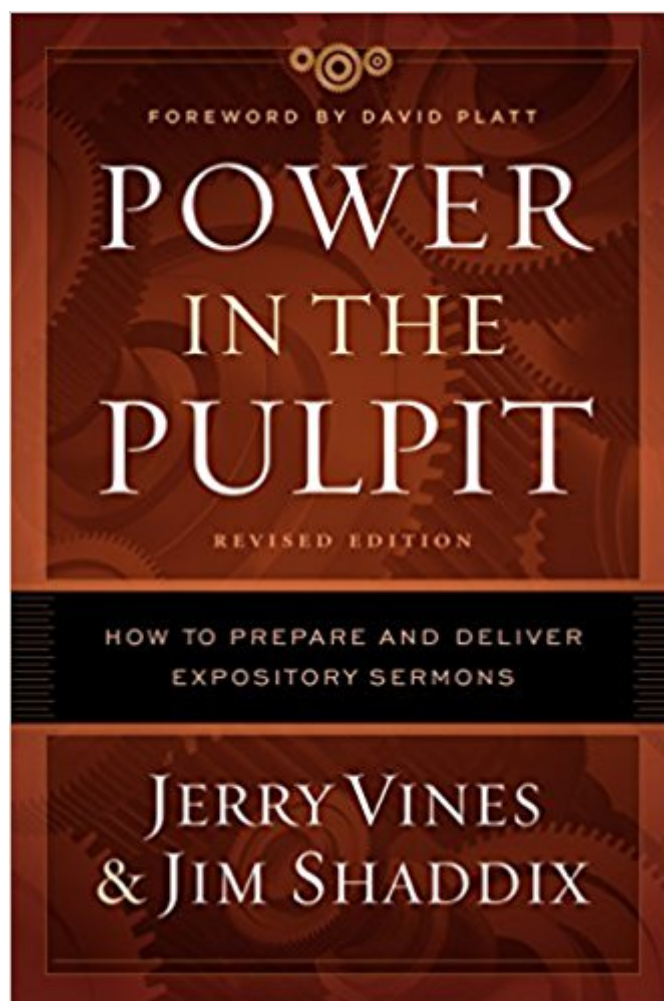


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Power In The Pulpit: How To Prepare And Deliver Expository Sermons



Synopsis

A solid primer for expository preaching It's still used in Bible schools and seminaries today, and it shows no signs of slowing down: *Power in the Pulpit* is an ideal introduction to preaching. Dr. Jerry Vines and Dr. Jim Shaddix have achieved a balanced approach to sermon preparation in *Power in the Pulpit*. This primer combines the perspective of a pastor of forty years with that of someone who devotes daily time to training pastors in the context of theological education. It offers practical preaching instruction from a tradition that sees biblical exposition as a paramount and frequent event in the life of the local church. *Power in the Pulpit* is the combined work of Dr. Vines's two earlier publications on preaching: *A Practical Guide to Sermon Preparation* (Moody Publishers, 1985) and *A Guide to Effective Sermon Delivery* (Moody Publishers, 1986). Dr. Shaddix carefully organized and supplemented the material to offer this useful resource that closes the gap between classroom theory and what a pastor actually experiences in his weekly sermon preparation.

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Customer Reviews

DR. JERRY VINES (B.A., Mercer University; Th.D., Luther Rice Seminary) retired as pastor of First Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Florida in 2006, where he served for 40 years. He served two terms as president of the Southern Baptist Convention. Jerry is author of a number of books including *Power in the Pulpit: How to Prepare and Deliver Expository Sermons*, and *A Practical Guide to Sermon Preparation*. He and his wife, Janet, have four adult children and five grandchildren. JIM SHADDIX (BS, Jacksonville State University; M.Div., D.Min., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D., New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary) serves as Professor of Preaching at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC, occupying the W. A. Criswell Chair

of Expository Preaching. He has pastored churches in Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana and Colorado, and also served as Dean of the Chapel and Professor of Preaching at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in New Orleans, LA. Jim is the author of *The Passion Driven Sermon* (Broadman & Holman, 2003) and co-author of *Power in the Pulpit* with Jerry Vines (Moody, 1999). Jim and his wife, Debra, focus much of their attention on discipling and mentoring young leaders and spouses. They have three grown children.

Drs. Shaddix and Vines have revised the 1999 edition of "Power in the Pulpit" and composed a comprehensive volume for the expositor of God's Word. This book is one of the best "how-to's" on preparing thorough expository sermons for preachers of every age. Before one delves into the mechanics of sermon preparation, it must be recognized that preaching the Word of God is no small task. In fact, it is a divine calling not fit for every person. It is a call only given by God to those whom God has gifted with the task of preaching. Once the call is accepted, one must spend their days in preparation. Preaching is preparation (see introduction). The first part covers the "preparation for exposition". This covers the philosophy and theology of preaching; specifically, expository preaching. Part one also discusses the life of the preacher. It is key that the preacher lives a life modeling the principles and commands found in the Scripture s/he is preaching each week. The second part is the mechanics of sermon preparation. Here the authors discuss the text, outlining the sermon, and constructing appropriate introductions and conclusions. Often the organizing stage can be the trickiest step in sermon preparation. These three chapters are cogently put together to move the preacher from one step to the next. The third part is the mechanics of presenting the sermon. Here the authors discuss developing a style unique to your own preaching, use of voice, pitch, and tone, preaching with all that one is, and keys for physical delivery. Despite the numerous strengths in the first three parts, I also appreciate the book's appendixes. The reader finds a sample outline, breathing exercises, an observation sheet, and a summary page. This is a book worth your time (and money) to learn the mechanics and some theology behind expository preaching. For young preachers like me, get it. For old(er) preachers, get it. This is one preaching book that should be on your shelf.

Disclosure: I received this book free from Moody Press through the Moody Blogger Review Program. The opinions I have expressed are my own, and I was not required to write a positive review. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.

Vines & Shaddix have done it again. There are 3 parts to this book: The Preparation for Exposition,

The Process of Exposition, and the Presentation of the Exposition. This is the component book to "Progress in the Pulpit." One of my favorite chapters is chapter 3: Developing the Preacher." In this chapter, Vines & Shaddix give insight on the soul, body and mind of the preacher. They say, "Regardless of your previous training, you should spend all the days of your ministry continuing to study in order to prepare to preach." They encourage preachers to be students of culture and of contemporary life. This will give preachers more tools in both their illustrations and applications. They continue by saying, "Read widely, and study in as many areas as possible. Although you will never be able to read all the books you would d like, you can read book reviews." This will helpful to preachers across the board. They encourage the preacher to have a pulse to the text of God's Word and to the world we live in. In chapter 3, they encourage preachers to exercise and take care of their bodies for effectively ministry. The rest of the book will encourage preachers to organize their sermons, express the thoughts, playing the voice, making the connection, and many other aspects to having power in the pulpit. I highly recommend this book to all. I was given a review copy by Moody Publishers in exchange for an honest review.

"Power In The Pulpit" is a great title for the preacher or even teacher who wants to communicate a powerful message based on the Bible. Over 400 pages, the book addresses such topics as: 1. Definition of expository preaching and why expository preaching is overall a better method (as opposed to other approaches - topical, narrative, etc.) of preaching out of the Bible. 2. The life of the preacher and suggestions for taking care of one's self (sleep, exercise, diet, etc.). 3. Suggestions for studying a biblical text for a message. 4. Organizing your notes into a sermon outline. 5. Different preaching styles. 6. Oral exercises and other suggestions for preparing for the message. 7. Effective sermon delivery styles. This will definitely be an very helpful future reference for preparing for future messages. Any preacher or teacher will greatly benefit from this read. I was given a review copy by Moody Publishers in exchange for a fair review.

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