel to the lost and to strengthen the brethren. We do both of these through preaching.

Let me close with a few of my favorite quotes describing preaching:

- “Truth through personality is our description of real preaching.” - Phillips Brooks
- “Preaching is the communication of truth by man to men.” - Phillips Brooks
- “Preaching is truth set on fire” - Jack Hyles
- “What is preaching? Logic on fire!” - D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

## Lesson 2

# The Purpose of Preaching

Preaching has a special purpose in the plan of God. It is the means He has chosen to reach the lost and to grow the believer. I once heard that preaching should do four things: stretch the mind, warm the heart, challenge the will, and tan the hide. We're going to take things a little deeper than that...

### **I. Preaching is to define the Faith**

Probably the foremost purpose in preaching is to proclaim the truths of the Scripture. Every sermon should convey the truths of the Scripture in such a way that the audience gains a greater understanding of doctrine.

### **II. Preaching is to defend the Faith**

It is not enough to just expound the truths of God's Word; we must also defend them. Satan, the World, and the Flesh constantly on the attack against the Truth.

### **III. Preaching is to evangelize the lost.**

The greatest task of the preacher is to proclaim the Gospel to the lost. They must hear the truth presented on their level and guided into a saving knowledge of Christ. Rarely do men seek the truth of the Gospel on their own. The vast majority are reached by someone who had compassion for their souls.

### **IV. Preaching is to point out sin.**

If you look at the sermons in the New Testament, you will see that there is never one that handles sin lightly. Christ was bold in exposing the Pharisees, John the Baptist in denouncing Herod's immorality, and Peter in implicating the Jews on Christ's death. We cannot show the way to the light without pointing out the darkness.

### **V. Preaching is to challenge the Christian.**

Preaching should aid the Christian in growing in grace. It should not only warn of or expose sin; it should also inspire and challenge to reach greater heights.

### **VI. Preaching is to meet the needs of the audience**

A sermon is only effective if it is received and if it meets a need. A preacher should take great care to make sure he is on the level of his audience. He must also be diligent in ensuring that the sermon meets some need of the hearer.

## Lesson 3

# The Call to Preach

The most mysterious part of preaching is the call. It is difficult to define and in many ways it is completely individualized. God presses upon certain individuals to be leaders in churches. Sometimes it is a call to pastor, sometimes a call to the mission field, sometimes a call to greater service, but it is always a call from God. In this lesson we will explore some aspects of the call.

### **I. The Holy Spirit presses the call upon men.**

The call of God comes to the individual through the Holy Spirit. In a sense it is a burden to preach or serve. It comes to men of all walks of life at many different ages. Some feel the call and surrender as a child, while others surrender in a sweeping conversion from living a sinful life for many years.

### **II. With the call comes the desire to fulfill it.**

Men who are called to preach were created by God for that purpose. They cannot find satisfaction in doing anything else. They cannot resist involvement in the ministry or taking any opportunity to preach. Even if full-time employment in the ministry is not available, they still will take advantage of any ministry opportunities that arise.

### **III. God prepares those that He calls.**

God does not call men that are not able to fulfill the call. Most preachers are gifted for speaking. Men who are called to reach children are gifted to reach them. Men who are called to pastor are gifted to do so. Whatever and wherever God leads, He prepares and provides.

### **IV. The call of God should be made public**

The call of God should not be kept secret. In fact, I doubt whether or not you can hide it. I have heard many preachers tell of publicly surrendering to the call only to have people ask them what took so long.

Let me also say here that you should not run from the call. You will not have joy or success unless you are surrendered to the perfect will of God. Too many hold testimonies of who their life would have been so much better had they followed the call instead of running from it.

### **V. The call of God is the call to prepare**

There is a lot of responsibility that comes with the call to preach. Especially true for young men is that they take heed to preparation. A young preacher boy should prepare spiritually in strengthening his faith and walk. He should prepare mentally by studying and training. He should prepare practically in sharpening his gifts and in keeping all aspects of his life in tune with the call.

## Lesson 4

# Types of Sermons

Every sermon requires some form of structure. A sermon outline is a “blueprint” for the logical and orderly presentation of your message. Just as you would not build a house by randomly nailing boards together, you cannot haphazardly approach how you preach.

Sermons can be divided into different categories based on their structure. There are three basic types of sermons: Topical, Textual, and Expository. There are more than some authors will list, but they are usually variations or hybrids of these three.

The examples we will use are from W.B. Riley’s book, *The Preacher and His Preaching*.

### I. Topical Sermons

Topical sermons are based on a topic or theme. They are usually based on many Scripture passages instead of one. The emphasis of the sermon therefore is on the theme and not a single verse or passage. Riley calls this a “theme sermon”.

Example Outline:

Six Essentials in Soul Winning

1. Get God’s conception of a soul’s worth
2. Consecrate yourselves to soul winning
3. Surrender to the Holy Spirit’s guidance
4. Employ the Sword of the Spirit-- the Word
5. In this divinest of work, be direct
6. With whatever of success, be dissatisfied

### II. Textual Sermons

Textual sermons are based on one verse or a portion of a verse. This single source is then analyzed and expounded upon. The emphasis of the sermon is the truth of that one text.

Example Outline:

Our Besetting Sins

Text: Hebrews 12:1-2

#### I. The Cloud of Witnesses

- A. The cloud of witnesses is a multitude in number
- B. The cloud of witnesses is sympathetic in interest
- C. These witnesses were glorious in character

#### II. The Besetting Sin

- A. The apostle defines what this sin is. It is in a single Greek word, “euperistaton” - “The sin which doth so easily beset us.”
- B. The apostle asked to have such sin discarded - “Lay aside every weight and the sin which doth so easily beset us.”
- C. The apostle desires that, having discarded it, we disregard it - “Let us run with patience the race that is set before us.”

#### III. The Sufficient Saviour

- A. He is the Author and Finisher of our faith - “Looking unto Jesus the author and the finisher.”
- B. He is the Substitute for our sins - “Who... endured the cross, despising the shame.”



- C. He is the Great High Priest - "Is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

### **III. Expository Sermons**

Expository sermons are based on a passage of Scripture. Truths are brought by analyzing the passage, usually in reading order. The emphasis of the sermon is the broad truth that the passage teaches.

Example Outline:

Hounded Yet Happy!

- I. The King's Opponents (Psalm 3)
  - A. They are a multitude in number.
  - B. They are as impotent as plenteous.
  - C. They suffice to drive the believer to divine Protection.
- II. The King's Protection (Psalm 4)
  - A. He is the One that heareth prayer
  - B. He is the One that showeth good.
- III. The King's Praise (Psalm 5)
  - A. It opens the gates of the day to God.
  - B. It turns the private closet into the temple of God.
  - C. It terminates in songs of praised and joy.

#### **HOW DO I CHOOSE WHICH ONE?**

- Follow the Spirit's leading
- Determine which fits the flow and presentation of your sermon
- Don't be feel that you have to make it fit a mold

## Lesson 5

# Sermon Preparation

To some people the scariest part about preaching is to stand in front of an audience and speak. More daunting, to me anyway, is the pressure of coming up with a sermon that is relevant, interesting, and applicable. In this lesson, we will deal with preparing to preach and putting together an outline to use in the pulpit.

### I. Where Do You Get Sermon Ideas?

- A. Personal study
  - 1. Personal devotions
  - 2. Bible Study
  - 3. Books
- B. Other sermons
- C. Meeting a need

### II. When Do I Start Preparing?

- A. Always be prepared
- B. You will develop your own routine over time
- C. My routine:
  - 1. Start thinking about sermon ideas a few days ahead
  - 2. The day before start putting together an outline.
  - 3. The day I preach (especially if an evening service), finish outline
  - 4. I usually am still tweaking or adding notes until I preach

### III. Seed Thoughts

- A. Write down sermon ideas, even if it is not a full outline
- B. Use a wide margin or interleaf Bible to jot down notes
- C. Mark, underline, etc. in your Bible
- D. Create a filing system or notebook.

### IV. What If Nothing is Coming Together?

- A. Pray
- B. Study
- C. Try a different approach to your subject
- D. Try a different sermon altogether
- E. Look at your study notes and old outlines

### V. The Outline

- A. Some use one, some don't
- B. No preacher's looks the same.
- C. Experience and experimentation will determine how your outline looks
- D. Good rule - take more outline than you need.
- E. I find other preachers' outlines hard to follow
- F. Don't worry so much about form when starting, focus on substance

### HOMEWORK-

Here's a little project if you need some help understanding the use of an outline in preaching. Download the sermon "The Biblical Philosophy of Work" from BaptistBasics.org. It is a sermon I preached a while back that is fairly straightforward in following its outline. Follow along with the outline provided at the end of these notes in Appendix A. Pay attention to how the outline gives structure to the sermon while reminding me of the many points I want to use.

Find the sermon at <http://baptistbasics.org/downloads/index.php>

## Lesson 6

# Structure of a Sermon

We have looked at the major types of sermons and the preparation of them. In this lesson we will examine the overall structure of a sermon regardless of type. We will also take a look at other elements that are used in a sermon.

### I. Basic Structure of A Sermon

#### A. Text or Scripture Reading

1. Tradition to begin sermon (Luke 4:14-21)
2. Shows the Scriptural basis for your sermon
3. No exactly necessary, but customary
4. Keep it to a reasonable size passage if possible
5. Announce the passage two or three times and give time to find it

#### B. Introduction

1. Introduce the subject of the sermon
2. Create interest in the subject
3. Lay a foundation for the topics to be covered

#### C. Sermon Body

1. The largest portion of the sermon
2. This is mainly where the sermon types apply
3. Best to divided among a few major points

#### D. Conclusion

1. Bring everything preached to a point
2. Review topics covered
3. Make a final appeal on the major application(s)
4. Ending with a tremendous illustration is effective

#### E. Altar Call or Invitation

1. Be prepared if there is a chance you are running the invitation
2. Press for action on the applications of the sermon
3. Have some illustrations of applications saved for this time

### II. Additional Elements

#### A. Supporting Scriptures

1. It is a good idea to add the authority of the Scriptures to your major points
2. Should the congregation turn to the passage?
  1. If there is time - YES
  2. If it is an unfamiliar passage - YES
  3. Are you teaching - YES
  4. Does it interfere with the flow of the sermon - NO

#### B. Illustrations

1. Illustrations shed more light on a subject than anything else you can say
2. Personal illustrations are great, but be wary of overdoing it
3. Any major point deserves an illustration
4. Avoid pop culture, movie, or TV references
  1. Don't glorify sinful sources
  2. You'll find many (if not a majority) of people won't get it

#### C. Alliteration

1. Alliteration - words starting with the same letter or sound
2. Helpful in remembering points
3. Don't stretch things too far
4. Many people won't catch alliteration

**D. Movement and Gestures**

1. Charles Spurgeon said he preached with his whole body
2. The voice catches the ear of the hearer, movement catches their eye
3. Use to reinforce statements
4. Don't overdo it

**E. Jokes**

1. Humor connects people like nothing else
2. Use as an "ice breaker" in your introduction
3. Use to regain attention that may be waning
4. Humorous illustrations are especially effective
5. Preaching is a serious matter and not a comedy routine, humor is a tool

## Lesson 7

# The Voice

A musician has his instrument and a painter has his brush. The main tool of the preacher is his voice. Great care should be given to ensure that his voice is strong and healthy. He must also learn to use this tool effectively.

### I. Caring for your voice

#### A. How your voice works

1. Lungs force air through larynx (vocal box)
2. Air vibrates the vocal folds (cords) in the larynx
3. The produced tone is modified in the resonance chamber (nose, mouth, upper throat).

#### B. Exercising your voice

1. As with any part of the human body, the voice can be strengthened
2. Stretch your vocal range
3. Sing and speak often
4. Back off at the first sign of strain
5. Many techniques are available online

#### C. Caring for your voice

1. Food to avoid (especially just prior to preaching)
  - a. Cold food or drinks
  - b. Dairy
  - c. Sodas and caffeine
  - d. Nuts, etc. that stick in your mouth
2. Be careful of medications
  - a. Many things dry your mouth and throat
    1. Antihistamines
    2. Decongestants
    3. Vitamin C
  - b. Avoid throat sprays
  - c. Be careful about cough drops
3. Avoid dust, allergens, smoke, etc.
4. Things that help your voice:
  - a. Warm food or drink (hot tea, etc.)
  - b. Humidifiers
  - c. Water
5. Things that hurt your voice
  - a. Clearing your throat
  - b. Coughing
  - c. Straining your voice (yelling, etc.)
  - d. Physical fatigue

#### D. Warming up your voice

1. Humming
2. Singing
3. Vocal exercises

### II. The Four P's

#### A. Pace

1. Steady, conversational pace
2. Slow through key statements
3. Pace is the heart rate of a sermon

## **B. Pitch**

1. Modulation
  - a. Modulation - shifting pitch and tone
  - b. Avoid being monotone
  - c. But don't over do it
2. Inflection
  - a. Inflection - pitch changes within words
  - b. Difference between "Right?" and "Right."
  - c. Avoid rising inflection at the end of sentences

## **C. Power**

1. Volume should be loud enough to be heard, but not overpowering
2. Yelling does not equal preaching
3. Most people do not like being yelled at
4. If you raise your voice in moderation and intentionally it will have great effect

## **D. Pauses**

1. Pauses are natural and expected between sentences and thoughts
2. "Dramatic pauses" are effective if used correctly.
3. Pauses should fit as rests in music

## Lesson 8

# Preaching to Children

Every preacher should be aware of their audience and take effort to effectively deliver his message to them. In this lesson we will look at preaching effectively to children. We will cover some tips and tricks that I have found helpful.

### I. Keep It Simple

- A. Use simple outlines, if you even have one
- B. Preach simple truths
- C. Preach one truth per sermon
- D. Don't read a lot of Scripture
- E. Don't use a lot of reason or logic
- F. Use age-appropriate vocabulary

### II. Keep Things Short

- A. Short attention spans
  - 1. One minute per year of age
  - 2. TV programs are less than 30 minutes
- B. Don't read more than a verse or two of Scripture
- C. Keep any point or subject to around 5 minutes

### III. Keeping Their Attention

- A. Movement - catch their eyes
  - 1. Walk around
  - 2. Gestures
  - 3. Sound (clap, snap, etc.)
  - 4. Act it out
- B. Voice - catch their ears
  - 1. Use a loud voice only for effect
  - 2. Start speaking more softly to grab their attention
  - 3. Use different "voices" for people in stories
- C. Props - catch their mind
  - 1. Props are great to reinforce and illustrate
  - 2. They also can become a distraction!

### IV. The Power of the Story

- A. I've found telling Bible stories to be the best for me.
- B. Kids will follow the narrative of the story
- C. Use kids to "reenact" the story
- D. Use props where appropriate
- E. Wrap up the story with a simple illustration

### V. Kids will be kids

- A. Prevention is the best way to deal with discipline problems
- B. Recapture attention that is lost as quickly as possible
- C. Avoid lulls or pauses
- D. Roll with the punches

Another Baptist Basics University lesson to check out:

Children's Church 101 - Lesson 7 - Preaching in Children's Church

<http://baptistbasics.org/podcasts/BBU.php>

## Lesson 9

# The Preacher's Testimony

The preacher's responsibilities are not limited to the pulpit. He is a preacher even when not preaching. His personal life must be one of excellence and blamelessness.

### I. Being a Man of God

- A. In the pulpit
  - 1. Being a leader in the church
  - 2. Setting a standard for the church
- B. In public
  - 1. Showing Christ's love to those outside the church
  - 2. Doing nothing to harm the cause of Christ
- C. In private
  - 1. The true measure of a man - when no one is watching
  - 2. Focus here first, and the other areas take care of themselves

### II. Characteristics of a Preacher

- A. Love for God's people
  - 1. Continuing to love even when love is not returned
  - 2. Supporting other ministries
- B. Concern for the lost
  - 1. Being a soul winner outside of church ministries
  - 2. Bringing them not only to the Gospel, but also to the church
- C. Servant to All
  - 1. A preacher exists for the congregation, not the reverse
  - 2. Being available at all times to all men
- D. Facilitator in the Church
  - 1. Developing leaders within the church
  - 2. Strengthening the weaknesses, enhancing the strengths
  - 3. Encouraging all to Spiritual growth
- E. Pureness
  - 1. Of motives
  - 2. Of actions
- F. Holiness
  - 1. Shunning sin and the world
  - 2. Embracing heavenly things
- G. Boldness
  - 1. To denounce sin
  - 2. To proclaim righteousness



## Lesson 10

# Just for Preacher Boys

I was in the third grade when I surrendered to the call to preach. You can (and should) surrender to God's call on you like no matter how old you are, but a majority of preachers I have seen do so as a child or teenager. This lesson is advice that I would give and others have given to young preachers. We'll focus on what a "preacher boy" can do to prepare for life of ministry service.

### **I. If You Feel You Are Called to Preach:**

- A. Pray much to make sure this is God's will for you
- B. Surrender to the call
- C. Make this calling public
- D. Begin to prepare

### **II. Realize What You Are Surrendering To**

- A. A life of service
- B. A life that other may not understand
- C. A life that you will only be happy and satisfied if you pursue it.

### **III. Begin to Prepare**

- A. The call to preach is the call to prepare
- B. Grow in your spiritual life
  - 1. Study your Bible
  - 2. Pray
  - 3. Develop your walk with God
- C. Allow the experienced preachers in your life to mentor you
  - 1. Seek their advice
  - 2. Spend time with them
  - 3. Soak in their wisdom
- D. Look for opportunities to serve in your church
  - 1. The call to preach is the call to serve.
  - 2. Try to get experience in many areas
- E. Read
  - 1. Readers are leaders
  - 2. Start building a library
    - a. Bible study tools
    - b. Commentaries
    - c. Biographies
- F. Study preaching
  - 1. Observe preaching
  - 2. Listen to preaching tapes

### **IV. Seek Further Training**

- A. It is best to attend a Bible college or seminary for further training
- B. Criteria to consider in a Bible college
  - 1. Where is God leading me?
  - 2. Does the college meet the needs of my training?
    - a. Example - a missionary should seek a missionary training program
  - 3. Do I want to be associated with the school and its "camp"?
    - a. Whether you like it or not, you are grouped into the college's alumni
  - 4. Do you like the product of the school?
  - 5. Are you comfortable with the school's educational rigor and accreditation
    - a. Most Bible colleges are not accredited

- b. Many focus more on serving in ministries than classroom performance
  - 6. Can I afford to attend?
    - a. Avoid going into debt. The ministry notoriously pays little.
    - b. Look for the availability of employment in the area
- C. While at Bible college:
  - 1. Jump in with both feet
  - 2. Get involved
  - 3. Spend time with staff
  - 4. Work hard and pay your bills
  - 5. Study hard
  - 6. Have fun

**V. Avoiding the Pitfalls of the Preacher Boy**

- A. Stay faithful to the call and don't quit
- B. Don't get arrogant
  - 1. A preacher is a servant, not a celebrity
  - 2. You are not special, you have a special responsibility
- C. Pace yourself
  - 1. If you are ten years old you won't be pastoring anytime soon
  - 2. You have a lifetime ahead of you to serve
- D. Still be a kid
- E. Don't isolate yourself from others your age
- F. Know your place
  - 1. You are a kid, and adults will look at you like one
  - 2. Preacher boys should be seen, not heard
- G. Be a servant

## Appendix A

# “Biblical Philosophy of Work” Sermon Outline

To help give you an idea of how an outline becomes a sermon in the pulpit, here is the outline for a sermon I preached a while back on the subject of Work. A recording of this sermon is available at BaptistBasics.org in the Downloads section. I hope that by listening to the sermon and following along with the outline you will get a feel for “fleshing out” the skeleton of an outline.

## The Biblical Philosophy of Work

### Genesis 1:26-31

Tom Wallace said that there are two messages in the Bible:

1. How to get to Heaven
2. How to be Happy

I believe that the Bible deals with two main areas – Spiritual and Practical

Example – Romans chapters 1 to 11 are more Spiritual, 12 to 16 are more Practical. Psalms is very Spiritual, Proverbs is very practical.

Tonight we are going to deal with a more practical teaching of the Bible – A FOUR LETTER WORD – WORK

### I. The Beginning of Work

- A. God created man to work – Genesis 2:15
  1. Man was not made to be idle
  2. Immediately after being created, God gave man something to do.
- B. Work was not part of the Curse – Genesis 3:17-19
  1. Not a “A necessary evil”, in other words
  2. Man was not cursed with work, he already was at work
  3. His work was made harder by the curse
  4. Ancient civilizations thought this way.
    - a. Greece-  
“Greek belief that a person's prudence, morality, and wisdom was directly proportional to the amount of leisure time that person had”
    - b. Rome-  
“For the Romans, work was to be done by slaves, and only two occupations were suitable for a free man--agriculture and big business. A goal of these endeavors, as defined by the Roman culture, was to achieve an 'honorable retirement into rural peace as a country gentleman'”
- C. Work is dignified throughout the Bible
  1. Fourth Commandment - “Six days shalt thou \_\_\_\_\_” - Exodus 20:8-9
  2. Moses wrote about things such as sowing and reaping – Leviticus 25:3
  3. Solomon wrote constantly about the wisdom of labor – Proverbs 6:6-11
  4. Christ Himself was a carpenter – Mark 6:3
  5. Paul wrote that servants should serve well - Ephesians 6:5-8
- D. The Bible commands us to work
  1. God blesses labor
    - a. “Industry is crowned with God’s blessing; idleness is loaded with his



### **III. The Benefit of Work**

- A. THE MOST IMPORTANT!!!! - You get to eat - 2 Thessalonians 3:10
- B. You can further your opportunities – Matthew 25:14-29, especially 28
- C. No work goes unblessed – Proverbs 14:23
- D. You bring glory to God – Colossians 3:11

### **CLOSING -**

1. If our country and even our churches are to survive, we must develop and pass on a good work ethic.
2. Never rationalize, spiritualize, or philosophize a way out of work.
3. Remember that work is part of God's plan and that He takes notice of how we perform.

## Appendix B

# Books on Preaching

Here's a list of books I own and would recommend on preaching. There are many, many more out there that I am sure are great and deserve to be here. I'm just limiting this list to the ones I know.

### ***Called to Preach* by Mike Ray**

My dad bought this book for me at a conference not long after I surrendered to preach. In spite of the sentimental attachment I have to it because of that, I think this is the single best book for young men who surrender to preach. It is simple and practical while covering almost every topic regarding preaching.

You can buy this book from <http://hopewellbc.com> for \$15.

### ***The Preacher and his Preaching* by Alfred P. Gibbs**

One of the most exhaustive books on preaching I've seen with a whopping 476 pages. This book has been used in many Bible college courses. A little too technical for a beginner in my opinion.

### ***The Making of the Sermon* by T. Harwood Pattison**

An older book I stumbled across in a used book store. I greatly enjoyed the approach taken in this book as the sermon being a logical argument.

### ***Lectures to My Students* by Charles Spurgeon**

I have an "abridged" version that has selected sermons from the original three volume set. Most people nowadays think this shorter version is the complete work. This is what I would call a graduate level course on preaching. This wouldn't be one of the first books I would buy, but I would definitely get it.

### ***Teaching on Preaching* by Jack Hyles**

A book that focuses more on the philosophy of preaching than its nuts and bolts. Covers a lot of areas regarding preaching that other textbooks do not.

### ***The Preacher and His Preaching* by W.B. Riley**

A good overview of the practice and philosophy of preaching. A good introduction to the subject by a masterful preacher.

### ***How to Improve Your Preaching* by Bob Jones**

I am a huge fan of Jones' *Things I Have Learned*. This book takes a similar approach to the subject of preaching.

### ***Love Worth Finding, the Life of Adrian Rogers* by Joyce Rogers**

This biography of Adrian Rogers is pretty good, but I enjoyed the last part of the book better. It is based on interviews about his philosophy of preaching and ministry. Only about fifty pages in this section but still worth picking up if you find it.