

SAMPLE OUTLINE FOR SERMONS

TEXT:

INTRODUCTION: A story, illustration, observation, joke or personal anecdote that captures the interest of the audience as regards the subject of your text.

MAIN IDEA: That which will reduce your sermon to just one sentence. It will include a phrase of truth, and a phrase of response.
eg. Because or Since..., Christians should...! You must be able to get it out of the text!!!

I. A universal statement about a part of the main idea above. (Show where you get it from the text.)

A. A statement about the first main point - shown from the text.

1.

2.

3.

B. A statement about the first main point - shown from the text.

1.

2.

3.

C. A statement about the first main point - shown from the text. (If necessary.)

1.

2.

3.

Illustration of the first point.

Application of the first point: must be personal and specific.

II. A universal statement about another part of the main idea above. (Show where you get it from the text.)

A. A statement about the second main point - shown from the text.

1.

2.

3.

B. A statement about the second main point - shown from the text.

1.

2.

3.

C. A statement about the second main point - shown from the text. (If necessary.)

1.

2.

3.

Illustration of second point.

Application of the second point: must be personal and specific.

- III. A universal statement about another part of the main point above. (Show where you get it from the text.)
- A. A statement about the third main point - shown from the text.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - B. A statement about the third main point - show from the text.
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.
 - C. A statement about the third main point - show from the text. (If necessary.)
 - 1.
 - 2.
 - 3.

Illustration of the third point.

Application of the third point: must be personal and specific.

CONCLUSION: A climax building restatement of the proposition, with a summary of the main points. Challenge the people with what you want them to do specifically. Close with a story, or illustration of the main point, which will "pull at the heart strings".

GENERAL COMMENTS ABOUT SERMON PREPARATION

1. Never end your sermon with a question. Be forceful and use imperatives to exhort people to follow and act upon God's word.
2. Use at least one illustration from the Bible, one from your personal life and one from your observations of the world.
3. Make transitional comments leading into your next main point.
4. Prepare for a fourth year class level of understanding.