

ABOUT THE BOOK.

The author has carefully outlined and stated the effective way of knowing the word and preaching it. The technique is helpful for all those who may wish to study the word more deeply. The methodology advocated in the book is enriching.

I recommend the book for all who treasure the scriptures. *"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."* Psalm 119:105

Rev. Fr. Augustine M. Garba O.S.A



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Bro. Eluke as popularly known has been a Bible teacher with a good reputation, for many years. He is a graduate of Biochemistry at The Enugu State University of Science and Technology (ESUT), 2000/2001 academic session.

He has committed so many years in teaching the Word and preaching the gospel especially at CCRN fellowships. He believes in the power of the Word and has been able to commit his listeners to deeper understanding and experience in the power of the Word of God. He is also the author of the book, *The Principles of Effective Moderation in the Atmosphere of Praise and Worship*.

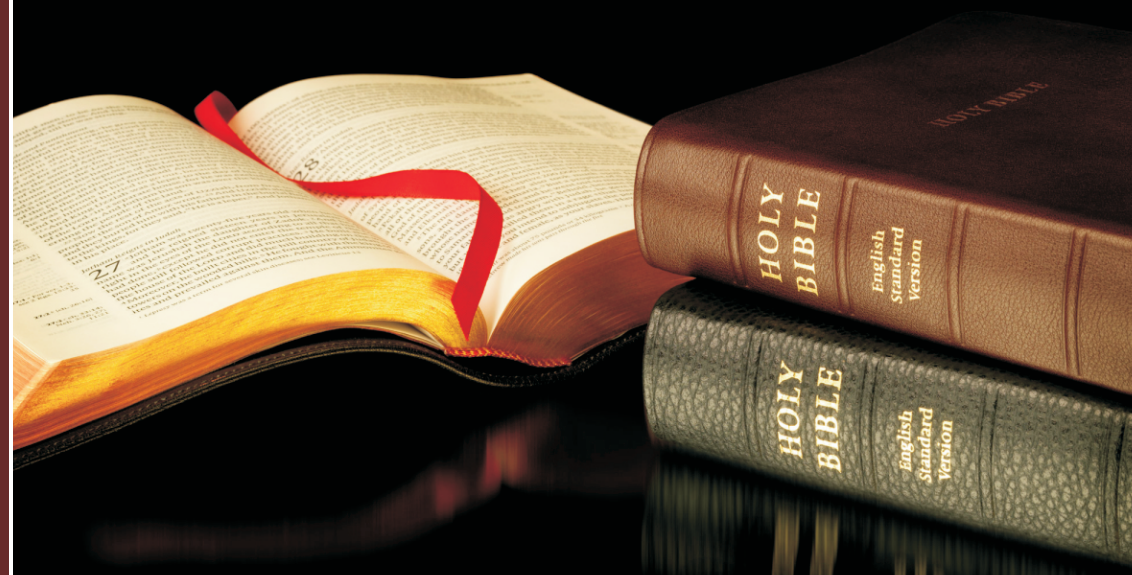
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MECHANISM FOR PREACHING OR TEACHING THE WORD FOR EFFECTIVE RESULT.

Emmanuel Chizoba Joseph Eluke

RESULTS ORIENTED

Forwarded by: Rev. Fr. Augustine M. Garba O.S.A.



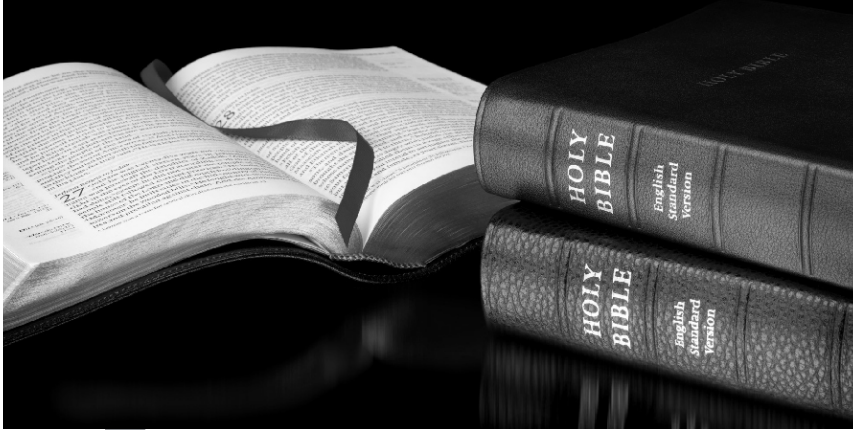
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AND
TEACHING OF
THE WORD**



Emmanuel Chizoba Joseph Eluke

MECHANISM FOR EFFECTIVE PREACHING AND TEACHING OF THE WORD

Emmanuel Chizoba Joseph Eluke
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COMMENTS

The book Mechanism for Effective Preaching and Teaching of the Word, brings the reader back to his baptismal obligation for the great commission. It throws more light in the easier way to perform accurately, the act of hearing from the word and delivery it to the already waiting recipient.

- Sis. Mercy Ogbodu

This work is filled with rich Biblical understanding of the techniques for effective communication of the Word of God so that it can bear good harvest in the lives of the listeners. It is a step by step guide on teaching and preaching of the Word so that it can bear the greatest fruit in the live of the faithful.

- Sis. Martha Obieze



Preaching and teaching exercise, is not a role played by babies but for the matured, and not only the matured, but those who cannot and will not be in compromise: Those who are truly transformed and will not or cannot transform the potency of the message giving to them for other personal purposes.

- Bro. David Sani



Preaching and teaching is a life pattern in practice than an acquaintance

- Bro. Mike Ozondu (Agunwa)



A good teacher and Preacher is not in teaching or preaching to others only but in reminding oneself of what you teach or preached to others.

- High Chief O.Z. Nwanmadu



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To God be the glory and all the honour. I wish also to express my utmost gratitude to all my friends, brothers and sisters in the Lord who contributed immensely to the success of this work in one or the other especially Jesus the Author of Salvation Prayer Group, Mararaba – Karu L.G.A, Nasarawa State.

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Above all I wish to express my appreciation to the entire members of Teaching Ministries anywhere in the world of the Catholic Charismatic Renewal of Jesus The Author of Salvation Prayer Group Mararaba, Karu – L.G.A. Nasarawa State. A great thanks to my Parish Priest, Rev. Fr. Augustina Garba (OSA), my leader and mentor Bro. David Sani, the present Coordinator of the Prayer Group, Bro Tony Nwachukwu, Bro O.Z. Nwanmadu and a host of other whose names may appear in my next publication especially the Priests and Parishioners of St. John of the Cross Catholic Church, Mararaba – Karu L.G.A. Nasawara State.



DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to the most Holy Spirit, the value of God in our heart, who lavished me with the gift of Sis. Chimdinma Linda Eluke my wife.



FOREWORD

Rarely has a book of this nature being written with simple prose and clarity which covers an eclectic of biblical that speaks to life situation, position etc. that together draws one closer to fully comprehending the scriptural passage of the bible as well as the steps towards achieving salvation for yourself and your listeners.

Often times our excuse is that the bible is too bulky; here then is a book to help you appreciate God's blessings and revelations pronounced over His chosen people (to which we are privileged to belong). It is an excerpt to help strengthen our faith in God who has a lot in store for all who love Him. So keep yourself abreast with His promises, precepts, revelations and principles and see what the Lord will do for you (John 15:7).

God's power is ultimate and unequalled. The Christian who exercises his faith and maintain a daily walk and work with

God is a useful instrument and channel through which God's great power in Christ Jesus through the Holy Spirit becomes visibly manifest to liberate and heal all those who are under the captivity of false interpretations of the scripture by the Devil.

Reading this book offers the essential objectives of eliciting faith in God. Be courageous therefore for the battle is not yours, but mine say the lord God of Host (Ex 14:14). God is fighting for and with you to cast out the Spirit of misinterpretation. Hold unto the word of God, its revelations and promise therein pray always in meditations with the word for victory is sure.

Make this book a companion for teaching and preaching expositions and prayer fight:

- * Ask first for God's mercy and forgiveness before you start;
- * Go to confession for those who offend you in anyway;
- * Do some self-Mortification; fast from some food and drinks if you can.
- * Ask for His divine presence to accompany you and others with recitation of the Holy Rosary.

Rev. Fr. Augustine M. Garba O.S.A.

Deanery Administrator,

St. John of the Cross Catholic Church, Mararaba

Karu L.G.A. Lafia Diocese, Nasarawa State



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INTRODUCTION

Every baptize child of God has been given a mandate to go and preach the gospel to all and sundry to the ends of the earth. In the gospel of Matthew, it was recorded.

“Jesus drew near and said to them, I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Go then to all people everywhere and make them my disciples: baptizing them in the name of the Father, the son, and the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, to the end of the ages.” Matthew 28:18 (GNB).



Lack of effective preaching and teaching skill make the word of power-the word of God ineffective to the Listeners.

God has made the demand of the word higher that every preacher or teacher has a ready listener waiting. The question now is how transformed is his or her life after viewing our appearance and possibly listening to our message? So many things on our appearances speak to them before our voice break the word out. Our voice speaks more words than the letters we utter, reveling our level of concentration, distraction, and belief.

The aim of this book is to allow ourselves to be a coordinated, focused, spirit filled and purposeful mouth piece of God. The word that we proclaim must align with our Character, in order to be active partakers of the great commission and to exercise the role of a “*participant participer*” in the words of late Rev. Fr. Oduaka MSP.



Chapter One

VESSEL TECHNIQUE

A vessel is a hollow material substance designed to contain substances in liquid or solid form with a sealed end. It is of various sizes depending on what it is meant to contain.

Every sincere child of God, would recall with easiness the first time he or she was given an opportunity to make a presentation to the small group he is attached to in the body of Christ. Most often the topic(s) issued are not a favourites one. One is left to battle with this kind of statement: “how do I get enough material to preach” or “how can I fashion my message with perfect accuracy” or “what shall I do in order that I

may not run-out of what to preach, or how can I manage the insufficient time without a crack? In this case the function of a mentor should not be overruled, not just a mentor but one rich in the word of God.

When I asked my mentor- a renowned man of God about this; his response is what I called *Vessel Principle*. He said that the teacher or preacher is like a vessel or a bowl, and the art of preaching is like tilting of the vessel and the contents is what will spill out over time. Holy Spirit communicated to my heart the fundamental principle of preaching or teaching effectively.

It states that, you can only pour out what has been contained in you: that is; you can give only what you received.

However, your presentation cannot surpass your content. In Apostle Paul letter to the Corinthian, records what Paul was saying to the people.

**“For I received from the lord that
which I also delivered to you...”**

1Cor. 11:23(KJV).



The amplified version added the phrase “it was given to me personally. “This show that every preacher or teacher must personally receive the word before he can authoritatively deliver it. This principal also encourages the preacher or teacher of the word to categorize the source of information into two:

- (i) The primary Source- The Bible and personal life experience.
- (ii) The Secondary Source- Relevant books, tape, CD both video and audio, so that he can get grounded in the world of God.

The preacher or teacher should note that every topic speaks to the presenter in various forms and he must be attentive and in solitude to adhere to the instructions of the topic before he can adequately speak on it. The gospel of Matthew says

“...for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.” Matthew 12: 34(KJV).



This implies that you can only say from what is stored in you (about the topic).

Inadequate, in matured, still birth, skeletal and unwholesome knowledge of God's word has misled many preachers. It has produced half-baked doctrine that has led many astray and into perpetual bondage. Truth is always erect and any revelation, insight, doctrine or teaching we receive from one part of the world, must correspond in agreement with all other scriptures and tradition as handed over by the apostles to the Holy Roman Catholic Church. If it is not, then it is better discarded. In the gospel of Matthew, it is said

“you are mistaken, not understanding the scriptures or the power of God.”Matt 22:29 (NASB).



Here, Jesus make the use of plural (s) for scripture (s) and not singular for scripture and the use of “nor” for neither and not “or” for either, It means that at a time the scripture (s) will talk to you as you are searching through it and in other times the power of God will manifest it transformation power.



Therefore, the scriptural search brings Revelation while the knowledge of the loving power of God (brings) is Transformation. It is written,



“Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns and songs from the spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your heart.” Col 3: 16 (NIV).



Here the word “*Message*” is purposeful and directional; it is with an arrow head pointing at the listener. Consequently, the message is also pointing directly to the preacher or teacher whose duty is to admonish or teach. As ministers of the word, we need to make room in our lives for the word of God to dwell in its richness, so we can give a sound and balanced “talk”. Just as recorded of Christ in the gospel of Matthew, states

“when Jesus had finish saying these things, the crowd were amazed at his teaching, because he thought as one who had authority, and not as their teacher of the law.” Matt 7: 28 (NIV).



That is to say, the quality of the raw material determine the quality of the product. In order words, the conclusions and Observations of our listeners should attest to the soundness and wholesomeness of our teaching or preaching.

QUALITY CONTROL

As a Minister or a listener of the word, if you can effectively monitor and control the quality of the

resources you received into the treasury of your heart, then you can influence the quality of the message coming through you or into you. To produce anything you must acquire the necessary raw material for it. Whatever topic or subject you sense God is leading you to speak on in a prayer group or Ministry, engage various source of information on the topic or subject and equip yourself adequately for presentation. Make sure your source of information conforms with the standard of the church. According to the gospel of Matthew,

“A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure, bringeth forth evil things.”

Matt 12: 35 (KJV).



Even though, we are not to determine what to say, but after God tells us what to say, whether we are able to communicate it effectively and accurately will be determine by the medium and mode of our communication.

The wealth of material in a preacher or teachers message is as good as the wealth of the resources in his collections or at his disposal as a Minister, be a vessel unto honor, and a life transforming minister positively. Look at where you are today in the Ministry and think about where you would like to be tomorrow, and then begin to study and make research.

The scripture states:

“And though your beginning was small, yet your later end would be greatly increased.” Job 8:7 (AMP)



Chapter Two **PRESERVATION TECHNIQUE**

A minister of the word must as a matter of necessity records every inspiration or revelation that comes as he contemplate or ponders on the word of God. So this technique proves the preservation of materials of safety. Preservation is a system that we use to store up sensitive materials in all nature to avoid depletion of quality or entire loss.

Any information or revelation that you did not store adequately will stand the chance of being lost completely. Why do minister of God struggle for right expression to communicate the intentions of their heart? Because they are not able to find such things in their store of words, when it is needed.

Why are we in short supply of words? Why do we lack effective illustrations or appropriate statements or sentences to convey God's message to the people? Why does our message lack persuasive power? All these gaps expose our weakness and inability to find the right expressions required for appropriate feeding of the word.

Documentation is a preservative skill, aimed at excising a good book keeping for future use. Fact or truth that is not documented cannot be retrievable. Whatever fact or truth that is not retrievable is useless. For you to be able to make use of any information whenever you need it, you must keep it documented as soon as you receive it. Proper documentation of information enables good delivery.

We have two types of Preservations or Documentations Techniques:

1. Spiritual technique.
2. Material technique.

The Spiritual preservation or Documentation technique is a process of meditation or mental

review of events in a solitude, so that the pondering of event or words will reciprocate with a backlash of words of revelation. This is also found with Mary the mother of our Lord Jesus Christ in the gospel of St Luke:

“But Mary was keeping within herself all these things (saying) weighing and pondering them in her heart.”

Luke 2:9 (NIV)



Material preservation or Documentation:

This is a technique employed in the process of writing down on a writing material. It is found in the letters written by the apostles such as Paul letters to Corinthians. So for our knowledge of God's word to become revelation in our heart, we have to write them down.

This is not the same as reading. This is the art of meditation and it requires time and attention. Consequently, in the scripture, Joshua said:

“This book of the law shall not part out from your mouth, but thou shalt mediate therein day and night.” Joshua 1:8 (KJV).



Meditate therein “*day and night*” means to ponder day and night painstakingly.

This is the process through which the word of God is stored in our heart. Pondering implies reading on and on, and over and over again, and thinking through on it for us to be able to ascertain the word in its power. We must put down in writing whatever God reveals to us in whatever form and manner. We must also and always form the habit of writing with writing materials and develop discipline of documentation of information as soon they are reveal to us before we forget. One example of this, in the scripture, it is stated:

**“That night the king could not sleep,
so one was commanded to bring the
book of the record of the chronicle;
and they were read before the King...”**
Esther 6:1-2 (KJV).



The information's were found because it was recorded or written in the books of record.

A preacher needs among other things an accurate illustration of material to be able to get an idea of a subject or topic across to his listeners effectively. However, to use a particular illustration, you must have it in your warehouse before it is recalled. This is one of the challenges of teaching or preaching. Illustration cannot be produced at will if they are not orderly and systematically documented or preserved. So it is a great wealth to a preacher or teacher if he is able to systematically or orderly document his illustrations.

Sources of good illustrations include:

- a) Observation (what you saw)
- b) Information (what you heard)
- c) Experience (what you went through in life)

Always have a medium of storage or documentation or preservation around you, so you can capture them when they appear.

PRESERVATION OF MATERIALS

In order to take advantage of resources acquire over a period of time in “talk” preparation. We must have our materials properly preserved. It must be in simple, orderly and retrievable manner. The preservation medium includes:

- a) Note book: Ideas should be documented in orderly and simple manner. In fact you can divide a note book into various sections for different topics, or alternatively, get small note book for different topics. Each information should be documented under a particular title.

- b) Files: Another system of information preservation is the filing system. Files should be labeled and similar information should be stored appropriately in the right file. In today's world of technology, computer files are another good medium of information reservation. Files should be properly arranged, orderly, simply and systematically labeled.

c) AUDIO AND VIDEO CD AND CASSETTES:

Audio, video and CD's are other very good medium for preserving information for a teacher or preacher. This is particularly very advantageous to the minister as they avail him the added privilege of storing the organized materials which he uses in the course of preaching. This becomes resources for future use. Audio and video recording also avail the Minister of the privilege of recording insights, understanding the revelation which comes to him under the unction's of the Holy Spirit while he is Ministering the word.





Chapter Three

LOOKING-IN AND OUT TECHNIQUE

This is a technique use in studying the scripture with thorough searching of the word both inside and outside with mandate. Foundation most authentic of every Christian sermon must be laid on the foundation of the scripture and the traditions of the apostles. Apostle Paul's revelations proves that there is no other resources on which we can lay the foundation for the word of life. The scripture says:

“For we are God's fellow workers. You are the Gods field, you are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation and

another builds on it. But let each one take heed, how can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Christ Jesus.”

1Cor 3:9-11 (KJV)



Therefore we should look out and in for the word of God which is tested and proven to be true and dependable throughout the ages. Generations have looked -out and in for it among every other words and have found it to be reliable and dependable. Thus, no other foundation should we look -out and in to build the message upon which we live our lives. Therefore we should endeavor to look-out and in for the stone which Isaiah spoke about in the Scripture;

“Behold, I lay in Zion a stone for a Foundation. A tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation, whoever beliefs will not act hastily.”

Isaiah 28:16 (KJV).



The art of scrutinizing God's word by looking-in and out to receive a better understanding, deeper insight and greater revelation for the purpose of teaching or

preaching is called, the Technique of looking-in and out. As we preach the word, we make an oral proclamation of the living and written word, not only literarily but also in the form of verbal exposition of the revelation of scripture, projected through the dynamic use of the preachers voice. For the accurate exposition of the word of God, we must not loss an in-depth understanding of it.

In looking-in and out of the scripture our aims and objectives should be clear and well defined. What we seek is a better understanding with clear and more powerful and more convincing for better proclamation of the word to our listeners.

***“What you preach or teach
and how you live as a preacher
or teacher matters to the Lord:***

Perfect looking-in and out of the scripture affect the following aspect of our preaching and teaching:

- a. Translation: This is the art of rendering the scripture or explaining more in a manner that is relevant and applicable to life and circumstance.
- b. Exposition: Exposition is the meaning and purpose of the scripture.
- c. Exegesis: Critical explanation of a text, it includes context, practical implication and covenant etc.

Correct and accurate looking-in and out of the scripture brings life and meaning to the hearer. According to Paul's letter to Timothy; says,

“Study to show thyself-approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2Tim 2: 15 (KJV).



Apostle Paul letter to Timothy, admonishes an upcoming Minister, and emphasizes on the accurate looking-in and out of the scripture as the secret of a skillful preacher. The importance and priority of a good and deep study of the scripture can never be

over emphasized in the life of a preacher. This is actually the process of looking-in and out of the scripture to get a better understanding. The ability of a Minister to accurately and affectively look-in and out of the scripture determines his understanding which influences his presentation of the word.

Also, in the gospel of Mark, it reveals as thus:

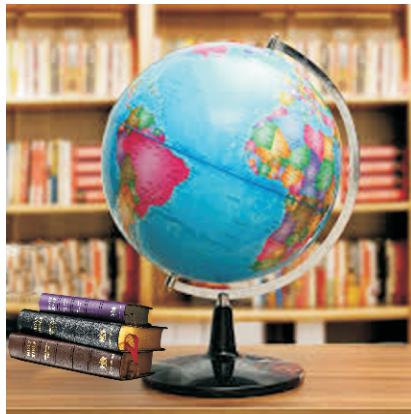
“Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere and the Lord work with them and confirm his words by the signs that accompanied it.”

Mark 16:20 (NIV).



The job of a Minister is like the job of a waiter in a restaurant, who does not contribute in the cooking but is solely responsible in serving and presenting the food to the waiting guest. His conducts and style in the presentation affects and influences the attitude of the guest towards the meal without tasting the food first. If the presenter is not smart the guest would be put-off without touching the food.

Very clear explanation, pave your way first for the word to the heart of the listener. Our teaching or preaching is determined by our understanding and exposure derived from our looking-in and out of the word. Do not try to complicate what God has already simplified. Have it in your mind that to the fellow Ministers and brethren, the word of God is no longer a mystery but a revelation, which the lord and savior unveiled.



In looking-in and out of the scripture, our goal is to know what His word says and meant. In the word of St. Paul, thus; it says

“Study and be eager and do your utmost to present yourself to God approved...” 2 Tim 2:15 (AMP).



Know that God always mean what he says and says what he meant and the Bible is clear in itself. Do not attempt to give the word of God your own interpretation, but let it be its own interpreter. When all passages of the scripture on a subject are brought together, you will find out that the Bible is clear in its self without man's interpretation. Study the Bible to get a good understanding. The Scripture says in Proverbs, clarifying this

“Understanding is a wellspring of life to him who has it But the correction of fools is folly.”*Proverb 16: 22 (KJV).*



Note: Give attention to a detailed study of the Bible and let the scripture interpret and explain itself as you look-in and out of it. This is the role of the Holy Spirit, as it is written:

“However, when he, the spirit of truth, has come, he will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on his own authority, but whatever He hears he will speak; and he will tell you things to come.”*John 16:13 (KJV).*



That is the Holy Spirit, the spirit of truth. So his purpose is to unveil or open the truth of God's word to us as we look-in and out of the scripture with Him. He will give us exactly what God the father meant and not even his own interpretations, but the revelation from God the father's heart. This understanding and insight which the Holy Spirit gives us as we are in his presence looking-in and out of the scripture becomes our proclamations.



Chapter Four TECHNIQUE OF HUMIDITY

Humidity is the amount of water in the air. It is also the amount of opening or size of entrance through which we allow the Holy Spirit to hover over the word of God in our heart to ascertain the ratio of revelation and insight we are endowed with. Humidity is the process of allowing the wide opening of the doors of our heart to allow the waters of the Holy Spirit to inebriate or fill the empty space in our heart. The mechanism is called meditation.

It is written in the scripture that;

“The earth was without form and an empty vast and darkness was upon

the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the water.”Gen 1:2 (KJV).



This perfect world was submerged under the deep covered with darkness, beneath the earth that was without form and void.

However, when the spirit of God began to brood over the deep, the earth brought forth this perfect world at God's command. In the scripture;

“Then God said, let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yield seed, and the fruit tree that yield fruits according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth, and it was so... And God saw that it was good.”Gen 1:11-12 (KJV).



In a similar manner, deep revelation and insight with life transforming potentials are submerged beneath the superficial knowledge of God's word, only the Holy Spirit is capable of unveiling these deep truths unto us. In the gospel of John, states;

“I have many more things to say to you but you cannot bear them now. But when he the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth for He will not speak on his own initiative, but whatever he hears, He will speak and He will disclose to you what is to come.” John 16:12-13 (NASB).



Whenever, we read the Bible, we seek understanding, we must allow the Holy Spirit In our meditations to unveil awesome and deep revelations to us.

The word of God consist of two forms: LOGOS AND RHEMA

Logos is God's word in written and documented form as in the Bible; from Genesis to Revelations. Logos is also called the letters of the word. The scripture says;

“The lord said to Moses, 'chisel out two stone tablets like the first one and I will write on then the words that were on the first tablet, which you broke.” Genesis 34:1 (NIV).



Rhema is the invincible essence of God's word, a dimension that is not obvious but revealed to us. It is seen in the gospel of John:

“The word become flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his Glory, the glory of the one and only son, who came from the father, full of grace and truth.”John 1:14 (NIN).



The revealed word or Rhema is the aspect of the word revealed to us by the Holy Spirit as we allow Him access to God's word in our heart. It is a personal revelation we receive by the help of the Holy Spirit and it qualifies us to behold the glory of the word. Rhema is also the form of God's word that contains an abundance of life transforming power, Spiritual blessing and even favor. The gospel of John, Says;

“For of all his fullness we have received and grace upon Grace.”John 1:16 (NASB).



This is why people get so blessed whenever the Rhema word is preached. The revelation given us by the Holy Spirit is what makes rock-solid believers out of our hearers.

The effect of Rhema in Revelation is seen in the life of Apostle Peter, when he was helplessly transformed by Revelation from Simon: which was, able, easily unstable, easily tossed to and fro person to a rock solid believer. In a similar manner if we open wide the gate of our heart and allow the Holy Spirit to inebriate or fill us with its hovering power over the word of God contained in our heart, automatically, our heart becomes turgid with faith in the word and consequently generate an astounding revelation that will produce a rock-solid believers out of our hearers. In the gospel of Matthew;

“And Jesus answered and said unto him, blessed art thou, Simon bar-Jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church and the gate of hell shall not prevail against it.” Matthew 16:17-18 (KJV).



Revelation is the outcome of time spent in meditation. The Teacher or preacher who does not meditate on the word is like the mother hen who does not brood over her eggs and therefore cannot bring forth the potential for hatching life in it. The testimonies of Apostle Paul in the scripture;

“But God has revealed them to us through the Holy Spirit, for the spirit searches all thing, yes the deep things of God.”1Cor 2:10 (KJV).



As the preacher or teacher meditates on the word, he is able to receive life from it and bring forth the same to his listeners. In the letter of Apostle Paul to the Corinthians;

“Who also made us sufficient as Minister of the new covenants, not of the letter; but of the Spirit; for the letter kills but the Spirit gives life.” 2Cor 3: 16 (KJV).



THE COST

The Reason, many people are not bringing out Life giving result from the word of God is because of the art of creating spiritual Humidity is not cheap. It has a price and if you cannot pay the price, you will not get the benefit. The scripture says;

“Meditate on these things, give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may evidence to all.”

1 Timothy 4:15 (KJV).



What is the price of meditation? The price of meditation is as follows: **separation and seclusion.** To be able to adequately meditate on the word and allow the Holy Spirit to defuse your heart and hover over it and birth revelation in your heart, you must come apart to a lonely place and separate yourself from the noisy conditions or distractions around you.

Delight in God's word and enjoy it, think over it and the Holy Spirit will open deep revelations to you. *Isaac understood* the price of meditation very well and he gladly paid it through separation and seclusion. Regular and continuous meditation on the word of God produces fresh and new revelation that make our preaching or teaching fresh and impacting always. In the scripture, it says;

“And Isaac went out to meditate in the field in the evening: And he lifted his eyes and looked, and there, the camels were coming.”Gen 24:63 (KJV).



Time and Attention is also an effective meditation skill. In the course of meditating on God's word, we must take our eyes and mind completely away from every other thing and focus absolutely on the word. The scripture, says;

“My son pays attention to what I say; Turn your ears to my words. Do not let them out of your sight, keep them within your heart.”Prov. 4:20-21 (NIV).



As we do this, the Holy Spirit is able to release unto us deep revelations and insight from the Bible. Part of a good preparation for preaching or teaching must include such times of fellowship in the word with the Holy Spirit, as said in the scripture;

“Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymn and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your heart to the Lord.” Col 3:6 (KJV).



The wealth of revelation received from paying close attention to the word of God will cause the word of God to abound richly in your heart and it will also enrich your message. So meditation is not a momentary thing, but a regular and continuous process. It is an intense and prolonged pondering upon a portion of the word of the Bible. According to the scripture;

“Keep this book of the law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will

be prosperous and successful.”

Joshua 1:8 (NIV).



For the word of God to flow ceaselessly from your mouth, it must abound in your heart through meditation, day and night. Ask yourself every question you can imagine about the context of a passage of the Bible when meditating.



Chapter Five **FOCUSED TECHNIQUE**

For preaching to be effective, profound and powerful, a clear cut objective and direction must be defined for the message in focused.

For grammatical consistency, the word focused can be used interchangeable with the word steadfast for the purpose of this text.

What is focused? It is the steadfast nature of the creator or intention for creating a particular thing. It is the single and most important reason for the commitment of scarce resources; Such as time, energy in any productive effort. The scripture says;

“You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.” Isaiah 20:3 (NIV).



Many prayer group or church members have at one time or the other complained about the perceived abuse of the pulpit by the preacher or teacher, this is mainly due to lack of being focused before we mount the pulpit.

The preacher must be careful so as not to portray himself like a warrior who delight in setting old score or quarrel with whomever on the pulpit or an exuberant youth who delight in putting on the festive fireworks just for the fun of the noise it makes, rather he must see himself like a hunter who aims his riffle at a game with carefulness not to miss his target. He must clarify his aim or focus for every message and also employ all the resources available at his disposal to actualize his task.

However, someone may be prompt to ask; what if there are people in the prayer group or Ministry or

Church who also need to listen to other aspect of the subject or word for their consumption in that point in time? But remember the word spoken in the Scripture in the book of Ecclesiastes;

“To everything there is a purpose, a time for every purpose under heaven. He has made everything beautiful in its time...” *Eccl 3:1-11 (KJV)*.



There are two aspect of thing we must bear in mind in attempting to answer effectively the questions when it arises in our mind.

From the above scriptural passage we can deduced that God has defined and planned every action to be fulfilled at a given point and time. That is to say, God allows whatever thing to appear or manifest within an appointed time and place when it is assumed ripped. When the appointed time is not ripped for a thing to appear and we are attempting to get it done, certainly, it will be done but at our own cost. This is where the word from God and the word of God draw a clear different.

Consequently, when we preach in focus we preach the word from God with the mind of God and purpose of God with the time being approved by God. In the Gospel of Luke;

“For there is nothing that God cannot do.”Luke 1:37 (GNB).



As we preached in focus, we preach the word for exactly the time, with power from God.

However, we should bear in mind when the question arises, that at each point in time God's mission is focused or directed at some individuals, for example, the Gospel of Luke states;

“But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens was shut-up three years and six month, and there was a great famine, throughout all the land: but to none of them was Elijah sent except the Zeriphath, In the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. Many lepers were in Israel in the time of Elisha the prophet and none of this

was cleansed except Naamah the Syrian.” Luke 4:25-27 (KJV).



From the above scripture we can clearly deduce that God's mission is always directed and focused at specific individual(s) at every point in time. This is why he inspires us and moves us by His spirit to say those things that are in line with his purpose, he is set to fulfill in the lives of the people he has determined to touch at that particular time.



When the preacher is not focused he cannot identify God's purpose in the 'talk' delivered. He speaks, the word of God without word from God and without power from God and his Ministration would only be in shamble, without the Spirit life which is the creative ability in the word.

Judging from the scripture, when we are able to discern the purpose of God in the preaching or teaching and the focused attribute to deliver the word, our preaching or teaching will have the following qualities: (a) Illumination and direction (b) Ability (c) Transformation power.

(a) Illumination and direction:

This is the way in which our lives are lit up with the word. Whenever, we speak the mind of God, our listener will surely receive the word of God as a lamp, an illumination of the prevailing situations in their life. Suddenly light will flow into their heart and soul, and what used to be mystery would be reduced into a simple solvable problem. As stated in the Scripture;

“your word is a lamp to guide me and a light for my path.”Psalm 199:105 (GNB).



So, impossibilities become possible, complications become simplicity and difficulties become ease. All answers to a difficult problem appear before our eyes.

Secondly, what the listener will receive if the preacher or teacher speaks with focused vision is light (Solution) in the path of life. The word as a light gives us direction to the solutions of the problems ravaging our lives. So the word of God speaks in the Scripture;

“The explanations of your teachings gives light and brings wisdom to the ignorant.”Psalm 119:130 (GNB).



God word as a light destroys our ignorance while his word,as rays of light brings wisdom,that is; destroys confusion, and brings enlightenment and understanding and teaches us a light way to walk out of troubles.

(b) Ability

This is the potentials through which we get unsolvable problems solved. When the word is preached with focus, it furnishes the listener with faith, which is the power to trust in God's promises and to hold unto him until it is fulfilled in our lives. The Gospel of Paul to the Romans; clears this;

“So then, faith comes from hearing the message and the message comes through preaching Christ.”

Rom 10:17 (GNB).



This is the peak of preaching or teaching with focus on the demonstration of the Spirit and power, which in turn result in the stirring up of faith in the heart of the listeners. St. Paul makes it clear in the Scripture;

“And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power that your faith should not be in the wisdom of man but in the power of God.” 1Cor 2: 4-5 (KJV).



It is the Faith that is solidly rooted and grounded in the power of God. In the Scripture;

“ Because of faith also Sarah herself received physical power to conceived a child, even when she was long past the age for it, because she considered (God) who had given her the promise to be reliable and trustworthy and true to his word.”Heb 11:11 (AMP).



This kind of faith, which becomes Sarah's (the first lady of faith), legal tender to receive power to conceive Isaac.

(c) Transformation Power

This is the power that the word exercises in our lives and situation that makes us with new identity. Whenever we preach with focus, the word is loaded with life transforming power such that the life of the listeners would never be the same again. In the Scripture Prophet Jeremiah says:

“But if they had stood in my council, then they would have caused my

people to hear my words, then they would have turned them (my people) from their evil way and from the evil of their doing.”Jer. 23:22 (AMP).



God is clearly entering a covenant with the teacher or preacher using the conjunctive word “if” or conditions or covenant initiator. He uses the covenant initiator “if” and boast; that if the preacher or teacher had stood in his council, speake his mind and preached with focus, surely, the life of the listener would not have remain the same.



Chapter Six **EMPIRICAL TECHNIQUE (ACCURATE)**

This is a type of technique that ascertain accuracy with proper measurement in the use of the words. We have seen that one of the goals of effective teaching or preaching is focus-fullness, then it becomes mandatory for us to be empirical in our choice of scripture, expression, illustration, etc. if we are going to be objectively fulfilled.

The technique of empirical process demands you experimentally, with carefulness choose scriptures, expressions, Illustrations required to accurately communicate and present your message in teaching or preaching.

Preaching or teaching resources, are the various materials that are needed in “talk” presentations. These are the things that we must exercise in our Empirical powers in selecting the appropriate materials, so that the aim and purpose of preaching or teaching would be fulfilled.

These Includes:

- a. Title
- b. The Text
- c. Outline
- d. Illustration
- e. Content
- f. Style of presentation
- g. Discerning the mind of God.

a. The Title

This is the topic, name or heading introduced by the teacher or preacher. This may or may not include the “talk” or message; it could also be Direct or Indirect.

Whenever we choose or make use of indirect title or mysterious title, we do so to stir up curiosity and

stimulate Interest in the mind and face of the listener. For example, a text that deals with the rapture of the church, could be titled directly as “Ready for Rapture” or indirectly as “Wake up”. Such title as indirect can light up the fire of interest in our listeners and make them to be eager and inquisitive to begin to imagine what the message is going to be about before the “talk”. It also stir up the spirit of enthusiasm among our listeners and cause them to begin to ask questions. We must be careful whether the title is direct or Indirect in ensuring it accurately portrays the text of our message.

b. The Text

This is the main passage or portion of the scripture on which a “talk” is built. Every sermon or “talk” usually has one major text with additional quoted passage or scripture to support it. We should be careful in making sure that the content and context of the text, empirically conveys the subject of the “talk” or sermon. Whenever the text is remembered, it should stir up memories of the talk or sermon in our minds, and vice – versa. A single compelling focus should underline our choice of passage with additional

quotes. We should avoid any scripture or passage that has a tendency of diverting our attentions and dissipating our limited time.

Choose and organize all your resource materials in such a way that they would communicate a single message to your listeners at every point in the course of your delivering message. The principle of empirical technique demands that our choice of scripture in a particular preaching or teaching endeavors should experimentally communicate and pass across to our listener's one single message.

c. The Outline

This is a message's skeletal or framework for the “talk” or message. It is the orderly arrangement of the message or “talk” resources via.

- a. The introduction
- b. The body and
- c. The conclusion.

It also includes a sequential arrangement of the point in a “talk” or message. When the points in the outline

are empirically arranged in an orderly sequence, the effective buildup of the message will be greatly enhanced and this will also affect its clarity on the listeners' understanding too. It is very important, that the first things are said first and the last things said last.

The teacher or preacher must discipline him or herself to clearly define the subject or topic of the message, and then he must determine what it will take to communicate this and empirically organize the resource in the outline.

The empirical technique of the outline will affect the clarity of the message. The preacher or teacher must therefore arrange his ideas and points, line upon line and precept upon precept to effectively proclaim the word of truth. The technique of the outline will also help the preacher to be precise and focused in the course of his delivery. As illustrated in the scripture;

**“For precept must be upon precept,
precept upon precept, line upon line,
line upon line...”**Isaiah 28: 10(KJV).



d. Illustration

This is an example or instances a preacher or teacher uses to make clear his message and create a picture in the mind of the listener. The picture created through this art help the listener to grasp and understand the truth and also personalize it. It helps the listener to see the practical reality and value of the truth being presented. An illustration could be in the form of a story, a comparison of an event or occurrence that has a relevant to the subject, a picture drawing of an object etc. The mental image created through illustrations pave ways for the word into the heart and mind of the listener.



A preacher or teacher must therefore accurately choose at least one strong illustration to communicate the main truth of his message or “talk”. In our choice of illustrations, we should be careful to ensure that they are such that people can relate with and easily remember too. Consider the parable of Jesus Christ and how easy it was for his listeners to relate with. According to the gospel of Matthew; some text use parable while others use illustration. That is to say parable is an illustration, an illustration consists of parable. It is a way of easier communication to bring the truth to light.

“All these things Jesus spoke to the multitude; and without a parable He did not speak to them.” Matthew 13.34 (KJV).



Avoid catching and funny well-meaning Illustrative episode that will eventually take you off your focus and also delete your limited time. Most often, such can be used with care as crowd breakers, to lighten the mood of the listeners and the atmosphere and prepare them to receive the word. The empirical technique, strength and effectiveness of an illustration will be proportional to the

clarity of the pictures it creates and the feeling it evolves in the listeners.

e. CONTENT

Content is an element of the message or “*talk*” which must be accurately and empirically put together in the main body of the message. The content of a message is the life of its idea and truth. This is the embodiment of all that the “talk” or message consists of: it includes the empirical and technical exposition of the scripture.

Our expression must be carefully chosen to interpret and explain the scripture empirically and technically to make them applicable to our everyday life. Focus all your resources on communicating a single message at a time. In explaining the scripture, we must aim at disclosing its true meaning technically in line with the subject or message of the “*talk*”. Take note that, the strength of the gospel lies in its simplicity and clarity. The preacher is not just an educator, but also a communicator. He does not only give knowledge and instruction but he must also seek an understanding of the subject or message he is teaching or preaching. This must be an underlining motive guiding his choice of the content of his “talk” or message.

f. STYLE OF PRESENTATION

To make communication effective, the style of delivering of “*talk*” or message is very important. The preacher or teacher must develop the ability to discern or understand the composition of his listeners or the level of their exposure or statue, academic qualification and background. So as to know what technique to use to effectively get his message or “*talk*” to them. The style of delivery of “*talk*” or message delivery includes:

- (i) Voice pitch or technique
- (ii) Bodily movement
- (iii) Eyes movement
- (iv) Forelimbs or Hand gesture or waving
- (v) Positioning Style
- (vi) Legs kicking
- (vii) Jumping, dancing etc.

How well we are able to choose these things will also determine the effectiveness of preaching or teaching.

g. DISCERNING THE MIND OF GOD

This is the impact of the word of God in focus upon our spirit life. Another factor that is of vital importance to the empirical technique of a message is the ability of the minister to be able to discern the mind of God,

that is to know what God wants to be said at that particular time and venue and to a particular listener. It is not what we planned to say that is important but what God wants to say. The secret of success in any endeavour lies in our ability to be able to keep in touch and step with God. We must identify what direction God is heading and followed closely. As stated in the scripture;

"There are many plans in a man's heart, never the less the lord's counsel- that will stand."

Proverbs 19: 21 (KJV).



Furthermore, if we preach the mind or counsel of God, the word will withstand every test and succeed. The counsel of God is the proceeding word, full of power and life; it is also the life sustaining word. If the teacher or preacher can perfectly discern the proceeding word and preach the same word, it's impart in the life of the listener will be uncompered. Just as stated in the gospel of Paul to the Hebrews;

"For the word that God speaks is alive and full of power (making it active,

operative, energizing and effective) it is sharper than any two edged-sword..."Heb 4:12 (Amp).



As we accurately discern the mind of God in preaching or teaching we deliver his power and become His oracle or mouth piece: an echo of His voice and brings great blessing to our listeners. Remember what Apostle Peter said in the scripture;

"if any one speaks, let him speak as the oracle of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and the dominion forever and ever, Amen." 1 Peter 4:11 (KJV).



Teaching or preaching the mind of God guarantees the release of divine grace and divine mercy upon the teacher or preacher. It also ensures the release of God's power for the performance and transformation of the word. The gospel of St Luke says;

“For there is nothing that God cannot do.”*Luke 1:37(GNB).*



Whatever time and effort we have spent in prayer and fellowship with God in our bid to hear his voice and discern his purpose for his people has a clear demarcation and sacrifice when we consider the difference in just preaching or teaching the word of God and preaching or teaching the word from God. The word of God is the entire counsel of God as revealed in every book of the scripture. While the word from God is that specific Scripture that is relevant and applicable to us at that point in time which God himself long to share with us.



Chapter Seven

AFFINITY TECHNIQUE

Affinity as a principle is the ability of the preacher to catch by attracting the attention of the listener and sustain their focus on the message, while it lasts. This is one of the greatest secret of success in communicating the word of life. For a minister to earn the admiration of his listeners such that he will be able to catch their attention, he must be able to effectively and strategically package his message to appeal to his audience or listeners. He must be able to read and understand the environmental background, academic level, language affiliation and gauge the attention of his listeners, at every point in time. He must also be able to discern the best method and style

to use in teaching or preaching to them. The minister of the word must be able to stir up the people's hunger for the word and sustain their eagerness throughout the duration of the message.

The preacher's or teacher's ability to effectively package the message is determined by the attractive technique of the message. We must be careful; however, to ensure that in a bid to make the message full of affinity or attraction, we do not compromise the truth and jeopardize our objective. In the word of Jesus Christ, in the gospel of John;

“when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to me.” *John 12:32 (GNB).*



The affinity of the message should not also be at the expense of its depth in scriptural and doctrinal soundness. The principle of affinity was evident in the ministry of our lord Jesus Christ according to the gospel of Matthew's account of the sermon on the mount, with conclusive affinity from the multitude, as the scripture recorded in the gospel of Matthew;

“And so it was, when Jesus, had ended this sayings, that the people were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authorities, and not as the scribes.” *Matt 7:28-29 (KJV).*



Some things are clearly expressed here, one is, Matthew attributed it to Jesus Christ our lord, style of message delivery. He also add quickly, that this is the reason why he was different from the scribes. Secondly, the response of the crowd to the ministry of our Lord Jesus Christ shows that Jesus Christ our lord had a full affinity and attention of the crowd.

The example of affinity is cited in the scripture in Act of the Apostle, where Philip was able to attract the people with a powerful affinity that carried them through the duration of the ministration as the crowd listened to and also obeyed what he said. Thus:

“Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them. The crowds with one accord were giving attention to what

was said by Philip; as they heard and saw the signs which he was performing.” Acts 8; 5-6 (NASB).



We must realize that before the word can gain an entrance to peoples life, it must first get their attention. Technique of affinity commands attention and attention permits entrance, so to effectively deliver the word of God, we must uphold the principle of affinity technique. The scripture says in Psalms;

“the entrance of thy words giveth light, it giveth understanding unto the simple.” Psalms 119:130(KJV).

However, there are some factors that could make the word to flow well in technique of affinity, they are:

- a. Style of delivery
- b. Sequential arrangement of thought
- c. Clarity and simplicity of expression and Illustration
- d. voice of the presenter & microphone
- e. Controlled focus
- f. Ceaseless flow

a. Style of delivery

Preaching or teaching style is often more memorable than the message substance. Your style of delivery determines the ability of the message to command and sustain the undivided attention of your listeners.

The two major styles of delivery are:

- i. The Lecturer Approach
- ii. The Story teller's Approach

The lecturers approach to preaching or teaching is characterized by an explanation of the message using basically the scripture or bible.

The story teller's approach combines both the scriptural explanation and practical illustration that the people can identify with to expand the message. Our lord Jesus Christ made use of this approach most often, as he uses parable to illustrate spiritual things or truth.

b. Sequential arrangement of thoughts

This is one other point that affects the technique and power of affinity of a message. There ought to be a progressive sequence or building up of the message, just like the bible talked of line upon line and precept upon precept. We must arrange the resources of a message in a way that it is a gradual build up that keeps the hearer eager until he reached the climax. The minister must break the message into a comprehensive sequence which must include a good introduction that stir up the hunger of the listener for more. Then he must move quickly to the main message or content and as soon as he reaches the climax, he must quickly summarize his message.

c. Clarity and simplicity of expression and illustration

The preacher or teacher must also know that his objective is not to impress his listeners with his display of vocabulary. He should impact their lives with the truth of God's word, so he must be careful in his choice of expression so that he may not use grammatical word that listener would look out for an English dictionary to find its meaning. He must understand that his assignment is to give an understanding of spiritual truth to his listeners. So he must use, simple and clear expression with simple illustration that will make his listeners at every point in time to understand his message. He must also realize that, his good command of words or language eloquence will also give him an added advantage in the technique of affinity by getting the attention of his listeners. There is no substitute to clear speech. Your idea may be sensational, your motivation sincere and your preparation impeccable but if you don't speak plainly your message will be lost.

d. The voice of the presenter and microphone

The clarity of the public address system or microphone in various fellowship, ministries or prayer groups or churches is nothing to write home about. They may be in good working condition but not good enough for respective handlers. It is the duty of the minister to study the microphone to understand its audio sensitivity and Sound flow before mounting the pulpit. This will enable him to adjust quickly to avoid divided attention and distractions for the smooth delivery of the message. In some cases, the microphone does not want closeness to the lips or mouth due to the sound and heavy voice or high pitch voice of the presenter, which if insisted on, will jeopardize the delivery of the message.

Sisters with high pitch sound voice, when ministering are advised to keep the microphone farther away from their lips to enable the high pitch of their voice to be discerned by the ears of the listeners, likewise, men with heavy bass sound voice. The minister must always study the looks in the faces of the listeners to ascertain the perfect adjustment of the microphone.

His or her speech must not be too fast and not too slow, but moderate for grasping by the listeners. Shouting is not loudness and loudness is not being shouty. Loudness is an increase in the reception with an added clarity to the ears of the listeners

e. Controlled focus

The Minister must realize that his ability to employ the power of concentration or stay focused on a particular issue in his message will go a long way to sustain and attract the attention of his listeners. He must be disciplined to enable him to stay on course and maintain his focus throughout the duration of the message. People often get distracted when the teacher or preacher begins to jump or perambulate from one issue to another. Controlled focus is the ability of being disciplined and on target, cutting off anything that would cause distraction. It is also one of the Secrets of sustaining the attention of the listeners. This is why it is compulsory that we accurately and clearly define what the message will be.

f. Ceaseless flow

The probability of distractions and loss of attention can be greatly reduced, if the minister ensures a ceaseless flow of the word throughout the period of the message delivery. He must take necessary precaution to avoid any long pause in the flow of the communication as this can cause a disinterest and reduce the attractiveness of the message.

The precaution taken to avoid unnecessary long pause while preaching or teaching are as follows:

- (1) During the preparation of the message outline.
note: Write out all the scriptural references clearly with numbers so that you don't have to pause while preaching or teaching to look for it.
- (2) If it is a lengthy passage, put a book mark or a sign or an object or anything so that you can open to the page while preaching without pausing or distraction.
- (3) And make your references clear.



Chapter Eight

CONVICTION TECHNIQUES

The responsibility of a teacher or preacher is to bring the attention of his listeners to a point at which they are fully convinced at the reality and reliability of God's word. The Minister of the word must realize that as a communicator his assignment does not end at ensuring that his listeners have an in depth understanding of the spiritual truth, but as a minister who strive to convince people of the personage or personality and quality of the life giving word of our lord Jesus Christ and the need to follow him. This is why the preacher or teacher must be fully convinced of the word before he endeavors to preach to others. The ultimate goal in preaching or teaching

is to translate the listeners from being Just a hearer to a doer of the word. This would not be possible except they are fully convinced. In the scripture it is stated;

“But those who look closely into the perfect law that sets people free, who keep on paying attention to it and do not simply listen and then forget it, but put it into practice - they will be blessed by God in what they do.”

James 1:25(G.N.B).



CONVICTION AND PERSUASION

Preaching or teaching can be thought of as the sharing of strong conviction. The minister must speak with a sure word and a positive spirit, do not just preach a word because it is a good word but preach it because you are fully convinced of its truth. Remember that the word must be real to you before it can be real to others. Conviction promotes a passionate delivery of the word. Realize that your enthusiasm, passion and conviction are contagious and transferable and if they are lacking, whatever other attitude you exhibit while ministering the word would also be transferred to your listeners.

Never stand to preach a word until you are fully convinced of it. Apostle. Paul says to the Romans in the scripture;

“for I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, ... Nor things nor any other things to come, nor power, nor light, nor depth, nor other created things, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our lord.”
Romans 8:38 – 39 (NASB).



The power of conviction removes doubt and gives such an assurance that causes people to be Irrevocable reservedly sold out to God's word irrespective of challenges. In the scripture, it says,

“What we have seen and heard we proclaim it to you also, so that you too may have fellowship with us and indeed our fellowship is with the father, and with the son Jesus Christ.”
1 John 1:3 (NASB).



The technique of conviction is simply and clearly illustrated by Apostle, John In the above scripture. He said that, we declare and testify of what we ourselves have heard, which we have also seen as a revelation. He further declared; we have handle this in reality, we have experienced the truth of God's promise. He concluded in verse four thus:

“And we are now writing these things to you so that our joy(in seeing you included) may be full (and your joys may be completed).”1 John 1:4 (AMP).



We must also ensure that we preach or teach out of what God has ministered to us, which we are fully convinced of. Our messages should be built upon revelations which we have proven, tested and found to be the truth with convictions. We must bear in mind that not only do we transfer knowledge to our listeners, we also transfer our spiritual attitude along with the word and if our attitude is not of conviction in what we are preaching or teaching, we end up transferring the same to them. For this reason Apostle Paul said;

“One man esteems one day as better than another, while another man esteems all days alike (sacred). Let everyone be fully convinced (satisfied) in his own mind.” Romans 14:5(AMP).



Deep and personal conviction is prerequisite to passionate preaching and it goes a long way to enhance the ability of the word to fully persuade, convince and also convict the hearer. In the scripture, it states;

“When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles 'Brothers what shall we do.'”Acts 2:37(NIV).



This is the result of conviction. It brings the people to a place of definite conviction, where they can't help but crave to do something about the truth they have just heard.

CONVICTION AND PASSION

Good preaching or teaching must bring together well reasoned sound biblical content and intense passion.

Dispassionate “*talk*” or message actually communicates apathy and indifference, which end up undermining the personality and integrity of the word. Teaching or preaching with genuine heart felt favor energized by the spirit of unction is the secret of conviction. The word of God leaves no one in doubt. When a well-trained mind, filled with knowledge, skilled at clarity, motivated by the love for the truth and energized by the Holy Spirit, preaches it passionately. Listeners of such message are undoubtedly overwhelmed, they feel the great impart of God's truth and are fully convinced of it. Note; that how we deliver the message is as important as the message itself.

CONVICTION AND POWER

St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians reveals another secret of conviction - the power of the Holy Spirit. He make us understand that conviction is not the product of enticing and plausible word of wisdom, but rather, an evidence of the spirit and power of God operating on the preacher or teacher and also stirring the minds of the listeners:

“And my teaching and message were not delivered with skillful words of human wisdom, but with convincing proof of the power of God's spirit.”

1 Cor 2:4-5 (GNB).



This is why it should be our priority to preach under the manifested power of God's presence.

CONVICTION AND AUTHORITY

Our Lord Jesus Christ did not proclaim the word of God with apology or as one unsure of what he is saying, rather, he taught with such boldness and authority that the crowds were astonished and overwhelmed. Listeners were fully convinced of the word He preaches unto them, because He taught the word of God with boldness, authority and power. As said in the scripture in Matthew;

“When Jesus had finished these sayings (the Sermon on the Mount), the crowd were astonished and overwhelmed with bewilder, wonder at his teaching, for he was teaching as

one who had and was authority not as did the scribes.” *Matt 7:28-29 (AMP)*.



Authority and convinced delivery of the word is a function of many factors, such as:

- a. Source of message.
- b. Adequate knowledge.
- c. Divine presence.
- d. Holiness.

a. Source of the message

Jesus Christ our lord spoke with authority, because his message came from God the father, flowing from the inner conviction of the Holy Spirit, as they were rooted in the infallible scriptures. In the scripture in John, States;

“I have much to say in judgment of you. But he who sent me is trust worthy, and what I have heard from him I tell the world.” *John 8:26 (NIV).*



When our source is authentic as was the case with Jesus Christ our lord in the above scripture, we will have the boldness to be authoritative in our proclamation of the word.

The message of the scribe is based on the second person singular “He” but Jesus Christ our lord's statement or words is purely based on the first person singular “I”. The scribe words are full of human reasoning and philosophy with fallible sources, therefore lacking in authority. As Apostle Matthew clearly said;

“And in vain they worshipped me, teaching as doctrines the commandment of man.” *Matt 15:9 (KJV).*



When our message is inspired by a word from the lord, we receive boldness to authoritatively proclaim it in a convincing manner.

b. Adequate Knowledge

Lack of sound spiritual Knowledge and unbalanced doctrine has resulted in many preacher's or teacher's inability to convincingly preach or teach the word of God with authority to those who desperately are in need of it. This is why the teacher or preacher must thirst and hunger for adequate knowledge of God's word.

c. Divine Presence

Anointed Preaching or teaching will always produce a strong convincing influence in the lives of the listeners. This was clearly visible in the ministry of our lord Jesus Christ who is under the divine presence of God the father as he began. As stated in the gospel of Luke;

“the spirit of the lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor...” *Luke 4:18 (NIV).*



The spirit of the Lord on Jesus Christ was the divine presence and endowed influence that gave Him boldness to deliver the word of God with so much power, authority and conviction. When the teacher or preacher of the word is under the influence of the

Holy Spirit, during presentation of message he is overwhelmed by the authority, power and boldness to proclaim the word of God. As stated in the scripture;

“for prophesy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the holy spirit.”

2 Pet 1:21 (KJV).



d. Holiness

The ministers, yield to the influence and command of the Holy Spirit is a pure mark of Holiness. One of the climax of convinced preaching or teaching is a quest by the preachers or teachers passionate desires for Holiness. In the scripture, its states;

“and you shall be holy to me, for I the lord am holy, and have separated you from the people, that you should be mine.” *Leviticus 20:26 (KJV).*



This clearly show the importance of being holy in the work of God. You were called, not by your choice to be a minister. God the father, separated you from all the

people that you are ministering to and from all other ministers of God for that particular mission.

Everyone listening to you wants to emulate you, and to live the life that you led. What if the life you live does not give glory to the name of the lord Jesus Christ? What if your convincing ministration is not true to your life? Are you like the men who says “do what I say, but do not do what I do? In the gospel of Mark, it states;

“if anyone causes one of this little ones – those who believe in me – to stumble, it would be better for them if a large millstone were hung around their neck and they were thrown into the sea.”*Mark 9:42 (NIV).*



Note: As a preacher or teacher, the people you are ministering to, develops interest to know you beyond your physic.



Chapter Nine

CREDIBILITY TECHNIQUE

A credible preacher or teacher is a trust worthy minister, a credible mouth piece of God and a credible image of God. The Minister is as important as the message he delivers. When the credibility of the minister is acceptable, his message is approved and received by the people. In the letter of Apostle Paul to Timothy; Paul put the man before the ministry, to let us know that the man will always be considered first before the ministry. In the epistle of Paul to Timothy;

“Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in those things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself

and for those who hear you.”

Tim 4:16 (NASB).



Paul encourages Timothy to leave well and examine himself, his involvements, his dealing, his tempers, etc. And ensure that his personal life conforms to his teaching.

The minister as a credible image of God must not give up in the work of God, must not give up in the task of salvation message he is called to do and should not abandon his personal soul and that of the people who are listening to him. In the letter of Paul to the Corinthian;

“Everyone who competes in the game goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore, I don't run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached

to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.”

1 Cor. 9:25-27(NIV).



God is our salvation in Christ Jesus our lord and so the ministers as an image of God is or should be an example of salvation to others.

Apostle Paul words here shows the personal lifestyle of the athletes who goes a long way to enhance their performance on the field, because of this a good athlete, as part of his training conducts himself temperately and restricts himself from all things. We as the gospel proclaimers are advised to do likewise and pay close attention to our personal conducts and lifestyles, lest we become unapproved and rejected as a counterfeit. Pay close attention of people's opinion about you, particularly those who walk close to you. None of us is objective enough to point out our own short coming, but the opinions and observations of others can become a mirror through which we can see ourselves and realize our short coming.



We should always put on an active listening ears. Never fear criticism when you are right and never ignore it when you are wrong. Note: that the character of the preacher and the nature of his or her walk and works are inevitably bound with the preaching or teaching events. In the epistle of Paul to the Corinthians;

“God in his mercy has given us this work to do, and so we are not discouraged. We put aside all secrets and shameful deeds, we do not act with deceit, nor do we falsify the word of God, in the full light truth we live in God's sight and try to commend ourselves to everyone's good conscience.” 2Cor 4:1-2(GNB).



Consequently, we must strive earnestly to pay attention and monitor our personal growth and also to maintain our credibility unto the end of our race, so that in so doing, we commend ourselves to every man`s conscience. Paul again put his personal testimony first before his ministry achievements, to let us know that we can enrich our testimony and maintain our credibility to prevent us from being short changed. In the scripture it is stated;

“However from Miletus he sent to Ephesus and summoned the elders of the church to come to him there. And when they arrived he said to them; you yourselves are well acquainted with my manner of living among you from the first day that I set foot in Asia, and how I continued afterward.”Acts 20:17-18 (AMP).



If the word of God cannot change us and transform the defects in our personal lives, how dare we peddle the same to others to change them. Our credibility lends credence to the transforming power of God's word.

Every minister, preacher or teacher who intends to remain credible and void of offence toward God and men must of necessity do as Apostle Paul showed in the scripture below.

“Therefore I always exercise and discipline myself (mortifying my body deadening my carnal affections, bodily appetite and worldly desires endeavoring in all respect) to have a clear (unshaken, blameless) conscience, void of offence toward God and toward men.” Acts 24:16(AMP).



We must remember that it's going to take a lot of discipline and self-denial to kill our carnal affection, ungodly appetite and worldly desires. This is a continuous and ongoing process that we must uphold on a daily basis to be able to live as credible sons and daughters of God and a true minister of God. What you believe determines always how you behave, so your belief is supposed to guide your behavior and when your behavior is contrary to what you preach or teach, it simply shows that you do not believe in it. How then do you expect anyone else to do it, when you are not doing it?

This is the same sin Jesus Christ our lord accused the Pharisees of committing. in the gospel of Matthew Says;

"Then Jesus spoke to the crowd and to his disciple, saying "The scribes and Pharisees have seated themselves in the chair of Moses, therefore all that they tell you, do and observe, but do not do according to their deeds; for they say things and do not do them. They tie up heavy burdens and lay them on men's shoulders, but they themselves are unwilling to move them with so much as a finger."
Mathew 23:1-4 (NASB).



*“What you preach or teach
and how you live as a preacher
or teacher matters to the Lord”*

Is it not an irony that a preacher or teacher will preach or teach something and expect others to do it, while he himself is not doing it? Apostolic traditions and life is in contrast to that of scribe and Pharisees. So Apostle Paul urges us to be a clean breed of the sons of God in emulating and practicing our divine calling and mandate. He pleads with us to put up a behavior worthy of a minister- preacher or teachers of God;

“As a prisoner for the lord, then I urge you, to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.” Eph. 4:1 (NIV).





Chapter Ten

TILLING AND PLOUGH-UP TECHNIQUE

Tilling or digging is a process used in an agricultural terminology to indicate the breaking of the soil into small granules or particles to expose the inner rich fertile, and dark soil for planting. These are the dynamic duo ingredient that the minister requires for effective and successful communicating of God's word to his Listeners and preparing the state of their mind to receive the word of God for open doors.

The preacher requires a receptive, fertile and repentant heart condition of his listeners before he can successfully impact the word of God in them. Consequently, the heart of the listeners must be rid of

the stony or rocky hard surface with its outgrowth of satanic weeds and thorns of evil doctrine, practices, tradition of men and negative informations which hardens the mind of the people with resultant blindness to the eyes of the heart from understanding the word of God. In the Scripture, it says;

“So get rid of all uncleanness and the rampant outgrowth of wickedness, and in a humble (gentle modest) spirit receive and welcome the word which implanted and rooted in your heart contains the power to save your soul.”James 1:12 (AMP).



It will not be possible for the word to gain entrance into their heart and release transforming power into their lives if we are not clean. Now, the functions of the preacher or teacher is, as a matter of penitence becomes that of intercessor.

The word of God is like a seed that cannot germinate until it is incubated in the womb of a prepared and rich soil. So also except the word is able to fall into the

fertile ground of our hearts, it cannot produce the 30, 60, or 100 folds result. In the scripture, it says;

“They do not believe, because their minds have been kept in the dark by the evil god of this world. He keeps them from seeing the light shining on them, the light that comes from the Good news about the glory of Christ, who is the exact likeness of God. For it is not ourselves that we preach; we preach Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus sake.” 2 Cor. 4:3-5 (GNB).



Hostile attitude to the word, unbelief, doubt and total rejection of God's counsel are all results of this satanic covering over the heart of the people as revealed in the scripture.

Consequently, their unwillingness to take a bold step in tilling the stony heart they possess and uprooting the evil outgrowth of thorns, is marked as unwillingness to surrender to the word of God. However, the intercessory relevance of the minister is

called to play: in the Scripture, it says;

“So they said to one another let us select a leader and return to Egypt. Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assembly of the congregation of the children of Israel.....and all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Now the glory of the Lord appeared in the tabernacle of meeting before all the children of Israel.”*Number 14:4-5, and verse 10(KJV).*



The spirit of those who refused to surrender are as wicked as witchcraft manipulations, wanting to go back to Egypt or remain in the wilderness or Egypt. They are eager to frustrate the minister-teacher or preacher of God's word out of existence with full load of paralyses to their ministry. By the power of humble spirit and prostration in the open assembly before God in prayer, the intercessory mandate is restored with super mechanized and powerful tilling and plough-up by the Holy Spirit across the stony heart of the listeners.

This is an exclusive effect or role of the Holy Spirit – the transformer-across the heart and life of the participant who were adamant to tilling and plough-up of their heart or surrender to the ministry of the word. However, for the fact that you are a participant, respective of the state of your mind, you have agreed to return with all you are; thus the word spoken by God in the Scripture. With a covenanted word or article “If”, it says,

“if you, Israel, will return, then return to me”, declares the Lord. “If you put away your detestable idol out of my sight and no longer go astray and if in a truthful, just and righteous way you swear,” “As surely as the Lord lives, then the nations will invoke blessing by Him and in Him they will boast.”*Jeremiah 4:1-2(NIV).*



What the spirit of the Lord God is saying as you have return in participation in the fellowship, you should put away your detestable idol, such as fornication, immoralities, worldly life style, lying, untruthfulness, adultery etc and partake in his covenanted word, of results, “then”, and do the needful as you received and

retain the promise. Emphatically, as the Holy Spirit is totally in charge of the participation, it says in furtherance to the Scripture in Jeremiah; This is what the Lord says to the people of Judah and Jerusalem;

“Break up your unplowed ground and do not sow among thorns. Circumcise yourselves to the Lord; circumcise your hearts, you people of Judah an inhabitant of Jerusalem or my wrath will flare up and burn like fire...” *Jeremiah 4:3-4(NIV).*



God of all spirit says to the participants to break up any other unplowed ground associated to their lives such as evil engagement, backbiting, gossips, hatred, fornication etc. However, the skin cut-off in circumcision does not grow back, that is to say, cut off your skin of desire to the world that you would be focused on Him- the Holy Spirit alone.

The question now is, how do you cut off your skin of desire to the world or break-up your unplowed ground? Before attending to the questions mentioned

above we would remember the tilling effect of Moses intercessory engagement before the participating assembly of the children of Israel at the tabernacle of meeting in the scripture. It stated that when the glory of the Lord God appeared in their presence with power and consumed the propagation of evil report and ploughed-up their stubborn, and stony heart with the power of his presence, the people that were afraid, were no longer fearful, the spirit of cowardice disappeared and they began to take their possession back with confidence.

“And they said to one another, let us make a captain and let us return into Egypt. Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces before all the assemblies of the congregation of the children of Israel.”*Numbers 14:4 (KJV).*



The book of Hosea clearly revealed to us that to plough-up or break-up the fallow grounds of hostile and rocky heart of immorality and sinfulness, quality time must be spent in intercessory prayer for the release of the rain of God's power to change or transform the hearts of men.

“Sow righteous for yourselves, reap the fruit of unfailing love, and break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the Lord, until he comes and showers his righteousness on you.” Hosea 10:2 (NIV).



This is clearly established in the life of Saul (Apostle Paul) as the believers prayed in an intercessory prayer against the activities of Saul to the church, when his journey came to a close at Damascus. In Act of the Apostle. Says;

“And suddenly a light shone around him from heaven.” Acts 9:3 (KJV).



That light is the power of the presence of the Holy Spirit that also came down at the tabernacle of meeting in the Scripture; Numbers 14:4-5. That made the children of Israel to convincingly resolve to take their possession.

So, that light of power of the presence of the Holy Spirit made Saul to be convinced and he called Jesus Christ, **“Lord”**, Act 9:6(KJV) and he demanded;

“What do you want me to do.”

The light of the power of his presence is the power of the spiritual mechanized break-up and plough-up across the stony and rocky hearts of unbelief.

However, the preacher or teacher cannot be stronger on his feet in preaching or teaching than he has to be on his knees in prayer. Open hearts guarantees open heaven.



Open Heaven

The influence of intercessory in the preaching and teaching of the word has dual effects. On one hand, Intercessory produce power that overcome every opposition to a good reception of the word and opens the heart of the listeners to receive and give entrance to the word. This is the horizontal effects of prayers. On the

other hand, Intercessory prayers also has a vertical effects on the ministrations of the word, this vertical effects is what is known as open Heaven. This opens to abundant of blessing without borders, it is the secret of transformation or changes which is confirmed with signs and wonders, as the accounts of mark revealed in the gospel;

“And they went out and preach everywhere, while the Lord kept working with them and confirming the message by the attesting signs and miracles that closely accompanied (it) Amen (so be it).” Mark 16:20 (Amp).



Note: the word miracle also means wonder in some translations.

However, the preacher or teacher has a function of leadership to the listeners as he mounts the podium. The leadership function is in two forms;

a. Main leadership:

If the ministry is his founding idea. And auxiliary leadership: when he is on invitation. Leadership is

often by proxy, nomination, consensus or election. The invitation could be from within the prayer group, ministry and parish or from the outside (other places). The aim of the leadership by the ministers is to bring the searching hearts of the listeners closer to God and in the path of God. Leadership is exemplified from the book of Genesis in the scripture, when Joseph was made a leader over the land of Egypt and the house of Israel. Leadership has been within the children of Israel until the death of Joshua in the scripture who became leader after Moses.

“Now it came to pass after these things that Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of the Lord died, being one hundred and ten years old.” Joshua 24:29



Afterwards, the leadership in the house of Israel came from the outside, when they sinned against God. They became conquered and were forced with hard labor and painful experience in a way, such that they began to look-out for the path to God their redeemer. Consequently, leaders were chosen in the book of Judges to lead them to God's path.

However, the minister is also a light bearer who searches out the true path to God as written in the scriptures through the word of our Lord Jesus Christ and the tradition of the apostles.

Furthermore, to be successful in preaching or teaching, the minister must accept and recognize the efficacy of an altar and its role in the life of a believer and the congregation. An altar is an enclosure where the minister or the believer can go and talk to God in privacy. It is a place of talking to God and receiving from God through inspirations and revelations. It is a place of making covenant with God about - among other things - your ministry. It is a place of detachment or isolation from the world. It is also a place of attentiveness in hearing from the scripture. It is a place of oath taking between you, your ministry and God. It is a place of refreshment and restoration. In the scripture, it says,

**“The lord God commanded Moses
to build an altar for him.”**

Exodus 20:23-26 (KJV)



Temple, tabernacle or sanctuary are all the structures housing the altar. The scripture states;

“And let them make me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them... “And there I will meet with you, and I will speak with you from above the mercy seat, from between the two Cherubim which are on the ark of the testimony, about everything which I will give you in commandment to the children of Israel.” Exodus 25:8-22 (KJV)



Commandment here implies rules or engagement for light in the end of our tunnel of difficulties, such as uncertainties, indecisions or marriage, child birth, financial breakthrough, academic excellence, etc.

The Lord God demanded for a sanctuary from Moses where he will meet and talk to the people. If our bodily altar defaults or is not active in the reception from God we go to the physical sanctuary and re-energized.

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you?” 1 Cor 3:16 (KJV).





Chapter Eleven

PREPAREDNESS AND PACKAGING TECHNIQUE

“Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” Mark 16:15 (KJV).



This is a mandate given to every believer by the act of baptism or sacrament of baptism. By this mandate, every believer is placed or stationed in the state of preparedness to preach the gospel or scripture. Preparedness is an endowment of every baptized and confirmed child of God; in the course of which, the spirit of boldness, power and eager for the word of God is planted with its fire inside of him or her.

Preparedness and packaging encompasses everything that goes into the preparation and presentation of the message. This include the physical appearance of the minister or his or her dressing, looks, choice of title, style of delivery, choice of illustration and expression.

Now, all of us who have the preparedness or mandate to go and preach, are confronted with a more hilarious situation due to inability in packaging our message(s) to our targeted audience. The preacher now is a light bearer because the gospel of the scripture which he preached is the gospel of light. He must note the mode of the rays of the light of the gospel that falls on his listeners to be either; motivational, prophetic, impactful or intercessory preaching or teaching.



The technique of preparedness and packaging, simply states that the preacher or teacher must carefully and tactfully presents his message in a way and manner that is most effective in communicating with his audience. Apostle Paul's message on God strengthening the believer from the rich treasury of His glory: in his letters to the Ephesians, states;

“I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his spirit in your inner being.”
Ephesians 3:16 (NIV).



In the same way, it is the duty of the preacher or teacher to reinforce the message out of the treasury of his stock of resources. This is why it is very important that the preacher invests in a rich library of resources including Christian literatures, relevant secular book, audio tapes, video tapes, encyclopedia of the Roman Catholic Church and other reference tools, such as Bible Concordance, various bible versions, bible dictionary, English dictionaries etc. From his rich stock, he will be able to glean good resources to buttress and reinforce the message God had given him

to deliver to the people. Our Savior, Jesus Christ had a good stock of illustrative stories that he uses as parables to explain and simplify complex spiritual truth to the people.

A careful observation of his ministry reveals how he uses natural land marks and physical illustrations that the people were very familiar with to communicate spiritual truth. He was able to do this without toning down the message of the scriptures. We must be conscious of this also.

In preaching or teaching packaging of the message, the teacher, or preacher must consider the background of the audience he would be ministering to at every point in time so that he will be able to know what pattern would be appropriate and applicable to them.

One other area which the preacher or teacher must equally pay close attention to in preaching or teaching packaging is his personal appearance or dressing mode. The minister needs to realize that people see him and looked at him first before they listen to him.

The first impression matters a lot. His appearance will go a long way to determine his acceptance or otherwise. Attire determines attractions or rejection. Your dressing must be neat and appropriate without rumbles. Use your first impression to create approvals for yourselves in order to soften the soil for planting of the word with ease. Joseph the dreamer had a message for the palace, but he also knew that there is right attire and an appropriate appearance for the palace, so, when he was summoned to the palace, he took off his prison uniform, took time and shaved to create an acceptance for himself in the palace.

According to the scripture;

“The king sent for Joseph, and he was immediately brought from the prison, after he had shaved and changed his clothes, he came into the king's presence.” Gen 41:14 (GNB).

You must have a good sense of style; know what to wear, what a good combination is and also what is appropriate for occasions.

Clarity and good sentence syntax, accuracy of expression and proper pronunciation will all go a long way to enhance our message and promote good delivery.

Once in a while, do a good word study, learn correct pronunciations of words, their meaning with correct sentence and their uses. Remember you are both a communicator and educator, so you need to study well. Furthermore, be careful not to use a more sophisticated language and vocabulary above your listeners or audience. Consequently the power and beauty of the Gospel is in its simplicity.



Chapter Twelve

REVIEW AND REHEARSAL TECHNIQUE

If you are just starting newly or a new comer in the ministry, the art of regular practice is the secret of improving our preaching or teaching skills. Learn to review your performances after each preaching or teaching engagement, note areas of strength and build on it, as well as the areas of weakness to improve on. No one is a professional in the art of preaching or teaching, but God only, and he supplies the wisdom to his servants.

Commit yourself to a constant improvement. As a beginners, the following guideline will be of great help to you; after you have carefully prepared your message, take time to minister to yourself or use

someone very honest to you as your sounding board or reflector. Minister what you have prepared to yourself, then evaluate the flow of the message, progression of revelation, sequence of information, harmony of the entire message, accuracy of outline and style etc. This will help you to discover areas of imperfection and make a necessary correction before delivery.

Find and identify someone who would be a mentor to you and whose pattern of ministry is inspiring to you and begin to understand and model yourself after their style of teaching or preaching. Also remember in the race of destiny, your greatest competitor is yourself. Race against your own records, refuse to be satisfied neither be complacent, be focused.

Try always to beat your best record with each passing day in preaching or teaching art. You will ever need to improve and also to depend on the Holy Spirit at every point and make it a habit to visit the altar or chapel at a regular interval to learn how to hear and condescend from the Holy Spirit. In the scripture, Apostle Paul writes to the Philippians;

“Not that I have already obtains it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay of that for which also I was laid hold off by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet: but one thing I do; forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead. I pressed on towards the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.” *Philippians 3:12-14 (NASB).*



Preaching or teaching is an art which can be developed and improved through constant and regular practice. If you keep practicing the art of preaching or teaching, look for ways to improve yourself, the Lord will definitely perfect you and help you master the areas of your shortcomings.

Keep at it, don't get easily discouraged, when you preach or teach a message for the first time and it does not sound so good, work on it, and work on yourself, improve your vocabularies, your stresses, your manner of presentation, even your personal hygiene. Also spend more time in prayer and visit the chapel or altar. Go at it again at another given opportunity and see you will be much better than the previous time. In the Scripture, it says;

“The Lord will perfect that which concerns me; your mercy, o Lord endures forever; do not forsake the work of your hand.” Psalm 138:8 (KJV).



In conclusion, the word of Apostle Paul to Timothy is applicable also to you as a beginner, the letter of Paul to Timothy, states;

“Preach the word: Be ready in season and out of season. Convinced, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth and be turned aside to fables. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”2Timothy 4:2-5 (KJV).

AMEN



NOTE: Charismatic is the spirit of teaching, evangelism, welfare, praise and worship, stewards etc.



GLOSSARY

- GNB - Good News Bible
- KJV - King James Version (mostly New King James Version).
- NASB - New American Standard Bible
- AMP - Amplified Bible
- NIV - New International Version