

Finding the Prophetic Voice
Equipping Students to Proclaim God's Grace

On Sermons
“Everyone's a sermon expert...until they have to give one”
-Unknown

On Sermons
We all know what makes a good sermon...
...But actually creating one is quite challenging

What is a Sermon?

Priest – Prophet – King

“The act of proclaiming God’s word to his people concerning human trouble and God’s response of grace”

Prophet-Priest-King

The three offices of Christ:

For which he is anointed;

And in which all believers share –

Even our students and young adults

(HC Q&A 31-32)

Gospel Proclamation

A task for all – even young people...

...but not one that’s well-practiced

So: let’s do some equipping

The Assignment

Write an 800-word devotional on a Biblical text that:

- Identifies the trouble in the text;
- Connects the trouble to life today;
- Shares how God responds with grace to the trouble in the text;
- And encourages us with the hope of Christ to our trouble today

Deep Hope

That students grow in their understanding of God's Word and learn how to share his truth with others

The Prophetic Voice

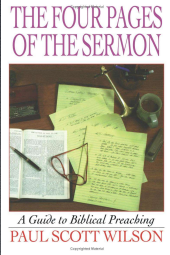
Trouble – where humans bring brokenness, sin, death into the world

Grace – where God responds with grace, mercy, salvation for his people (ultimately through Jesus Christ)

Both in the text AND today

4 Page Method: Paul Scott Wilson

Trouble in the Text	➔	Trouble in the World
Grace in the Text	➔	Grace in the World
Exegesis	➔	Hermeneutics



Page 1: Trouble in the Text

- **Diagnostic Question:** *“where do we see a problem, conflict, issue, or punishment that results from human brokenness or sin?”*
- NB: God’s action toward humanity is never trouble

Page 2: Trouble in the World

- **Diagnostic Question:** *“In what ways might the trouble in the text be mirrored in the world today?”*
- This can be either a direct correlation or symbolic/representative

Page 3: Grace in the Text

- **Diagnostic Question:** *"Where do we see God responding with grace, mercy, and salvation to human sinfulness?"*
- Sometimes – grace is not present in the text, but comes later in the story arc

Page 4: Grace in the World

- **Diagnostic Question:** *"How has God responded with grace, mercy, and salvation to our trouble today?"*
- Page 4 = connecting to the hope of Jesus Christ

Outlining the Pages

- Work for 4 short & simple sentences – one for each page
- Rule 1: God never causes trouble
- Rule 2: God always enacts grace

Troubleshooting

- Students most often need assistance with:
 - Matching trouble in the world to trouble in the text when it's not a direct correlation
 - Extending grace in the text to grace for us today

Putting it Together

- With a partner or two: read Genesis 37:12-36
 - What is the trouble in the text?
 - A similar trouble in the world?
 - Grace in the text?
 - Grace in the world?

Putting it Together

- Mark 4:35-41
 - What is the trouble in the text?
 - A similar trouble in the world?
 - Grace in the text?
 - Grace in the world?

Putting it Together

- I Peter 4:12-19
- What is the trouble in the text?
- A similar trouble in the world?
- Grace in the text?
- Grace in the world?

Questions and Contact Information

What questions do you have?

Contact information:

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