

## Handling the Text: Pastoral Exegesis

Since the Bible is God's instrument of change, transformation and grace, what does it mean to faithfully handle God's Word? How should a preacher study and interpret a passage in order to arrive at a faithful understanding of it? What are the basic steps involved in studying the Bible that will set up the preacher to be ready to prepare a message that will bring transformation to the lives of those who will hear and respond to it? The ultimate goal is not to merely educate, but to see lives changed. This session looks at Bible study with the goal of genuine life change.

**Jamie Rasmussen** is Senior Pastor of Scottsdale Bible Church in Arizona, and teaches with a unique combination of well-reasoned research, life experience and authentic application. Having a driving passion for the local church, his leadership style is both visionary and strategic. He has been an ordained pastor for 20 years and has led growing churches in Michigan, Canada and Ohio. He serves on the Board of Directors for St. Mary's Food Bank, the second-largest food bank in the US. He travels extensively to Mexico, China, Tanzania, Egypt, Jordan and Israel to take a pulse of needs and engage his congregation in meeting them. Jamie and his wife Kim have three teenage children.

### Introduction:

*HOW a message get's put together determines WHAT the message will end up like!*

**Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28...**

HOW to handle the text via sound pastoral exegesis...

### **I. BEGIN with BACKGROUND and CONTEXT**

A. Scriptural *background...within the Bible itself.*

B. Scriptural *context...with the particular book itself.*

*C. Historical background/context...*

## **II. DECLARE the MAIN POINT**

*A. Every passage has a main point...*

*B. Preaching the main point...*

## **III. TEACH using SUPPORT POINTS**

*A. Explain/teach the TEXT:*

1. *FLOW*

2. *WORDS*

3. *MEANING*

B. *Explain PROBLEM AREAS and OPTIONS...*

C. *LINK TO THE 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY...*

#### **IV. ILLUSTRATE and APPLY what you TEACH**

*THREE OPTIONS on HOW to do this:*

1. *As you go along...*

2. *At key intervals...*

3. *As a wrap up/summary...*

## **V. Putting it all together...**