

# Proclaiming God's Word

*7 Key Lessons Learned in 30 Years*

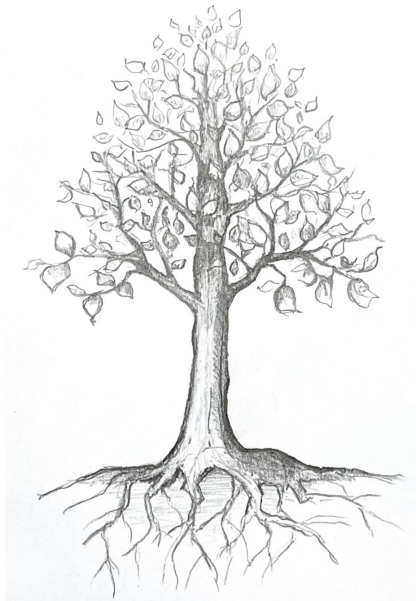
**FR. MATT WOODLEY**

*Hebrews 4:12*

## I. **Get the Text**

St. Ambrose: "Pay attention to the choice of individual words and their meanings."

Hippolytus of Rome: "Let us strive to arrive at an understanding of the divine realities, not according to our intelligence... but in the manner he himself has wanted to reveal himself in the Sacred Scriptures."





## II. **Let the Text Get You**

“If you want to preach to the heart, you need to preach *from* the heart... What is required is that as you speak it becomes evident... that you yourself have been humbled, wounded, healed, comforted, and exalted by the truths you are presenting, and that they have genuine power in your life.”

— Tim Keller

## III. **Bring People Into Your Text**

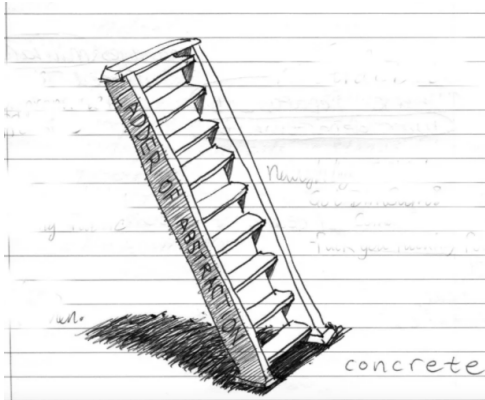
“Expository preaching is not about getting a message out of the text; it is about inviting people into the text... The preacher’s role is not that of an expert, but that of an [art museum guide] ... calling attention to the essential aspects of the reality about which the text is speaking.”

— Darrell Johnson

## IV. **Focus Your Message**

- a. What’s your point? (The Big Idea)
- b. Why does it matter? (The WDTM Test)
- c. What can you cut? (“Kill Your Darlings”)

V. **Use the Ladder of Abstraction**



VI. **Learn From Others, Find Your Voice**

VII. **Bring People to Jesus**