

## Session 3 – The Well Prepared Preacher – Part 1 – Purpose and Structure

What are some ways to structure a sermon? How can we preach with clear purpose and focus?

My sermon writing process: study and pray over the text, commentaries, purpose, structure, content, writing and re-writing, illustrating, and personal application.

Four different types of commentaries: cultural, expository, language, and devotional.

**Purpose** - Purpose makes preparation exciting.

### **How do you know your purpose?**

Comes from the passage you're preaching.

Comes from prayer.

Comes from a pastoral heart for the people that will hear.

### **Why is Structure Important?**

Good structure helps people listen.

*Ken Davis - 'How to Speak to Youth and Keep Them Awake at the Same Time'*

Good structure can unlock your sermon preparation.

Good structure helps you know what to leave out.

### **Some basics on structure**

What is the purpose of structure?

#### **1. Master a basic structure (it is familiar for people)**

Basic structure: intro (get interest), intro (say what will do), body of one point or three points, conclusion. For each point it goes bible, comment, apply.

Body 1 – Take people into the passage and then develop points out of that.

Body 2 – Take people into part of passage with each point.

Point first, middle, or last – can build to point, or state it early.

#### **2. Advanced structure to suit your content.**

**3. Have a progression in your structure.** Build to a climax that leads to response.