f. It is always helpful to have a few supporting Scriptures to strengthen your treatment of the text.

- g. And be certain you have a stated theme and a prepared (or planned) introduction and conclusion.
  - 3. And here is a somewhat apocopated textual message in note form

Text: 1 Corinthians 16:13-14

In context, Paul is completing the letter with practical admonitions.

Theme: Paul's Guidance for a Strong

testimony.

Introduction: WE have seen Paul's perplexity with the conditions in the Church at Corinth...we have also seen some of his advice to special issues. But now we come to the crux of the matter...the emphatic teaching that will deliver the fellowship from mediocrity and lukewarmness. Paul gives the apostolic guidance that will lead to and continue a strong testimony.

**Text Divisions:** These are apparent...just look at the text. Not every text divides so easily but why pick a hard text just for this seminar?

Outline: --Be alert

-- Maintain the faith

--Act like adults
--Be strong

--Commit to love

The speaker will define these and explain them and have illustrative help. The speaker may need to look up some terms in a dictionary but with each point he will tell his audience...this

is what Paul wants for the church.

Conclusion: How about it? How does your life conform to the Pauline advice?

Do you want a fellowship that slowly deteriorates or grows in the grace and knowledge of the Lord?

4. In summary I am not suggesting this is a final or perfect form. It is an example of possibilities. All presentation of the Word of God is exciting and it seems to me we can do very few other things that bring as much satisfaction to all parties. Remember that the introduction will lead into the body of the message and the conclusion will summarize and challenge. The latter should not become a second message and the former should not be an irrelevant item that just makes the gang smile.