

**Exegesis Steps For Expository Preaching and Teaching Form by Brian T. Sutton, D.Min.**

Spend time seeking God for a text. Devotional reading, study, and private prayer produce the greatest sermons. After prolonged prayer, select a central text for exegesis and presentation.

**1. Translation**

What is your central text? \_\_\_\_\_

Compare at least 4 other English translations (note differences in text translation)

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**2. Lexical Data and Grammar**

Select key English words that may bring clarity \_\_\_\_\_

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Do a traditional “word study” from the original language of the text

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List range of meanings for word in as many scriptural references as possible\_(what did the author mean by the word(s)?)

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**3. Historical Context**

What is the setting of this passage? \_\_\_\_\_

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What led up to this point in the passage? \_\_\_\_\_

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What comes after this passage? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is the main thought of this book of the Bible? \_\_\_\_\_

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How does this passage relate to that main flow of thought? \_\_\_\_\_

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Are there parallel/Similar passages elsewhere in the Bible? If so, list some or all of them \_\_\_\_\_

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How do they relate to your selected text? \_\_\_\_\_

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Why do you think the author wrote this passage? \_\_\_\_\_

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What did the text mean to the original audience? \_\_\_\_\_

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What are the differences between the Biblical audience and us? \_\_\_\_\_

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What Circumstances does the author address? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is the possible date of the passage (When was it written)? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the date relevant to the application? How? \_\_\_\_\_

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What are the most significant Historical-Cultural Contexts? \_\_\_\_\_

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**4. Literary Context**

Where does the passage occur in the book? \_\_\_\_\_

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Does it complete, introduce or further describe a story? \_\_\_\_\_

Why did God choose the author to write this text? \_\_\_\_\_

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Has this author written similar meaning texts elsewhere in scripture? Where? \_\_\_\_\_

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**5. Biblical Context**

What is the meaning of this passage? \_\_\_\_\_

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Is this passage mentioned elsewhere in the Bible? Where? \_\_\_\_\_

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Suppose this passage were not in the Bible at all. What would be lost? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**6. Theology**

How does this passage fit in with Christian Theology? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Is it an Old Testament message or a message for the Old and New Testament? \_\_\_\_\_

What theological issues are raised? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How are those issues resolved? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Is there direction on how to deal with a particular issue? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How does your text relate to loving God and loving you neighbor as yourself? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

How does your selected passage relate to the mission of God (Missio Dei)? \_\_\_\_\_

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**7. Secondary Literature**

What have others said about the passage? \_\_\_\_\_

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**8. Application for Sermon**

What is God's central message (the one point) of the passage? \_\_\_\_\_

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What does the text say? \_\_\_\_\_

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What does the passage say about their needs? \_\_\_\_\_

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To whom will it be preached? \_\_\_\_\_

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Why am I preaching this? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is the picture for the people? \_\_\_\_\_

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How does this story fit into God's whole redemption story for mankind? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is the most encouraging way to say it? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is the simplest way to say it? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is the most personal way to say it? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is the most interesting way to say it? \_\_\_\_\_

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Who are the prominent people in the story? (1) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ (3) \_\_\_\_\_

(4) \_\_\_\_\_ (5) \_\_\_\_\_

Who will the hearers most identify with in the story? \_\_\_\_\_

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What is God's "action plan" for me relating to His words in the text? \_\_\_\_\_

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What's in it for the hearers? \_\_\_\_\_

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What do I want them (hearers) to do?

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

How will I invite them to come? \_\_\_\_\_

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How will God help them to succeed? \_\_\_\_\_

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Write the conclusion first, with the central message in mind \_\_\_\_\_

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**Write the central message in the box below and use the spider diagram to list as many observations as possible.**

**What is the Central Message of this passage?**



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**Categorize all of your observations from the preceding page and organize as major headings, and sub-headings (use complete sentences) :**

Major Heading: \_\_\_\_\_

Sub-Headings:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Major Heading: \_\_\_\_\_

Sub-Headings:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Major Heading: \_\_\_\_\_

Sub-Headings:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Major Heading: \_\_\_\_\_

Sub-Headings:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Major Heading: \_\_\_\_\_

Sub-Headings:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

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Write the sermon title and outline using complete sentences.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

I. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

II. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

III. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

IV. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

A. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_