

Seven Keys To Remember When Public Preaching &  
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## **1. Preach and stay focused on properly communicating the gospel message.**

The first and foremost goal is to stay focused on your mission to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. Exalt Christ. Public preaching is not a time to protest or express long dissertations on political views, apologetics, or creation science. These issues can be discussed and used but with the ultimate goal of preaching the gospel and presenting Christ and Him crucified. Always stay focused on the message of the gospel and do your best to get the entire message out in the time allotted.

*1Cr 2:2-5 For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.*

## **2. Preach with gentleness, boldness and in love.**

Preach in love. Do not be harsh. Standing in the street in the middle of opposition requires that you are prayed up and filled with the Holy Spirit. Preachers that are filled

with the Spirit are not angry and do not talk down to people. Let people hear and see your sincerity. You don't have to be overly loud or animated, simply get the crowds attention, tell them why you are there and give them the message of the gospel. A simple way to begin is to introduce yourself and then simply deliver the message in love, with urgency.

*2Ti 2:24-26 The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses {and escape} from the snare of the devil, having been held captive by him to do his will.*

### **3. Preach with self control.**

When you preach you will be confronted by Christians and non believers alike who disagree with you. When confronted you must not get angry or defensive or lose focus. Simply respond in love and respect. Hecklers are good. You also see how hecklers and those that disagree will tend to draw you a bigger crowd. Consider opposition a blessing and a bigger opportunity to reach more people.

*1Cr 1:18 For the word of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. 1Cr 1:23 but we preach Christ crucified, to Jews a stumbling block and to Gentiles foolishness,*

*Mat 5:11-12 "Blessed are you when {people} insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great; for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

#### **4. Preach solid doctrine.**

Who is God, who is man, hell, repentance, faith, Lordship of Christ. Just because you are preaching to the unsaved does not mean doctrine is un- important. Don't get me wrong, you may not discuss all theological issues on the street corner. But Christianity without doctrine is like a pretty puzzle disassembled, thrown all over the floor. God centered preaching stems from proper doctrine.

Unfortunately, street preachers can easily fall into the trap of compromise, especially when touchy subjects and questions arise such as God's judgment, election, reprobation and God's ability to see the future come in to question. Don't compromise on these issues. Preach the word in season and out and the whole council of God. Be aware of false doctrines or unorthodox doctrines such as Pelagianism, Open theism, the denial of original sin and other false teachings that seem to run rampant through the internet. Be sure to test everything with the word of God and chances are if it goes against what the church has taught throughout the past 2000 years, it's probably not what the bible teaches. Be sure to test everything with scripture.

*Tts 1:9 the overseer must be...holding fast the faithful word which is in accordance with the teaching, so that he will be able both to exhort in sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict.*

*1Ti 4:13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.*

*2Ti 4:2 Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.*

*2Ti 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

## **5. Preach with patience.**

We must compel them but not “sell” them. Don’t market a cheap Jesus. Don’t get gushy or bargain with life enhancement promises. It’s essential for you to be urgent in your preaching and evangelism, but patient in conversion. Do not go for decisions- call people to repentance and faith and trust God for the conversions. God does the saving. No one seeks God as Romans 3:11 tells us. You are not going to convert anyone, God must do it. Stay away from “getting people to do things” such as saying the sinners prayer or accepting Jesus into their heart. These are unbiblical practices that cause false conversions and lead unsaved people into a false security.

*Jhn 1:12 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, {even} to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.*

## **6. Preach the gospel with words.**

Preach means to proclaim or herald. Preaching the gospel and using words when necessary is a popular yet unbiblical statement that is antithetical to the great commission. Feeding the poor, clothing the needy, living a holy, doing community outreach are all fantastic and biblical, but that is not what we are talking about when we discuss the public proclamation of the gospel. Preach the gospel with words, and although you may feed people and serve people in the process, always keep the proclamation of the gospel the central purpose in your ministry.

*Rom 10:14 How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed? How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how will they hear without a preacher?*

*Rom 10:17 So faith {comes} from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ.*

*1Cr 1:21 God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe*

## **7. Preach the bad news as well as the good news.**

Preach the holiness of God, the law of God, the wrath of God and the sinfulness of man boldly and urgently and then the cross of Christ makes sense. The path to the gospel begins with the holiness and character of God. Without this, sin and offending God doesn't make sense. Violation of the law makes sense of sin. Without sinning against a Holy God, wrath and repentance don't make sense. God's holiness and character must be preached so the non believer can understand his terrible condition before a Holy God. When publically preaching, people are in desperate need to hear about the Holiness of God, the law, judgment and their sin so they can understand the love and grace offered in the person of Jesus Christ.

*Left side analogy.*

*Tell them how to get more info.*

## Practical Action Steps:

### GO:

- Go to God in prayer. Is this your calling?
- Go to your church elders. Are you equipped?
- Go stake out some spots to preach.
- Go out with other preachers.
- Go share your faith one on one.

### STAND:

- On the street corners. (highways and byways.)
- At the bus stop.
- City square.
- Parks.
- Court house.
- Subways.
- College campuses.
- Airports.
- Abortion clinics.
- Night clubs, bars.
- High schools.
- Fairs.
- Outdoor malls.
- Concerts.
- Sporting events.
- Public events.
- Parades.
- Political meetings.

- Crime scenes and controversy.
- Beaches and boardwalks.
- DMV's
- Government buildings.
- Salvation army and homeless shelters.
- Spontaneous crowds. (boardwalk.)

### SPEAK:

- Preach the gospel...the whole message of this life. Lordship.
- Be gentle, bold and confront sin.
- Exalt Christ.
- The truth in love.
- Personally to those that ask questions.
- Regardless of reaction to crowd.
- Faithfully: be consistent and show up.
- How to get more info and church recommendations.

### Mistakes to avoid:

- Yelling, judging or speaking in a condescending way (Christlike attitude is everything.)
- Mishandling hecklers; getting angry.
- Waiting for total approval or support.
- Not preaching the gospel; hung up on pet doctrines; losing focus of the person of Christ and making Jesus "a system."
- Getting puffed up or desiring acknowledgement or reputation. (Rom 12:3 For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think;)

- Judging your success by your results.
- Parroting or copying others.
- Watching youtube.com
- Lack of prayer and fasting.
- Waiting for a crowd or invitation to preach. Just preach!
- Lack of love.
- Not addressing questions from the crowd.