

## From Passage to Pulpit

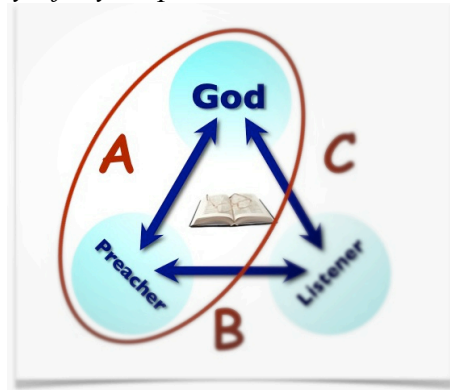
The journey from a biblical text to a life-changing message is a thrilling quest. We get to engage with God's heart personally, and participate in His mission to transform the lives of others. But the journey from passage to pulpit, from text to message can feel long and complex. This presentation is a simple guide to that journey. Whether you are new to preaching or a seasoned veteran, this guide will both stir and help the preacher to travel well and preach God's Word effectively.

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### Introduction . . . Mapping the Quest: From Ancient Text to Contemporary Pulpit

#### I. The First Location: The \_\_\_\_\_

**Your goal:** *To accurately state the main idea of the passage in a single sentence summary as you prayerfully respond to God's work in your life through that passage.*



#### Preparation Stages:

1. **Passage Selection** - select the passage you will preach (or check the passage you've been assigned).
2. **Passage Study** – “no matter how clever you are, what you can make it say is not as good as what God made it say!” So study:

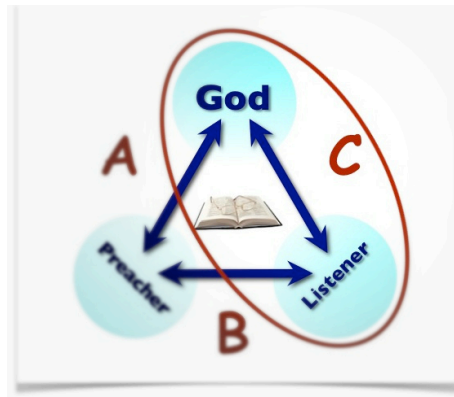
- a. **Context**
  - i. Historical Context
  - ii. Written Context
- b. **Content**
  - i. Details
  - ii. Structure / Flow of thought

3. **Passage Purpose** – What was the author trying to achieve by writing this passage? Look for explicit statement of purpose, as well as implicit intention revealed by tone, content, etc.

4. **Passage Idea** – State the thought of the section in a single sentence summary.

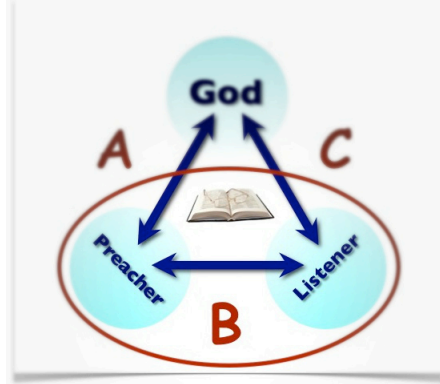
**II. The Second Location: \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_!**

**Your goal:** *To bring the listeners and the passage before the Lord in prayer so that you can prepare a targeted message for them from that passage.*



**III. The Third Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your goal:** *To prepare a message that will effectively communicate the prayed through main idea of the passage to the particular listeners as an act of love for them.*

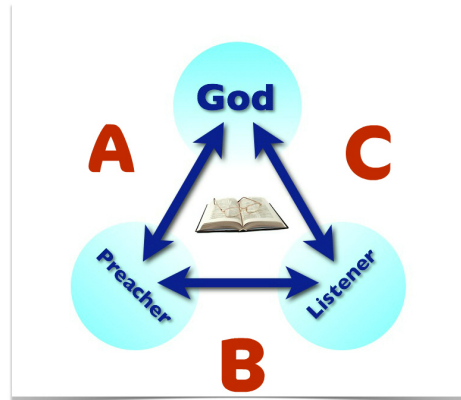


**Preparation Stages:**

5. **Message Purpose** – What are you trying to achieve by preaching this message?
6. **Message Idea** – What is your message, in a single sentence?
7. **Message Strategy** – When will you communicate you message idea? When will your message show relevance to the listener? What is your plan / outline / structure / skeleton / strategy?
8. **Message Detail** – How will you explain, prove or apply the elements in the message? How will you effectively and engagingly introduce the message? How will you encouragingly conclude the message?

**IV. The Fourth Location:** \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

**Your goal:** *To prayerfully deliver a biblical, clear, engaging, and relevant message so as to reach the lost, build the church and please your Lord.*



### ***Recommended resources***

See series of posts “The Four Places of Preaching” on [BiblicalPreaching.net](http://BiblicalPreaching.net), starting 5<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

Kent Edwards, *Deep Preaching* (B&H, 2009)

Ron Frost, *Discover the Power of the Bible* (Harvest House, 2000)

Darrell Johnson, *The Glory of Preaching* (IVP, 2009)

Ray Lubeck, *Read the Bible for a Change* (Authentic, 2005)

Michael Reeves, *The Good God* (Paternoster, 2012)

Haddon Robinson, *Biblical Preaching* (Baker, 2001)

Timothy Ward, *Words of Life* (IVP, 2009)

[www.biblicalpreaching.net](http://www.biblicalpreaching.net) – daily posts from Peter Mead relating to sermon preparation, delivery and the life of the preacher.

[www.cordeo.org.uk](http://www.cordeo.org.uk) – weekly posts from Peter Mead and Ron Frost relating to spiritual formation and applied theology.

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