

TTT 409. "Your Voice Matters" Tips for new and inexperienced speakers. Part 14 - Enjoy Speaking! 08 April 2025

Teaching Tip 409 | "Your Voice Matters". Part 14 - Enjoy Speaking! Tips for new and inexperienced speakers | Malcolm Cox

Today's Tip

Today, we explore a tip from my friend Tim Dannatt. He wrote:

"My thought about preaching is to encourage people to enjoy speaking."

Sounds simple. But for new and inexperienced speakers it can be hard to enjoy preaching and teaching. Can we get to that point, and does it matter?

Why enjoying speaking matters

It has to be said that when we first begin speaking in public, it is rarely enjoyable - sometimes for those listening to us as well as ourselves! However, it is my conviction and experience that finding joy in speaking grows over time. The result is a less burdened speaker which results in a more relaxed audience. Removing anxiety from the speaker and the audience creates better communication. Let's face it, if it doesn't look like you are enjoying speaking, what's the chances that the audience will enjoy listening to you? They might feel pity, or concern, but they will be distracted from your message. Granted, we don't get to that point overnight, but we can grow in that direction.

How to enjoy speaking

Well, to begin with, you won't be surprised if I encourage you to pay attention to the previous 13 Tips. They will help you be more confident, which is part of the foundation for enjoyment. However, in addition to those tips, here are some further ideas:

- **Believe what you are saying.** If you have a genuine conviction about your topic, your nerves and anxiety will be overruled.

- **Trust your audience.** Most of the time, your hearers will have turned up because they want to learn. You are pushing the wheelbarrow downhill, not uphill.
 - **Find strength in God.** He is delighted you are sharing his life-giving Word with people he loves. Therefore, he's going to do everything he can to support you.
 - **Prepare well.** It's hard to enjoy anything if your brain has to work so hard you can't inhabit the moment. Do the kind of preparation we've talked about in previous tips, and you will be able to relax.
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Summary

The ability to enjoy speaking is directly correlated to conviction, preparation and trust.

Questions

Do you enjoy speaking in public? Do you have a vision that it could be possible for you? What would be the first step towards finding greater joy in preaching and teaching?

Please add your comments on this week's topic. We learn best when we learn in community.

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<https://aim.moodlecloud.com/>.

Do you have a question about teaching the Bible? Is it theological, technical, or practical?

Please send me your questions or suggestions. Here's the email: malcolm@malcolmcox.org.

If you'd like a copy of my free eBook on spiritual disciplines, "How God grows His people", sign up at my website: <http://www.malcolmcox.org>.

Please pass the link on, subscribe, and leave a review.

Keep calm and carry on teaching.

God bless, Malcolm
