

PREACHING TO A CONTEMPORARY WORLD

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Much of preaching today has been reduced to pedantic explanation of biblical minutia or spiritual platitudes posing as pithy insights. The focus of my project was to write a textbook for Global University that would be used to train a new generation of Pentecostal preachers to present the timeless, unchanging truths of Scripture in a timely fashion and to show its application to everyday life. The goal in contemporary preaching is not merely the presentation of information, but to see people experience authentic life transformation.

The most effective preachers in the twenty-first century will view preaching as part of a much larger worship experience. Contemporary preachers will create engaging, multi-sensory worship experiences that leverage advancements in modern technology in an effort to reach the unchurched. Much like the Early Church used stained glass, incense, Holy Communion, artwork, and storytelling to communicate the faith, the twenty-first century preacher must use media, lighting, sound, screens and modern digital technology to pass on the faith to the next generation. As the apostle Paul said in 1 Corinthians 9:22, “To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all men so that by all possible means I might save some.”

While the message of the gospel must never change, the methods must always change with each new generation. It is my hope that this course will help the next generation of Pentecostal preachers to gain new insights and practical tools to create irresistible, multi-sensory worship experiences. At the center of these worship services lies the dynamic preaching of the Word in an effort to reach today’s contemporary audience until Christ returns.