What Does the Bible Teach About Effective Speaking?

August 11, 2022 Thursday Indepth Bible Class of the Trilacoochee church of Christ

- Think of a preacher you consider effective.
 - Entertainment ability, emotional manipulation, clever stories, or deep knowledge of secular matters ARE NOT relevant.
- What makes him effective? What does he do to hold your attention, impart understanding, and produce positive results in your life?
 - Bible class teacher
 - Conversationalist
 - Leader
- Consider the things that come together to make an effective communicator of the truth.

- This lesson is for:
 - Those who are preaching, teaching classes, or leading by instruction,
 - Those who plan to preach one day,
 - Those who want to know why their favorite teacher or preacher is effective,
 - For everyone to reconsider their own standards of what makes a good teacher.

- Things that have nothing to do with being a good preacher or teacher:
 - Entertaining, dynamic, exciting -- carnal, shallow
 - Educated, intellectual, deep -- carnal, secular
 - Good looking, good dresser, good mixer -- carnal, social
- These things say more about the hearer than the speaker or the message
- More often than not, what makes a popular preacher makes an ineffective gospel speaker

- Good preachers and teachers prepare themselves to become better preachers and teachers.
 - Ezra 7:10 "For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel."

Psalm 78:2-7 - "I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings of old, 3 Which we have heard and known, And our fathers have told us. 4 We will not hide them from their children, Telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, And His strength and His wonderful works that He has done. 5 For He established a testimony in Jacob, And appointed a law in Israel, Which He commanded our fathers, That they should make them known to their children; 6 That the generation to come might know them, The children who would be born, That they may arise and declare them to their children, 7 That they may set their hope in God, And not forget the works of God, But keep His commandments"

Prov. 22:17-21 - "Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise, And apply your heart to my knowledge; 18 For it is a pleasant thing if you keep them within you; Let them all be fixed upon your lips, 19 So that your trust may be in the LORD; I have instructed you today, even you. 20 Have I not written to you excellent things Of counsels and knowledge, 21 That I may make you know the certainty of the words of truth, That you may answer words of truth To those who send to you?"

- Good preachers and teachers do what is right, not what is popular.
 - Jer. 32:33 "And they have turned to Me the back, and not the face; though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not listened to receive instruction."

• 2Tim. 4:2-5 - "Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 3 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; 4 and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables. 5 But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry."

 Good preachers and teachers care more about those they preach and teach than they do about themselves.

– 1Thes. 2:3-12

- Good preachers and teachers instruct others to be preachers and teachers.
 - 1Sam. 19:20 "Then Saul sent messengers to take David. And when they saw the group of prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as leader over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied."
 - 2Kings 4:38 "And Elisha returned to Gilgal, and there was a famine in the land. Now the sons of the prophets were sitting before him; and he said to his servant, 'Put on the large pot, and boil stew for the sons of the prophets."
 - 2Tim. 2:2 "And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also."

- 1. Select a goal you can achieve.
- 2. Choose a subject that fits you, the occasion, and the audience.
- 3. Earn the right to speak by work and study.
- 4. Touch the basic human motives of response.
- 5. Make a thorough outline.

- 6. Begin and end the sermon in a forceful manner.
- 7. Be concrete and vivid.
- 8. Keep pace moving toward your goal.
- 9. Think it through and practice aloud.

10. Be enthusiastic, genial, and conversational when you speak.

- Preach and teach in such a way that when you go to bed at night you can sleep well, when you near your last days of life you can be content that you pleased the Lord.
- You don't get to that point if:
 - It's all about you,
 - It's all about promoting your family or leaving a legacy,
 - It's about anything but a purely altruistic motive.

• Acts 20:18-27

 2Tim. 4:6-8 - "For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing."