

## **All Messages Should Have...<sup>1</sup>**

- Introduction to: (a) grab the heart and/or (b) begin building context in the mind
- Sound contextual exegesis---put the people into the Bible
- Theology of the passage
- Lead it to Christ---EXALT Christ Col 1:28
- Lead to the gospel
- A structure that is memorable and follow-able
- Application
  - To the new believer
  - To the medium believer
  - To the mature believer
- The passion of my OWN walk with and love for Christ
- Connection to the heart
- Confront with the bitterness of sin and comfort with the glories of grace
- The Sovereignty of God---not necessarily directly taught but implied and spoken of naturally---God's sovereignty is the marrow of reformed doctrine
- Human Responsibility
- EXPLAIN what faith is, the components of faith (assent, belief, trust, etc).
- Make your way to the New Birth---regeneration—not often preached in 20<sup>th</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> centuries
- Touch base with the relationship of the Trinity in this message
- Soundly apply the passage to one or more of the varieties of people, unbelievers and believers
  - Completely disinterested unbeliever---WARN
  - Somewhat interested but unsure---TEACH
  - Interested and unsure---TEACH and ENCOURAGE
  - Seeking and Desperate---TEACH and PLEAD
  - New Believer---TEACH and give BASIC instruction
  - Wayward Believer---TEACH and EXHORT back
  - Growing Believer---TEACH and encourage to do still MORE
- Conclusion that leaves no option but to respond

---

<sup>1</sup> © Steve Swartz and Steadfast in the Faith