

# SESSION 1: PREACHING FAMILY TREES

## A. Introduction to Exposition

Expository preaching: “[An expository sermon is] a message whose structure and thought are derived from a biblical text, that covers the scope of the text, and that explains the features and context of the text in order to disclose the enduring principles for faithful thinking, living, and worship intended by the Spirit, who inspired the text.” (Chappell, *Christ-Centered Preaching*, 31)

Key Scripture: 2 Timothy 3:16 – 4:2

## B. Preaching Genealogies

What is a genealogy?

How Do Genealogies Work?

- 1) Linear versus Segmented
- 2) Narrative Function
- 3) The Theology of Genealogy

Preaching Genealogies

- 1) What is this list of names?
- 2) Why is it here?
- 3) Who are these people?
- 4) Where does the genealogy fit in with the narrative of redemption?
- 5) How do you preach it?
  - a) Work on pronunciation
  - b) Prepare visual aids
  - c) Focus on the abnormal
  - d) Teach hermeneutics
  - e) Be contagious with your enthusiasm

## **SESSION 2: PREACHING PG-13 SERMONS**

Key Text: Exodus 4:24-26

### **A. Sex & Violence in the Bible**

### **B. Preaching PG-13 Texts**

- 1) Help your church understand the theological context of the Bible's violence
- 2) Don't water down the violence, but be proportionate with the amount of focus the text gives the violence
- 3) Stick with the language of the text
- 4) Get comfortable with the subject matter
- 5) Be sensitive to the sensitive
- 6) Be prudent, not prudish
- 7) Lean conservative, not innovative
- 8) Give your leadership a heads-up
- 9) Give parents a heads-up
- 10) Know your audience

# **SESSION 3: PREACHING THE THEOLOGICALLY COMPLEX**

Key Text: Pharaoh's Hard Heart (Exodus)

## **A. Doctrinal Triage**

- 1) Two Dangers to Avoid (from Gavin Ortlund):
  - a) Doctrinal Minimalism/Indifferentism
  - b) Doctrinal Separatism
- 2) All truths are important, but not all are equally important
- 3) Doctrinal Triage:
  - a) Primary Doctrines (Absolutes)
  - b) Secondary Doctrines (Important, but non-essential for salvation)
  - c) Tertiary Doctrines (Convictions and Adiaphora)

## **B. Theologically Loaded Texts**

### **C. Preaching Theologically Complex or Controversial Texts**

- 1) Don't be afraid to tackle difficult issues
- 2) Don't be afraid to allow tensions to stand
- 3) Be humble in your knowledge and approach
- 4) Point interested listeners to places of deeper knowledge
- 5) Pause the sermon series and tackle the issue if necessary
- 6) Let the main points of the passage be the main points of the sermon