

ONE80 PREACHING #3
SPECIAL EVENTS PREACHING
Ephesians 5:15–17 (ESV)

We have been going over preaching strategy; Volume. Mechanics, Preparation... today we are going to look at special events altar call preaching. See, there are many types of events that we do, so there isn't a one size fits all for altar calls... its a one size fits most... But some of the principles still remain-

Ephesians 5:15–17 (ESV) Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise,¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is.

I PREACHING WISDOM:

A- Our passage encourages us to THINK-

1. Look Carefully: Observe and see what is going on, or what is going to happen- and think how do I connect the Gospel message and an altar call naturally and organically-

 a. Police Appreciation/Basketball/Corn Hole... When should it be done and how?

2. Be Wise: Consider your audience... Who will you be speaking to? This impacts how you preach!

 a. Haunted house/Family Fun Day/Movie outreach/Block Party... Its going to look different!

3. Make the Best use of the time: What is the crowd dynamics... how long can you hold their attention?

 a. SFT: Families with unchurched kids... HH: Rowdy vocal crowd... FFD: Fluid and moving crowd.

 b. Think: When should you do this... What would make the most sense?

4. Understand: When you go into it with some understanding about how this is going to work the best, that's

WISDOM! Knowledge applied-

II PREACHING THEMES:

A- Whatever it is you are preaching: FIND THE THEME... or FIND A THEME

1. This is true of plays, movies, any outdoor event... You need to find a theme and focus on that!

 a. You don't have to preach every possible idea of salvation... identify 1 and stay narrow to form your arrow-

2. Themes are what makes preaching clear! They enable you to stay focused especially in distracting settings

 a. Noise, activity, PV wind, children, outdoor elements... But you can capture a listeners ear by staying focused and deliberate. Sticking to the theme emphasizes your point and helps your listener track, even if distracted.

3. **V17** Understand what the will of God is... What theme would minister the best to this particular audience?

 a. What theme would incline their ear to the Salvation message... you need to work this out in advance.

 i. If you can't work it in advance... then you need to be able to identify it in real time.

 ii Try to do this in regular concerts, plaza outreaches, any outreach... What would I say if I was preaching? What are the themes that stand out to me... there may be more than 1

4. Your theme could be the redeeming element of an event, especially if things didn't go as smoothly as planned.

III MAKING THE BEST:

A- When you think it through in advance, you will be able to make the most of your event!

1. You will be Prepared: You will have a clear understanding and be able to instruct those helping you

2. You will be Confident: You will be able to declare with boldness, and the mechanics we already discussed

3. You will be Clear: People will be able to follow you!

4. You will be Effective: You will be able to make the **BEST!**

B- Now, There might be some duds!!!

1. THATS OK... I'd rather you try than not-

2. But this, will help you analyze WHY DIDN'T IT WORK, What can we do differently?

 a. And if it DID work; Why did it work? How can we replicate this? How can we make it more effective?