

IV. Delivering the Goods

In this third session of our seminar the discussion hinges on the idea of delivering the presentation. It is a vast area of study and has so many imponderable things in it...that it should be a course in itself. But the items that follow are selected by me in the hopes that they will encourage us in presenting the Word and all that is associated with that. The principles of presentation are very common for messages long or short or simple announcements of class leadings. The person doing the speaking simply has to adapt them to the occasion in which one has involvement. So we break it into three units of study.

A. You

The following points relate to the speaker, announcer, teacher, etc. We recognize that there are great differences in people and differences in gifts and tendencies. These can neither make us feel superior or inferior. At best we are servants of the Lord and His people and no position is more honorable than that. Personality or ability differences are not the things that commend us to God and while we ought to cultivate things that help we should not allow the absence of those things to keep us from serving in due capacity. I have to stop writing this sort of thing before I go in a complete circle so...the points are these:

1. Be yourself---so long as you are respected, comfortable and effective. If for some reason you are repulsive and ineffective, try being someone else! (Humor of a poor sort) Look for sociological improvement.
2. Don't be nervous. There are two major causes of nervousness apart from some physiological condition. They are (1) a concern that you will not do what you are expected to do and (2) a fear of the judgment of others with the lack of public approval. The first may make you try harder while the second may cause you to run away. But in both cases (or either case) remember the Lord is with you, helping and listening to you. There really is nothing to fear in the light of 2 Timothy 1:6-7
3. Avoid discomfiting mannerisms and glottal gasps.
4. Have the notes that are suited for you.
 - a. There should be a background of prayer and study for whatever.
 - b. The speaker should go over the content-concept of what the responsibility is and have it well in mind.
 - c. With the speaker/teacher/announcer there may be of the: