

## SERMON PRAYER

1. Lord, please help me to understand the meaning of this text and how it points to Christ.
2. Lord, please increase my love for the people who will hear this sermon.
3. Lord, please give me wisdom to apply this text to the lives of the people in our congregation.
4. Lord, please use this passage to help me grasp and love the gospel more so that I might help my hearers do the same.
5. Lord, please help me to see how this passage confronts the unbelief of my hearers.
6. Lord, please help me to be obedient to the demands of this passage. Help me to enter the pulpit having already submitted my life to this truth before I preach it.
7. Lord, by your Spirit please help me to preach this sermon with the necessary power and with appropriate affections.
8. Lord, please use this sermon to bring glory to your name, joy to your people, and salvation to the lost.

## SERMON PREPARATION

1. Have you prayed for yourself and your listeners?
2. In one sentence, what is the point of the sermon?
3. Does the sermon have a clear, easy-to-follow outline?
4. Can you express your outline in a way that makes sense and explains the big point?
5. Has every theological concept or term been defined or explained?
6. Is there a clear gospel call that expresses the gospel in a fresh way?
7. Have you spoken to the children?
8. Are there places you have planned to pause, or to decrease or increase volume?
9. Is there anything that can be removed for the sake of clarity and concision?
10. Does every point have at least one helpful illustration?
11. Have you included some good turns-of-phrase?
12. Have you considered how the sermon will speak to people who are: discontent, divorced, abused, mourning, in a difficult marriage, or other circumstances?
13. Is there something to jolt the regular, committed sermon-listener?