

**HOW TO BE A GOD-HONORING:
PERSONAL ADVICE TO YOUNG PREACHERS.**

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As we enter into the 21st Century and find ourselves involved in a “*growing, multi-cultural global community*,” how should we proceed as teachers and students of Scripture?

1. Deem God’s Word as your ultimate & final authority.
2. Truly honor Jesus as the Head of the Church. Remember, He is in your midst. Therefore, always seek to make it your singular ambition to be pleasing to Him.
3. Always remember that the Holy Spirit uses the Scripture to change lives (1 Peter 1:23; James 1:18; John 17:17; Ephesians 6:17). Therefore, preach the Word!!!
4. Make your studies as an expression of worship. There is to be no moment when you are NOT dependent upon Him (Galatians 5:16-18; Ephesians 5:18).
5. Always remember that true worship is a response from the heart to God’s truth (John 4:23).
6. Earnestly seek to fully develop the mind of Jesus Christ (Phil. 2:5-11).
7. Be the example of personal Bible study.
8. Remember you are representing God’s interests & HIS message; there should be no ambiguity about WHOSE message is coming from the pulpit.
9. The Glory of God & the Majesty of Jesus Christ is your GOAL in preparing, proclaiming, & living out the teachings of Scripture.
10. Proclaim the WHOLE counsel of Scripture.
11. Say nothing more & nothing less than what Scripture states. In other

words, apart from the Word of God, you have nothing else to say.

12. Life-changing power is not found in pontifications, proclamations, & profound speculations, but in Scripture itself (Hebrews 4:12). Don't entertain the audience. Rather, feed the flock with the pure Word of God.
13. Intimately know the Scripture; BE Scripture-filled.
14. Reverently, consistently, and diligently apply the Scripture. Every aspect of your life is to express the Lordship & beauty of Jesus Christ.
15. Earnestly defend the Scripture (1 Peter 3:15-16) in unwavering truth & Christ-like love. Know *why* you believe what you believe.
16. Your source of strength is intimately knowing God & allowing the Holy Spirit to live through you (John 15).
17. Don't illegitimately proof-text; rightly divide the Scripture.
18. Always BE prayerful.
19. Be authentic; keep it real. When you don't know the answer, don't pretend.
20. Always be ready to proclaim the Scripture-no matter where you are.
21. Earnestly & sincerely confess your sins (1 John 1:9) & mortify the flesh (Colossians 3). Never tolerate sin in personal life. It is offensive to God. Remember, you are His living representative representing His interests.
22. Before, during, & after you proclaim the Scripture, ask God to scrutinize your life & see where you stand in your intimacy with Him (Psalm 26; 1 John).
23. Pro-actively seek to pour your life into others. Be used by God to produce healthy disciples.
24. Cultivate humility. No matter how important, witty, or popular you seem to become, it is not about you.

25. Love the unlovely with the love of Christ (1 John 3:16-17).
26. Relationally know your people.
27. Pursue all of life with a passion for excellence. Seek to cultivate a disposition of intellectual and moral excellence (Philippians 4:8). Remember, that personal character is essentially the sum-total of your habits.
28. Never be satisfied with mediocrity.
29. Live life to the fullest with utmost excellence in mind (Ecclesiastes).
30. Seize each moment (Philippians 3; 2 John 8).
31. Know how to rest and regularly do so.
32. Always remember that learning is pleasurable. Stretch your mind; mentally grow. Read the very best and challenging material rather than just what you are comfortable in reading. And don't merely study what you already believe. Go beyond the familiar.
33. Regularly pause to see what others fail to see.
34. Look to Jesus Christ to see how you ought to be. Look to the Holy Spirit to make it so.
35. Pray every day that you will have an unquenchable passion for Him & be grievously burdened for those who don't know Jesus Christ.
37. If you ever come to a point in your life whereby you no longer believe the Bible is the Word of God, my prayer is that you will voluntarily leave the pulpit or lectern.
38. Maintain a clear conscience. This will be liberating to you as you proclaim the Word of God.

39. Make your family a priority; love your spouse. People are watching how your family lives out what you are proclaiming.
40. Be a living sacrifice moment-by-moment (Rom.12:1-2). Imitate Jesus Christ. There is no greater testimony than allowing others to see Jesus Christ in who you are and how you live.