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# INTRODUCTION

## *How to use this booklet*

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I have read that preaching is an excuse to talk about Jesus. It is an opportunity to define righteousness, to interpret the signs of the times, to clarify spiritual enigmas, to preach hope and to call sinners to Christ and saints to righteousness.

The sermons in this booklet are meant to be preached. The first priority of a preacher is not to preach a word that people like but a word that people need. Preaching must be done with power under the influence of the Holy Ghost. Power is not loudness; it does not even require many gestures and movements. Power for the one who preaches is being yourself and total dependence on the Spirit of the living God. Preaching is a spiritual enterprise that is bound to fail if the Holy Spirit is not involved.

A preacher who tries to hide his or her personality will never be an effective preacher. As you preach these sermons, be yourself. Stand and deliver! As the Brooklyn singers sang, "If you can use anything Lord you can use me." Let this be your motto.

This year the sermons are a bit different. They follow the traditional way of preparing sermons; introduction, body and conclusion. I have retained the action step and the call step that are part of the Munroe Motivational Sequence. The outline is very simple and easy to follow.

Every Bible text in this booklet as was done in the last booklet is highlighted. Use the texts effectively. Endeavor to deduce from the text, as the Holy Spirit guides, fresh insights that will animate your audience. For preaching to be effective, it must come from your overflow. Hence, reading is of paramount importance as you prepare to preach these sermons.

As was done in last year's booklet, the headings and subheadings that are bold and italicized are there to guide you. They are not to be preached. The lines which are indicated by bullets should be preached verbatim while the lines that are numbered could be expanded upon or further explained.

Each illustration that is used has its application. You can use your own application or add to the application that I have used. For greatest effect, illustrations are not to be explained and they are best presented from memory. If you have to read the illustration, be sure to lift your head frequently and maintain some level of eye contact with your audience.

Every sermon follows the theme, "**it is written**" and has a topic that is actually written in the Bible. This theme was used to coincide with the "Follow the Bible Imitative". However at the end of each sermon I have included 5 additional topics that you can use if you do not fancy the suggested topic. Or you can read the sermon and formulate your own topic.

It will be extremely helpful to memorize the first three or four sentences of your introduction. This allows you to start fluently, connecting with your audience. The preacher must connect with his/her audience emotionally and intellectually.

Begin the sermon by focusing on one person for the opening sentence. During the sermon make sure your eye contact is at least three seconds per person depending on the size of the congregation. If you are speaking to a large congregation, then look in certain directions for three to five seconds and people will think that you are looking at them.

You will only get decisions by asking for them. Do not be afraid to give an invitation. When you feel that you are responsible for how people will respond, you are taking on a responsibility that is not yours. E. G. White says, "It is the power of the Holy Spirit that gives efficacy to your efforts and your appeals." (Ev. Pg. 285)

There is no short cut to great preaching. It does not come about by accident. It requires hard work! Most of the hard work has been done, but to be more effective, spend time with the sermon that you will be preaching, make it your own and stand and deliver under the power of the Holy Ghost.

God Bless You,



Claudius C. Morgan  
Conference Evangelist