ALSOM – ALABAMA SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

MIN 223 - INTRODUCTION to HOMILETICS

STUDY GUIDE for FINAL EXAM

(Note: All of these study statements are TRUE statements from the INTRO to HOMILETICS resources. Approximately half of these study statements will make up your final exam.)

The Pastor's MAIN function in the church is to preach spiritual sermons that accurately interpret and apply God's Word.

Preaching can inspire worship by focusing attention on the love of God through the redemption of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Followers of Jesus were commanded by Jesus to preach the good news about him when He said, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation" (Mark 16:15).

The church's spiritual condition throughout history is directly related to the quality of preaching being done at any given time and place.

As the most important aspect of all church worship and ministry, preaching is mentioned scores of times in the New Testament. In the Book of Acts alone preaching is mentioned 92 times.

The sermon must always spring from, be based upon, and be controlled by the biblical text itself.

The desire to use preaching to achieve popularity, make money, or manipulate people are examples of selfish misuse of preaching by the preacher.

Consistently preaching repeated series of topical sermons based on current events, prophecy speculation, life skills, self-esteem, family themes and so forth, is the best way to grow a congregation that does not know how to read or understand the Bible, or know how the Bible all flows together, or know the essential doctrines of the Christian faith

Consistently preaching repeated series of topical sermons based on current events, prophecy speculation, life skills, self-esteem, family themes and so forth, is the best way to grow a congregation that is shallow, selfish, thinks the Bible and God's Kingdom really are all about them, and is unprepared for the tragedies of life, but may well grow fast and large.

"Expository" comes from a Latin word that means "to have laid open the truth for inspection and understanding".

The atoning death of Jesus is the MOST central theme of evangelical preaching.

The nature of New Testament preaching during the infancy of the church was primarily testimonial.

When preparing a sermon, the preacher should first select the passage and using correct hermeneutical principles read it repeatedly in its larger context to determine through this exegesis the main points, structure, and flow.

When preparing a sermon, after exegeting the text himself, the preacher should consult a good study bible and good commentaries in order to check the accuracy of her understanding and to fill in any gaps .

When preparing a sermon, after exegeting the text the preacher should first determine the theme (main point), then write the conclusion, introduction, outline, and title.

When preparing a sermon, the preacher should move from exegesis to exposition, explaining the passage by writing the sermon in narrative form with appropriate moves or points, illustrations, and applications.

A narrative sermon can be expository or textual, but during the outline stage it is woven into a narrative, then written and preached as a story, with appropriate moves or points, illustrations, application, and conclusion.

A narrative sermon can be drawn from any genre of Scripture: Law, Narrative, Epistles, Gospels, etc., and after proper exegesis and exposition, is turned into a narrative to be preached.

Gospel-centered preaching means that every sermon should correctly interpret a Bible passage according to its original context, and at some point show how that passage points forward to some aspect of the person and work of Jesus Christ.

In order to diligently study and improve his knowledge of Scripture and ministry, a pastor should budget enough money to maintain a good library of the best study bibles, best commentaries, and best books on preaching and theology, keeping up with new developments in theology, biblical studies, and preaching.

In planning his preaching schedule and feeding the flock over time a pastor should plan his sermon schedule at least one year in advance, mostly preaching expository sermons through books of the Bible plus textual sermons occasionally, in order to form his people and grow the church gradually through the years.

The term exegesis refers to using good hermeneutics to carefully read and “to lead out” the meaning that a passage had in its original context to the original recipients.

The process of carefully examining a biblical text, using the proper hermeneutical principles that apply to reading that text, in order “to lead out” or “to draw out” God’s intended meaning, is called exegesis.

In most sermons the preacher should NOT rely on a lot of PowerPoint slides with a lot of details, movie clips with powerful, graphic images, object lessons or human videos at key points, or an abundance of humor to keep audience attention.

The outline of the sermon is like the skeleton of the body.

In the relationship of preaching and teaching in the church all preaching should include teaching.

Stimulating God’s people through a sermon to give financially to help people who have lost their homes in a fire is an example ofthe value of ethical preaching.

Personal holiness is primarily related to a preacher's private walk with God.

Formal education and skill in preaching are important, but a burden for souls and a shepherd's heart are the most essential qualities in a preacher's life.

In preparing the sermon's conclusion the preacher should carefully determine the main point and subpoints of the Bible passage, prepare the conclusion, then write the sermon outline and introduction

To get people to respond to an altar call the preacher should use a serious, sincere, sometimes passionate invitation appropriate to the Bible passage and sermon theme.

It is unethical and ungodly for a minister to use pressure filled and manipulative techniques in getting people to respond to an altar call, such as emotional guilt trips, fear of sudden death, fear of eternity in hell, promises of great blessings, powerful music, or emotional manipulation.

An expository sermon is a message that faithfully moves through exegesis of the passage itself to discover the meaning for the original audience and then applies that meaning to today's audience.

Flowing from a consistent prayer life, the most important step of all in preparing and preaching a sermon is using the correct hermeneutical principles that apply to a biblical passage, such as genre, figures of speech, context, etc., in order to interpret it properly.

Paul stated "I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!"

It is recommended that you spend at least six hours preparing each sermon.

The parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30) teaches that satisfaction is related to faithfulness.

Plagiarism is best described as stealing.

"Word association" means thinking of some words that are associated in your mind in some way, such as "healing" and "miracle", or "blessing" and "prosperity", and trying to connect them to a text you are reading, even though they may neither be present in nor have any real connection to that text.

Proof texting means taking isolated verses or passages from various places in Scripture out of context (without relating them to their original context) and using those verses as a basis for introducing ideas or creating doctrines that have nothing to do with the original meaning of the passage.

Using word association (to link texts together) and using proof texting as bases for teaching and preaching is twisting God's word, is never acceptable, and is always wrong.

Merely using a lot of Bible passages in a sermon does not mean that a preacher has actually preached the gospel or the word of God. The passages must be properly exegeted and explained.

In order to preach a sermon that God accepts the preacher must correctly explain what the passage of Scripture actually meant in its original context to its original recipients.

"Life coaching" refers to topical preaching that uses proof texts supposedly showing people how to improve their life skills for better relationships, success in life, etc., but this kind of preaching is never found in Scripture.

Just as God caused a donkey to speak to Balaam, and just as God spoke through ungodly “prophets” in the past, God can still sovereignly speak through questionable characters and poor sermons today, even though He still condemns questionable characters and poor sermons.

Just because the Holy Spirit is moving in people and churches that have sin or bad preaching present does not mean God is affirming their lifestyles, doctrines, or practices.

Doctrinal preaching is foundational biblical teaching.

Ethical preaching relates to how a Christian lives out his or her salvation.

Apologetic preaching answers the question "Why should we believe this?."

Jesus used a parable to illustrate a point.

The following statements are true in reference to sermon illustrations: Suitability, accuracy, and variety are keys to effective sermon illustrations and when an illustration is appropriately times, it will clarify and illuminate an issue.

In reference to a filing system the most practical way a preacher can organize illustrations is by using a loose-leaf notebook.

The organizational structure of a sermon is based on the sermon outline.

Analysis and synthesis and the two basic steps in developing unity within a sermon outline.

An example of a sermon introduction can be seen in Paul's words, "Men of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious."

A good sermon title should be considered part of the introduction and preparing for what follows.

The conclusion is the part of the sermon which will have the most impact on the sermon results.

Personal is the principle of preparing an effective sermon emphasized in these closing words, "God in inviting you to believe in Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior. Will you respond?"

A pause is the method of voice emphasis that allows the hearer to "think" about the particular statement.

The two kinds of sermons that will best teach your congregation God’s intended meaning in biblical passages and how to read the Bible properly are Expository and Textual.

Regarding his priorities in ministry, Paul commanded Timothy to study diligently, develop his skills in correctly interpreting God’s Word, and consistently preach God’s Word.

The best way to teach a congregation how to correctly read and understand God’s Word over time is to regularly preach an expository sermon series through a whole book of the Bible.

The pastor's MAIN function in the church is to preach spiritual sermons that accurately interpret and apply God's Word.

In the textual sermon, the outline is closely connected to the logical development of the text.

The preacher must find an integral unit of Scripture as a text from which the major division of the outline can be developed to develop a textual outline.

The advantage of a textual sermon is its presentation is clearly from God's Word.

The Bible reading sermon uses a "running commentary" approach and requires precise thinking.

According to the IST a preacher must thoroughly research the biblical text in all his or her commentaries and resource literature, take abundant notes during this research, and then systematically divide the notes into a sermon outline to develop an expository sermon outline.

The Expository sermon is the BEST model for individual Bible study.

The two kinds of sermons that will best teach your congregation God's intended meaning in biblical passages and how to read the Bible properly are expository and textual.

The church's spiritual condition throughout history has been directly related to the strength of preaching.

The manifestations that would normally accompany gospel preaching in the New Testament to those who had never heard the gospel before would be the power of God in healings, miracles, and signs.

Teaching and discipling is the form of ministry mentioned most often in the book of Acts.

Ethical preaching deals primarily with love and action.

The best example of personal holiness in the life of a preacher is a dedication to truth.

Our personal experience with Christ gives us the confidence in the sharing the gospel with others.

A preacher who is self-disciplined is best described as one who is self-controlled.

Failure in the preaching ministry is most often related to a lacking in one's devotional life or poor education and training in preaching.

The reason for reading complete books or sections if Scripture in your Bible study rather than short portions is to discover the author's purpose for writing.

A person's will is the aim of evangelistic preaching: Moving the person to repentance and faith.

Apologetic preaching attempts to repel intellectual attacks upon Christianity.

A good sermon illustration will often be what moves one toward persuasion.

Personal sermon illustrations should be used only occasionally.

The organizational structure of a sermon is based on the sermon outline.

The steps of analysis and synthesis give a sermon outline unity.

Analysis is the process of breaking up the text into its constituent parts.

The purposes of the introduction are to interest, establish, and prepare.

A proper introduction will make the topic clear.

The word that BEST describes the proper use of emotion in the preacher's voice during the sermon application is genuine.

When delivering a sermon, the preacher should maintain a tone that is natural.

The strength of the extemporaneous method is that it establishes a rapport with the audience.

The textual-natural is the form of a textual sermon that takes its outline from the logical sequence of the text.

An advantage of the textual sermon is that each division is taken directly from the text.

The sermon method that draws its main division and subdivisions from the text is called expository.

A common disadvantage of the textual sermon is its tendency toward false analysis.

Biblical depth is one advantage of expository preaching.

The many benefits of expository preaching to the congregation include learning to view Scripture in a larger perspective.

The disadvantage of the expository sermon is its tendency to encourage the preacher to include too many details.

Another advantage of expository preaching is that it models solid hermeneutics and Bible study methods to the hearer.

In topical sermons, the structure is determined by the main topic of the text.