

**Ministers' Class, #12, April 25, 2024**  
**The Introduction and Conclusion to the Sermon, Lesson, or Message**

**Introduction:** Today, I want to talk to you about how to introduce and conclude a sermon, message, or lesson. I assigned to you six different sermons to study in the Book of Acts regarding the Introduction and Conclusion to a Message.

- I. How to Introduce a Sermon, Lesson, or Message:**
  - A. Follow the leading of the Holy Spirit and all of your preparation and presentation (Romans 8:14; Ephesians 5:18).**
  - B. Two of the purposes of the introduction are to create interest in the topic and to connect with the hearers.**
  - C. Some methods of introducing a sermon, lesson, or message:**
    - 1. One introductory method is to connect the message with current events:**
      - a. On the Day of Pentecost, Peter connected the current events with the Scriptures (Acts 2:14-36; cf. Joel 2:28-32).**
      - b. Peter's sermon at the Temple in Jerusalem was connected to the Scriptures and current events (Acts 3:12-26).**
      - c. Stephen's sermon before the Sanhedrin was connected with Scriptures and current events (Acts 7:1-53).**
      - d. Paul's sermon on Mars' Hill was connected with creation and current events (Acts 17:22-34).**
      - e. Paul's sermon before Felix was connected to the Scriptures and current events (Acts 24:10-21).**
      - f. Paul's sermon before King Agrippa was connected with the Scriptures and current events (Acts 26:1-23).**
    - 2. Preview what you're going to talk about.**
    - 3. Introduce the message with an illustration – I introduced a message on “Jesus Can Fix It” by tearing apart a rose and then asking the congregation, “Can anyone put this rose back together?” Only Jesus can fix it!**
    - 4. Give the background for the message.**
    - 5. Review if the message is a continuation of a previous message.**
    - 6. Give the reasons for the message.**

## **II. How to Conclude a Sermon, Lesson, or Message:**

### **A. Every message should have three parts:**

- 1. An introduction,**
- 2. A body, and**
- 3. A conclusion.**

### **B. Some methods of concluding a sermon, message, or lesson:**

- 1. Conclude with applications – try to make applications as you go rather than holding them all until the end.**
- 2. Conclude with lessons learn from the text.**
- 3. Conclude with some things to do – principles to practice.**
- 4. Conclude with a recapitulation of the main points.**
- 5. Conclude with an illustration.**
- 6. Conclude with a poem.**
- 7. Conclude with the lyrics of a song or hymn.**
- 8. Conclude with the benefits of obedience to God.**
- 9. Conclude with a reference to the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus – observed the references to the resurrection of Jesus in the Book of Acts (Acts 1:22; 2:24, 30-32; 3:15, 26; 4:2, 10, 33; 5:30; 10:40; 13:30, 33, 37; 17:31-32).**

### **C. Aim to leave the hearers wanting to hear more – Someone has said, “You accomplish more when you attempt less.”**

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