

Thirdmill Institute

Teaching/Preaching Badge

And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.

Luke 24:27

Explaining the message of the Bible clearly and faithfully takes work. Whether you are in the front of the classroom or standing in the pulpit, people need to have a clear picture of the Bible's message on any number of topics. On the road to Emmaus, Jesus took the time to explain who he was to the disciples. This badge focuses on that singular task. With your trainer as a guide, you will look to develop and sharpen your skills in teaching and preaching so that you might proclaim the Scriptures faithfully.

Badge Components:

Faithful to the Text – Say what your passage says

Faithful to the Subtext – How does your lesson/sermon point to Jesus and his work?

Faithful to your Context – Cross the bridge from the biblical world to your own world in a way that is understandable to your listeners

Discussion Topics:

Practicality – What does teaching or preaching usually look like in your church or ministry? Who usually teaches or preaches? How long does it usually last?

Prayer – What is the role of prayer as you choose a passage, prepare your lesson or sermon, deliver it, and trust the Holy Spirit for the results?

Plan – How should you choose a passage or topic? What passages relate to the topic you want to teach on?

Parts – How is the passage divided? What is the subject of the passage? What is the main point of the passage? What are the sub-points the author uses to help the main point? What details are used to enlighten the subject?

Prepare – Are there any confusing words or phrases in your text? Are there any names or places of significance that should be explained? What resources can/should you have to help you study this passage? How does this author or other biblical authors develop the same theme?

Persons – What kind of people make up the typical group where you teach or preach?

Purpose – What is the distinct outcome you hope results from what you communicate?

Prune – What illustrations/ideas should be kept? What should be cut?

Produce – Should you write out your lesson/sermon and read it to your listeners? Write it out and memorize it? Have an outline and notes with you?

Practice – Should/where/how could you practice your lesson/sermon before delivering it? After practicing, is there anything you should change?

Point – In Luke 24:27 Jesus, on the road to Emmaus, showed how all Scripture pointed to him. How does your lesson/sermon point to Jesus?

Pace – Do you talk too fast, or too slow, or without much variation in speed?

Provide – Have you given your audience anything to think about or do as they leave?

Ponder – Will your listeners be stirred in their love and devotion to Jesus alone?

Power – What is the difference in delivering a lesson/sermon by the power of the Holy Spirit versus delivering one in your own strength?

Call to Action:

1. Following all the steps prescribed by your trainer, prepare a lesson/sermon and deliver it to those in your group.
2. Ask the following questions for feedback:
 - What made sense? What didn't?
 - What resonated with you?
 - What difference will/can these ideas make in my own life?
 - Did this lesson/sermon stir my affections for Jesus?
3. Deliver the same lesson/sermon in a local church.

Badge Criteria:

This badge shall be awarded by the trainer upon successful completion of the ***call to action*** in a manner that is faithfully consistent with the ***badge components*** and in light of ***the topics discussed*** throughout the course.