**How to Give a Killer Presentation**

New York/New Jersey Co-Worker’s fellowship March 20/21/2014

For the sake of those who may not know, what is TED.com and what is a TEDs talk?

* Non-profit devoted to spreading ideas.
* Who here has watched/listened to at least one TEDs talk?
  + What do you think of the talk(s) you watched/heard?
  + Why would you want to watch/listen to a TEDs talk?

Chris Anderson, a former journalist, has been the curator of TEDs since 2002. Over the years Chris has identified five keys elements that will enable a presenter to give a “killer” talk. This morning we will discuss how these five key elements can be applied to a sermon.

1. **Frame your story/sermon….**(figure out where to start and where to end).
   1. A talk is a story or journey that has a beginning and an end.
      1. Does your story/journey/sermon have a beginning and an end?
      2. If we were to ask your congregation, what would they say?
   2. How do you select your sermon passage?
      1. Book of Bible (Expository)
         1. On what basis do you decide your sermon passage?
         2. How do you decide how small a sermon passage should be?
      2. Topic
         1. What role do topics play in your sermon selection?
         2. How often do you preach topical sermons?
      3. Random
   3. In your chosen passage, “is there something worth talking about?”
      1. What criteria do you use to make that determination?
      2. When writing a sermon, do you write it with a target in mind?
         1. Is there something to better understand/appreciate?
         2. Is there something you want to integrate into people’s lives?
         3. Do all your points revolve around your theme?
   4. In the article Chris encourages us to resist the impulse to sweep broadly; instead, he encourages us to dig deep.
      1. In the context of a sermon what would you take that to mean?
      2. Do you identify and explain practices, words, phrases that people may not understand? E.g. Ebenezer=stone of help establish by Samuel to commemorate God’s help in defeating Philistines
         1. To better understand the passage
         2. To better explain the passage
   5. When writing a sermon, from whose perspective do you frame/prepare it?
      1. Do you seek illustrations/stories to better explain your point(s)?
      2. Where do you find your sermon illustrations?
2. **Plan your delivery….**How do you deliver your sermon?
   1. Read the sermon
   2. Bullet points
      1. Transition points are critical
      2. Need to memorize point
   3. Memorize
      1. Advantages of memorized sermon
         1. Can better gauge if people are listening
         2. Free to walk around and engage people
      2. What it takes to memorize a sermon
         1. Long ranging planning…need to plan sermons in advance
         2. Lots of hard work…need to review and repeat endlessly
   4. To keep people engaged, asking questions helps
      1. Have you ever done that?
      2. What kinds of questions could you ask?
3. **Stage presence**…(but remember that your story matters more than how you stand
   1. When your first began to preach, how did you feel?
      1. Nervous - normal
         1. Still nervous to this day
         2. But, will be less nervous as time passes
      2. To help calm us down, Chris suggests we take a deep breath.
         1. Who here does that?
         2. What other device do some of us use?
   2. Beginning speakers tend to move around a lot
      1. Need to stand still
      2. Need to stop waving arms and hands
   3. Chris suggests that eye contact is important
      1. Provides feedback
      2. Helps to connect with congregation
   4. Sometimes we have a “verbal tick” that we are unaware of
      1. We need someone who will be honest with us to tell us
      2. We need to work at getting rid of the tick
4. **Use of multimedia…**(whatever you do, don't read from PowerPoint slides)
   1. Who here uses multimedia?
      1. PowerPoint presentation during sermon
      2. Video segments
      3. Internet
      4. “Old School” preachers generally do not use multimedia
         1. Wasn’t available
         2. Didn’t have the creative resources
   2. What is the purpose of multimedia?
      1. Visual aid
      2. Help keep people’s interest
      3. Provide a visual presentation of sermon
   3. What are the dangers of using multimedia?
      1. Chris-don’t read from the PowerPoint
      2. We learned from Isaacson’s biography of Steven Jobs that Jobs banned PowerPoint presentations in his meetings
         1. He felt people failed to think when they made a ppt presentation
         2. He felt people who knew what they were talking about did not need a ppt presentation
5. **Put it together…**(play to your strengths and be authentic)
   1. Chris suggests we utilize people to give us feedback-who here does that?
      1. Asian American congregations rarely provide feedback.
      2. Need to carefully select people whom you trust
   2. Chris states a presentation rises or falls on the quality of the idea, the narrative and the passion of the speaker…in the context of preaching, how would you respond to that?