

## **The Importance of the Bible and Preaching**

The Bible is God's instrument of change, transformation, and, above all, grace. We should expect that whenever the Bible is opened and faithfully taught, lives will be changed and transformed. This session will consider the role that Bible teaching has in the life of the disciple and the church. What are the convictions that a pastor must have in order to see transformation in the lives of those who hear and respond to the preaching of the Scriptures?

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### **Why Should We Teach and Preach The Bible?**

#### **I. Because of what the Bible is**

- A. The inspired Word of God – 2 Tim 3v16
- B. The living Word of God – Hebrews 4v12
- C. The final and complete Word of God – Hebrews 1v2; Revelation 22v18
- D. The fully truthful Word of God

#### **II. Because of what the Bible does**

- A. Enables us to hear God's voice today – Hebrews 3v7
- B. Reveals Jesus Christ – John 20v30-31; Luke 24v44-45

- C. Makes wise for salvation – 2 Timothy 3v15
- D. Commands new creation – 2 Corinthians 4v1-6
- E. Equips for Christian service – 2 Timothy 3v16
- F. Produces unity and maturity in the church – Ephesians 4v11-16

**III. Because of what the alternative to the Bible would be**

- A. Purely human wisdom – Colossians 2v8; Titus 1v14
- B. Myths – 1 Timothy 1v4, 4v7

**IV. Because of how the Bible is used in the New Testament**

- A. Reading the Bible – 1 Timothy 3v13
- B. Ministering the Bible to one another – Colossians 2v16
- C. Preaching the Bible
  1. Luke 4v16-21
  2. Luke 24v25-24
  3. Acts 2v14-41
  4. Acts 8v26-40
  5. 1 Corinthians 10v1-13
  6. Hebrews 3v7-4v13

**V. Because of how God gives gifts to minister the Bible**

- A. Gifted preachers & teachers

1. 1 Corinthians
2. Romans 12v7
3. Ephesians 4v11-13

- B. Elders are required to be able to preach and teach
1. 1 Timothy 3v2
  2. 1 Timothy 5v17

**VI. Because the common objections to preaching the Bible are invalid**

- A. The Bible is boring and irrelevant
- B. The Bible is God speaking yesterday not today
- C. The Bible is hard to understand
- D. Preaching is culturally inappropriate to postmodern cultures
- E. People don't want to listen to a sermons today

**VII. So how should we preach the Bible today?**

- A. Expository Biblical preaching
- B. Topical Biblical preaching
- C. Evangelistic Biblical preaching
- D. Devotional Biblical preaching

***Suggested Readings:***

Timothy Ward, *Words of Life* (IVP)

Don Carson (ed), *The Enduring Authority of the Christian Scriptures* (Eerdmans)

Tim Keller, *Preaching* (Hodder & Stoughton)

Peter Adam, *Speaking God's Words* (IVP)

David Helm, *Expositional Preaching* (IX Marks)

John Stott, *I Believe in Preaching* (Hodder & Stoughton)

Christopher Ash, *The Priority of Preaching* (Christian Focus)