

## CALVARY DISTINCTIVES | SERVANT LEADERSHIP CLASS NO.6

### TOPIC: The Priority of the Word

*I. Methods of Teaching God's Word | II. Moving Through God's Word | III. Multiple Fruit from God's Word*

**Intro:** In (Mark 7:7) Jesus said, "...in vain they (people) worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men." – Furthermore, the Apostle Paul said, "Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine," (1 Tim 4:13). – This chapter mainly deals with Calvary's Chapel's stance on "Endeavoring to TEACH the whole counsel of God." I believe that this is one of the most essential distinctives, of which have contributed greatly to the growth of Calvary Chapel.

**I. METHODS OF TEACHING GOD'S WORD** – Different churches and pastors use various methods for their Sermons/Bible Studies. I would like to look at the \_\_\_\_\_ that are most common.

**A. The \_\_\_\_\_ Method** – This method gives a \_\_\_\_\_ Focus, of which you choose a theme and make a Bible study from it. (See Example Chart) – Topical sermons are great, but when a congregation is consistently fed this way, problems will occur:

1. Only \_\_\_\_\_ are given (e.g., Good works, forgiveness, etc.)
2. Necessary issues get overlooked
3. Unbalanced view of God's Word is given

**B. The \_\_\_\_\_ Method** – This method has a more \_\_\_\_\_ Focus, which is based on a passage from scripture and associates the theme. (Again, see Example Chart) – The main points of a study come from the text, but sub-points come from anywhere in the Bible.

1. This method is **often used in conferences**. A passage is selected and given to the speaker to expound on. He has to speak only on the passage given him, using other scriptures to develop the text.
2. In **Calvary Distinctives**, Chuck says, "One of the best commentaries on the Bible is the Bible itself." Scripture is to be sub-points in this method.

**C. The \_\_\_\_\_ Method** – This method has a more \_\_\_\_\_ Focus, of which the passage dictates the theme. All of the points and sub-points come directly from the chosen text. (Refer Example Chart)

1. Expository teaching allows \_\_\_\_\_ to determine what is to be taught. It fully relies upon the text.

2. Expository teaching allows the teacher to cover *“the whole counsel of God,”* which in turn has many other benefits:

- a. The congregation gets the \_\_\_\_\_ of God.
  - b. The congregation aware of what is to be taught the following week and can read ahead.
3. Expository teaching is what Calvary Chapel encourages within its churches. However, each pastor still has the freedom to teach the way they are most comfortable with. (*Spirit-Lead*)

**Closing Thought:** It is important to take God’s people through the Word of God! If topical messages are only taught in a congregation; it will not \_\_\_\_\_. On the contrary the pastor who teaches the word of God systematically with an expository emphasis will watch his congregation grow into spiritually mature sheep.

**II. MOVING THROUGH GOD’S WORD** – Skipping though the Word of God verses systematically teaching through the Word of God; verse by verse and chapter by chapter, is what will keep the sheep from growing up into maturity. (**Isa 28:10**) *“For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept, Line upon line, line upon line, Here a little, there a little.”* – At Calvary Chapel, we believe that the Word of God is to be...

**A. Approached with \_\_\_\_\_** – Based on (**Neh 8:8**), we see this principle. *“So they read distinctly from the book, in the Law of God; and they gave the sense and helped them to understand the reading.”*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ **the Word** – Reading the word of God first is \_\_\_\_\_ to understanding the Bible! When you hear the Word, **it produces faith (Rom 10:17)**. When we read the Word of God, we can observe God’s perspectives on issues of life.

2. **Give the \_\_\_\_\_** – This is simple *“interpretation”* of the scriptures. Explaining what it \_\_\_\_\_!

a. A teacher of the Word of God is one who \_\_\_\_\_ the body of Christ. – (**Eph 4:12-15**); *“...for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, 13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, 15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ.”*

- b. Equipping is the responsibility of the teacher (*Pray, Prepare, Preach*)
  - c. Equipping occurs best when the teacher assumes the biblical role (*being and example*)
  - d. Equipping \_\_\_\_\_ both character and conduct
  - e. Equipping should \_\_\_\_\_ [*more intensely*] on the most committed
  - f. Equipping requires knowledge
  - g. Equipping has an ultimate goal... **“Independent Equippers!”** Seven Laws of the Learner – Bruce Wilkerson – Ch. 6 – (*i.e., a disciple, making disciples*)
3. Cause to \_\_\_\_\_ – This goes much further than just explaining the text, it specifically tells the people how to apply the teaching to their lives practically! – (*i.e., how to become a doer of the Word, and not only a hearer*)

**B. Approaching the Difficult Issues** – One of the benefits of systematic teaching is that no one can ever think that you were thinking of them when you prepared the study.

**CLOSING THOUGHT:** A friend of mine came to me one day; he was somewhat dyslexic and could not read the Word of God properly. I took the time to pray with him and encourage him through the scriptures. He is now teaching the Word of God to Children at my former Church!

### III. MULTIPLE \_\_\_\_\_ FROM GOD’S WORD

- A. \_\_\_\_\_ – Planting the seed takes a lot of work, *i.e., effort, sacrifice, study time, pains, difficulties, etc.*
- B. \_\_\_\_\_ – This is a time where \_\_\_\_\_ is needed. When the Word is faithfully taught, it is just a matter of time before the fruit will begin to grow. Budding-only time will tell what you have sown!
  - **(Matt 7:17-20)** *Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.*
- C. \_\_\_\_\_ – In due time good fruit will arise, “\_\_\_\_\_” it was **sown in the Spirit!**

**CLOSING THOUGHT (Gal 6:6-8)** *Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches. 7 Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. 8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life.*