

“EDITING ILLUSTRATIONS”

In many different professions, such as news media (Newspaper/Magazine/Television), Book publishers or films a very important job is editor: One who looks at what has been written or filmed and makes decisions as far as what should or should not be in the article/book/TV show or film. The editor's job is to remove, change or rearrange things to best fit their purpose. Recognition: Not everything should be there. Very true in writing sermons as concern illustrations. If you want to communicate effectively, you need to learn how to edit illustrations.

I. ILLUSTRATION TRUTHS

A. Illustrations can be powerful:

1. *Illustrate: To shed light on, to make bright, to make clear;*
 - a. *An example or story that helps to shed light on, or clarify a truth*
2. **The 2 main sources of illustrations**
 - a. *Sermon illustration sources: Web/books, etc.*
 - b. *News: Paper/magazine/web*

B. The problem with many of these illustrations

1. **There is too much:**
 - a. Length
 - b. Detail
2. **So the preacher loses the audience**
 - a. Bores the audience
 - b. They miss the point
 - c. The speaker can't communicate effectively: He has to read it without eye contact – or making it live

II. EDITING ILLUSTRATIONS

A. Many illustrations need to be edited: Things need to be removed

1. **They need to be edited for length:** Most illustrations are meant to be read
 - a. Length/detail doesn't matter – because you can take your time to read through
 - b. News stories have to have details:
 1. They are often localizing a story: *Wow, that happened on Robert Rd. near my house!*
 2. People will get upset over details: *You didn't get my name right!*

2. **They need to be edited for details:** We are speaking – trying to connect through words
 - a. Much details you read are unnecessary
 1. *Does it matter where they live? What road they were on? What the official titles are?*
 - b. Details can make the illustration too long
 - c. Details can be distracting from the main point of the illustration

B. You have to edit many illustrations: Remove what is not necessary

1. **Remove** what doesn't need to be there
 - a. Unnecessary details or information
2. **Rearrange** the order of the words or sentences so it flows best
 - a. News articles don't give the story all at once. They give part of the story – then they throw in extra information to fill out the story, then they return to the events.

Farmer's daughter disarms terrorist and shoots him dead with AK47

An Indian farmer's daughter disarmed a terrorist leader who broke into her home, attacked him with an axe and shot him dead with his own gun.

Rukhsana Kausar, 21 was with her parents and brother in Jammu and Kashmir when three gunmen, believed to be Pakistani militants, forced their way in and demanded food and beds for the night.

Their house in Shahdra Sharief, Rajouri district, is about 20 miles from the ceasefire line between Indian and Pakistani forces.

It is close to dense forests known as hiding places for fighters from the Lashkar-e-Taiba group, which carried out the Mumbai terrorist attack last November.

Militants often demand food and lodging in nearby villages.

When they forced their way into Miss Kausar's home, her father Noor Mohammad refused their demands and was attacked.

His daughter was hiding under a bed when she heard him crying as the gunmen thrashed him with sticks. According to police, she ran towards her father's attacker and struck him with an axe. As he collapsed, she snatched his AK47 and shot him dead.

She also shot and wounded another militant as he made his escape.

Police have hailed the woman's bravery.

They said she would be nominated for the president's gallantry award.

She may also receive a £4,000 reward if, as police believe, the dead terrorist is confirmed as Uzafa Shah, a wanted Pakistani LeT commander who had been active in the area for the past four years.

Supt Shafqat Watali said Miss Kausar's reaction was "a rude shock" for the militants. "Normally they get king-like treatment but this was totally unexpected," he said.

Miss Kausar said she had never fired an assault rifle before but had seen it in films and could not stand by while her father was being hurt. "I couldn't bear my father's humiliation. If I'd failed to kill him, they would have killed us," she said.

A farmer's daughter in India, 21y. o. Rukhsana Kausar, was at home with her parents and brother when three gunmen, believed to be Pakistani terrorist militants, forced their way in and demanded food and beds for the night. Rukhsana's father Noor refused their demands and was attacked. His daughter was hiding under a bed when she heard him dying as the gunmen beat him. According to police, she ran towards her father's attacker and struck him with an axe. As he collapsed, she snatched his AK47 and shot him dead. She also shot and wounded another militant as he made his escape. Miss Kausar said she had never fired an assault rifle before but had seen it in films and could not stand by while her father was being hurt. "I couldn't bear my father's humiliation. If I'd failed to kill him, they would have killed us," she said.

Sir Edmund Hilary Demonstrates Humility

In his book *Humilitas*, pastor John Dickson illustrates the beauty of humility in the life of Sir Edmund Hillary. In 1953 Hillary conquered Mount Everest with his Sherpa friend and guide, Tenzin Norgay. Consequently, in that same year Hillary was knighted; in 1985 he was made New Zealand's highest commissioner to India, Nepal, and Bangladesh; and in 1995 he received the British realm's highest award, the Order of the Garter (membership of which is Limited to just twenty-four individuals). But despite Hilary's achievements and rewards, he maintained a humble outlook and a readiness to serve others.

John Dickson captures one story that reveals Sir Edmund's profound humility:

On one of his many trips back to the Himalayas he was spotted by a group of tourist climbers. They begged for a photo with the great man, and Hillary obliged. They handed him an ice pick so he would look the part and set up for the photograph. Just then another climber passed the group and, not recognizing the man at the centre, strode up to Hillary saying, "Excuse me, that's not how you hold an ice pick. Let me show you."

Everyone stood around in amazed silence as Hillary thanked the man, let him adjust the pick, and happily went on with the photograph.

"It doesn't matter how experienced that other climber was; his greatness was diminished by this intrusive presumption. We are repelled by pride. Edmund Hillary's greatness, however, is somehow enhanced by this humility.

Sir Edmund Hillary: On one of his many trips back to the Himalayas he was spotted by a group of tourist climbers. They begged for a photo with the great man, and Hillary obliged. They handed him an ice pick so he would look the part and set up for the photograph. Just then another climber passed the group and, not recognizing the man at the center, strode up to Hillary saying, "Excuse me, that's not how you hold an ice pick. Let me show you." Everyone stood around in amazed silence as Hillary thanked the man, let him adjust the pick, and happily went on with the photograph.