



Preaching & Prayer

Living As A Church • The Training Hour • Spring 2018

Preaching



What is preaching?

- *Preaching is the public proclamation of God's word.*
 - *It is a man proclaiming and explaining the words of God to the people of God.*
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Why Preach?

Because God commands it! *Because Paul modeled it:*

1. *Matthew 28:19–20*

1. *Acts 20:26–27*

2. *1 Timothy 4:13*

2. *1 Corinthians 2:1–2*

3. *2 Timothy 4:2*

4. *Titus 2:1*

Kinds of Preaching

- 1. Topical preaching*
 - 2. Springboard preaching*
 - 3. Commentary preaching*
 - 4. Spiritual storytelling*
 - 5. Expository preaching*
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What is expositional preaching?

- 1. The message finds its sole source in Scripture.*
- 2. The message is extracted from Scripture through careful exegesis.*
- 3. The message preparation correctly interprets Scripture in its normal sense and its context.*

What is expositional preaching?

4. *The message clearly explains the original God-intended meaning of Scripture.*
5. *The message applies the Scriptural meaning for today.*

Charles Simeon

“My endeavor is to bring out of Scripture what is there, and not to thrust in what I think might be there. I have a great jealousy on this head; never to speak more or less than I believe to be the mind of the Spirit in the passage I am expounding.”

Why expositional preaching?

1. God gave his true word to be communicated **entirely** as he gave it. The whole counsel of God is to be preached (Matt. 28:20; Acts 5:20; 20:27).
2. God gave his true word to be communicated **exactly** as he gave it. The message must not be altered.
3. Only expository preaching accomplishes propositions 1 and 2.

The Effects of Exp. Preaching

- 1. It grounds our confidence.*
 - 2. It invigorates our worship.*
 - 3. It focuses our sanctification.*
 - 4. It deepens our fellowship.*
 - 5. It emboldens our evangelism.*
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Recovery of Exp. Preaching

- *RCC: Services in Latin with little Scripture.*
 - *Sola Scriptura: the Scriptures alone*
 - *Luther: “The Word comes first.” “The Word did it all.”*
 - *Zwingli: Sequential preaching of Matthew*
 - *Calvin: the tireless preacher*
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Listening Well

- 1. Pray for the preacher.*
 - 2. Prepare your heart through repentance and humility (2 Pet. 2:1–2; James 1:19–21).*
 - 3. Prepare your body through rest and food.*
 - 4. Shape your life to the Scriptures (Jam. 1:22).*
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Corporate Prayer



The Lord's Prayer

*“**Our** Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your
will be done, on earth as it
is in heaven.*

*Give **us** this day **our** daily
bread, and forgive **us** our
debts, as **we** also have
forgiven **our** debtors.*

*And lead **us** not into
temptation, but deliver **us**
from evil.*

Why is prayer important?

- 1. Corporate prayer expresses our dependence on God.*
- 2. Corporate prayer affirms the value of every member in the body.*
- 3. Corporate prayer refocuses us on the spiritual nature of our mission.*

1. It expresses our dependence on God.

They prayed together . . .

1. when they ate (2:46)

*2. when they were fasting
(13:2–3)*

*3. when they were
threatened with
persecution (4:23–31)*

*4. when they were
appointing new elders
(14:23)*

*5. in formal temple
worship services (3:1)*

*6. at riverside prayer
meetings (16:13, 16)*

2. It affirms the value of every member in the body.

- *Everyone is valuable (1 Cor. 12:21–27)*
- *Those who pray for others are commended (Col. 4:12–13)*
- *Even though there is great diversity in the body, prayer expresses our common identity in Christ (Gal. 3:28).*

2. It affirms the value of every member in the body.

- *All have a life of sin left behind (1 Cor. 6:9–11)*
- *All can come with boldness before the throne because we share the same High Priest (Heb. 4:16; 10:19).*
- *Everyone needs help carrying their burdens (Gal. 6:2) and God cares enough to hear each believer's anxieties (1 Peter 5:7).*

3. It refocuses us on the spiritual nature of our mission.

- *Prayer is spiritual.*
- *Prayer is the church's spiritual weapon in a spiritual war (Eph. 6:10–20).*
- *Prayer is a spiritual tool that aids our spiritual task (2 Cor. 1:11).*

3. It refocuses us on the spiritual nature of our mission.

- *The church's life and ministry doesn't exist merely in the visible.*
- *The church's greatest business takes place in unseen places—and so we pray.*

3. It refocuses us on the spiritual nature of our mission.

We pray that

- *the name of God would be successfully proclaimed in the world (John 17:23–26)*
 - *gospel laborers would be sent out (Matt. 9:38)*
 - *people would be saved and added to the church (2:47)*
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3. It refocuses us on the spiritual nature of our mission.

We pray that

- *his saints would be unified (Ps. 133, Eph. 4:3)*
- *his saints would be bold for Christ (Acts 4:29–31)*
- *God would build his church and thwart Satan's attacks (Matt. 16:18)*
- *God would set members in local churches according to his purposes (1 Cor. 12:18)*

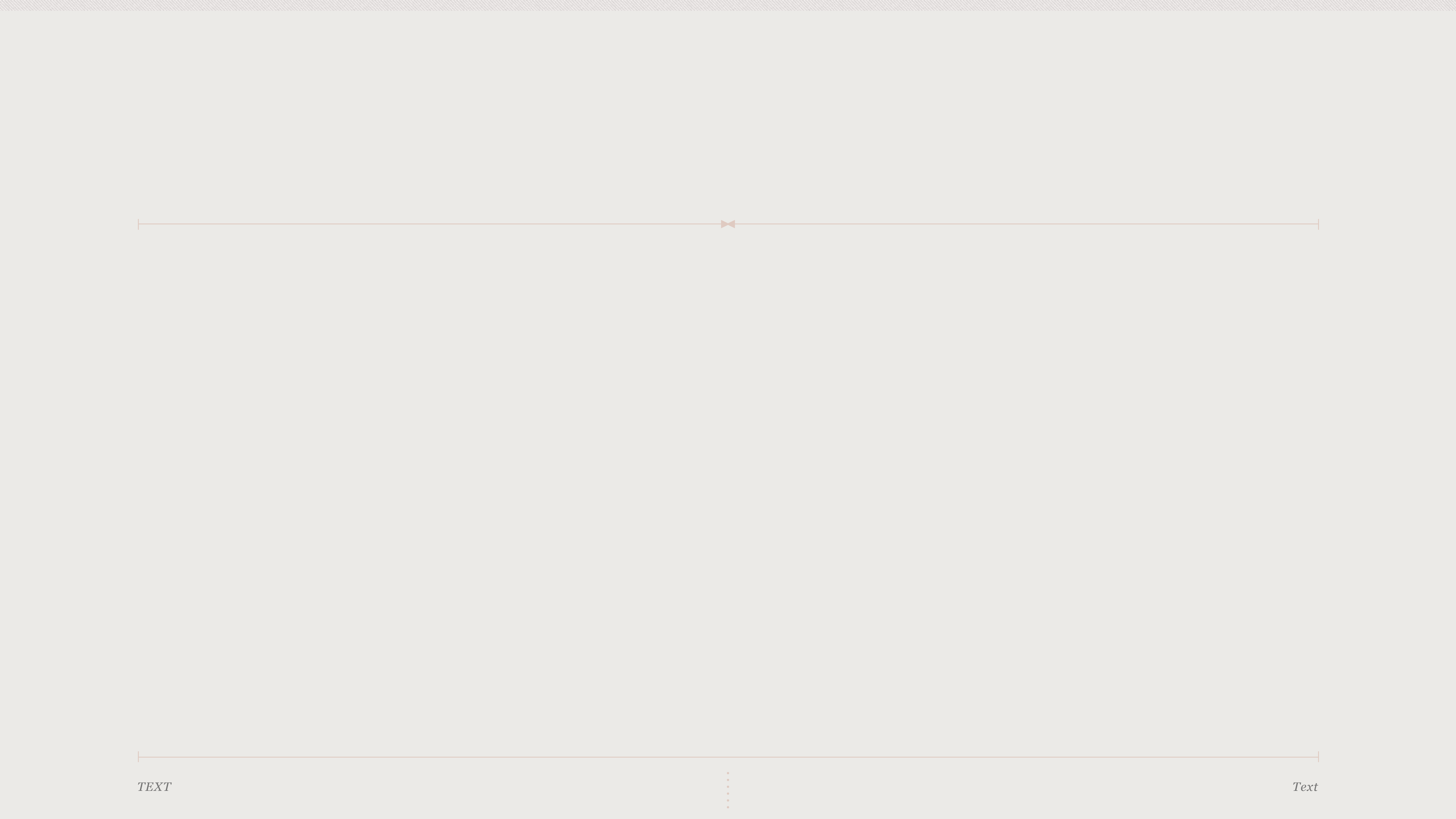
3. It refocuses us on the spiritual nature of our mission.

We pray that God would

- *give his people wisdom (James 1:5)*
- *ensure the security of his saints (John 6:37)*
- *ultimately bring us to live together with him (John 14:3)*
- *setup his kingdom (Matt. 6:10)*

Improving Corporate Prayer

1. **Participation:** *Pray along with the other believer, and end with “Amen!” (1 Cor. 14:16b)*
2. **Vulnerability:** *Let others bear your burdens (2 Cor. 1:8–11)*
3. **Privilege:** *Value the privilege of bringing the needs of brothers and sisters before the throne of grace (Heb. 4:16)*



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TEXT

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Upcoming Weeks

<i>Jan. 28</i>	<i>Fellowship</i>
<i>Feb. 4</i>	<i>Discontentment in the Church</i>
<i>Feb. 11</i>	<i>Church Governance & Leadership</i>
<i>Feb. 18</i>	<i>Church Discipline</i>
<i>Feb. 25</i>	<i>Encouragement</i>
<i>Mar. 4</i>	<i>Serving & Giving</i>
<i>Mar. 11</i>	<i>Corporate Worship</i>
<i>Mar. 25</i>	<i>Evangelism</i>