

Application:

Application means applying facts to the listener. Not all sermons involve application. For example, religious issues like the Trinity, God, the Son of God, the Holy Spirit, etc., are mentioned to strengthen the faith of the listeners. However, moral and explanatory sermons allow room for application. If application is not included, there is a gap. If there is no room for application in a sermon, make sure to create opportunities where application can be made. Every message should have a practical aspect, and blessed words should be used for the Church.

Application through Example:

An example can be used to effectively present the result or application. Examples or concepts should translate ideas and arguments, and also solve the purpose. After finishing the sermon, don't keep preaching. Common examples should not divert the listeners' emotions and feelings away from the main message.

Before the appeal, do not announce that you will be finishing in 5 or 10 minutes. If you say you're finishing soon, don't mention the time. When giving the result or appeal, do not introduce new material. Keep the ideas you have in your mind for later. People want to hear the result and mentally engage with it. Train people to form the habit of responding to the appeal and not make worship routine, but come prepared to experience something new every time. Often, during the appeal, people get up and move around. Teach them to respect God's Word.

Prepare the Appeal Well:

If possible, write down what application you want to give to the people at the end of the sermon. What do you want them to do after hearing the message? The appeal should not be too long. Often, people do not come forward during the appeal because of others or because they don't want to confess publicly. For them, a hidden, inner appeal can be made, where they can make a commitment in their hearts, and you can pray for them.

The beginning and ending of every task are very important. The last words of a message always echo in the ears and are remembered for a long time. Therefore, great care should be taken with the closing words.

Mistakes at the End:

Saying, "That's all I had to say, the rest is up to you," is not a proper ending, but a mistake. It shows immaturity and is childish. Asking people to stand up during the appeal can also become problematic. For example, if a three-day convention is held and you announce repentance on the first day, people will keep standing on all the following days. Don't give a call for repentance at church because people who attend church have already repented. Once I asked someone what they did, and they replied, "I am an Evangelist," and when I asked where they did this, they said, "I go to church and do this work."

Many times, people say, "I've said everything I wanted to say," but still take too long in concluding. This shows they lack the skill of summarizing. This is an art that needs to be learned and practiced. Many people start talking and never finish. Others may even forget what they were supposed to say or lose track of their point.

Many preachers rehearse the last part of their message, which is a good habit. During the sermon, do not apologize repeatedly by saying, "I'm sorry for saying this," be bold and confident. Many preachers end their sermons without an appeal. Remember, a sermon without an appeal is useless. You've wasted your own and the people's time. Whether you have half an hour or just 10 minutes, never speak anywhere without giving an appeal.

The Appeal Doesn't Always Have to Be at the End:

The appeal doesn't have to be only at the end; it can also be made during the message. I often make appeals as I go along.

Benefits of the Appeal:

- The appeal prepares the listeners to take practical steps.

- The appeal clarifies the meaning of the message.
- The appeal brings the purpose of the sermon to the forefront.
- The appeal touches the hearts of others with the preacher's message.
- The appeal refreshes the listeners' memory of the message.
- The appeal enables the audience to make decisions.
- The appeal provides guidance with principles.
- The appeal shows the way forward.
- The appeal makes the sermon effective.
- The appeal makes the sermon acceptable.

The Appeal should be:

Clear, simple, correct, firm, enthusiastic, actionable, appropriate, natural, personal, positive, unique, effective, certain, dynamic, useful, focused, encouraging, and full of awareness.

The appeal should not be long, it should not contain jokes, it should be free from outdated ideas, should not involve apologies, should not be premature, should fit the occasion, and should not lack interest.

