

TTT 413. "Your Voice Matters" Tips for new and inexperienced speakers. Part 18 - My TOP tip! 06 May 2025

Teaching Tip 413 | "Your Voice Matters". Part 18 - My TOP tip! Tips for new and inexperienced speakers | Malcolm Cox

Introduction

I hope you enjoyed this series. We've explored eighteen red hot tips - all from people sending them in. Which was your favourite?

Today's Tip

Today, we conclude the series with my top tip!

Make it stick!

Make your message sticky with your audience, and sticky with Scripture."

1. Sticky with Scripture

If your message doesn't come *from* Scripture, it might stick for a moment—but it won't last. God's Word is what changes lives. So the first question to ask is:

Is this message deeply rooted in Scripture?

Not just a Bible verse here and there, but a message flowing from the truth of God's Word. Not a message salted with Scripture, but soaked in Scripture. Let Scripture drive the shape, the tone, and the heart of what you say.

2. Sticky with the Audience

But here's the other side. There's no point preaching truth if it doesn't land. If your hearers don't see what the truth means for them, it won't make a difference. That's why a second question is crucial:

Will this stick with my audience?

Use stories. Use images. Use questions. Be real. Be clear. Be honest. Jesus was a master at this—he told unforgettable stories that carried deep spiritual truth.

Take the parable of the prodigal son. It's a simple story—a rebellious son, a patient father, a bitter older brother. But it sticks, because it speaks to our hearts. We remember the hug, the robe, the party, the father running down the road. And then we realise: That's how God feels about me. That's truth that sticks.

3. A Final Reflection

So as you prepare your lessons, ask yourself:

Is this sticking with me?

If it's not real to you, it probably won't be real to them. Then ask:

How can I make it stick for them?

Not by watering it down—but by connecting the eternal truth of Scripture with the everyday lives of real people.

Sticky with Scripture. Sticky with your audience. That's your sweet spot.

Final Thoughts

Thanks for watching this series. Whether you're just starting out or still finding your voice, remember this: you're not just delivering information—you're helping people encounter Jesus through the Word. So prepare well. Preach faithfully. And always ask—will this stick?

Questions

How has this episode and the previous ones shaped your thinking about teaching and preaching? If you are a new or inexperienced preacher/teacher, what have you found helpful?

Next Time

Next week I offer a concluding exhortation. After that, we will explore topical lessons. I've had a few conversations about topical sermons and lessons recently. Therefore, we will start a series on the value of topical lessons, and how to research and deliver them. Please let me know if you have any specific questions about topical sermons and lessons.

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

Consider joining us at [AIM](#) UK & Ireland for faith-building teaching:

<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
