

Evaluating sermons at South Perth Baptist Church

As you assess the sermon you have heard, please do so with an ear attuned to each of these four areas: the truth/text, the preacher, the listener, and the wider world. And please, please be honest about both the strengths and weaknesses which you see. No one benefits when your statements are dilute and lukewarm!

Preacher

Biblical Text.....

Date of Sermon

Under each of the four sections below, please:

- (a) reflect on the questions listed in each section - they are designed to 'prime your pump'!
- (b) take the time to make some written comments on the sermon you heard
- (c) then, enter a mark between 1 and 5 where each number can be described in the following ways. In doing so, benchmark against the high standard of preaching you expect to hear on Sundays.
 - 1 = 'you are struggling here and not reaching a satisfactory level at all'
 - 2 = 'I can glimpse some skills here – but they are going to need to become a lot stronger!'
 - 3 = 'yes, I see it – you have potential in this area and it will ripen well with further practice'
 - 4 = 'you have reached a level of competence in this area – well done'
 - 5 = 'outstanding; keep this up and you'll keep me coming to church to hear you preach! '

I. The Truth: *issues of biblical exegesis and structural clarity*

As you reflect on this area of the sermon, here are some of questions to consider:

Was it a biblical sermon? Was the text handled accurately? Was there a focus on Jesus at some point?
Was there a clear structure that emerged - & can you remember it? Did the sermon have a momentum to it?

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Mark (out of 5)

II. The Listeners: *issues of delivery & application*

As you reflect on this area of the sermon, here are some of questions to consider:

Was the sermon genuinely 'oral' in its presentation – or just a written document read aloud? How were the eyes?
With the voice – was it audible, varied in pace and pitch, easy to listen to, and accompanied by effective pauses?
Was there adequate application – clear and specific? Was there anything distracting in the delivery?
Did the opening arrest your attention and did the closing provoke a response?

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Mark (out of 5)

III. The World: *issues of illustration and relevance*

As you reflect on this area of the sermon, here are some of questions to consider:

How were the illustrations? well-distributed? contemporary? from varied sources?

Did they serve the sermon, or overpower it? How was the language? Was it fresh and creative?

Was the sermon boring? Was it in touch with essential human needs? Did it connect with the 'real world' enough?

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Mark (out of 5)

IV. The 'personality': *issues of character and manner*

As you reflect on this area of the sermon, here are some of questions to consider:

Did you see some passion in the preacher? Was this preacher urgent and under conviction?

Was there a warmth? A sincerity? engaging? natural? relaxed? Did you sense you could trust this person?

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Mark (out of 5)

Other comments:

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Signed: [Print name:]

Date:

Total mark (out of 20)