

# Garvin Adams

## SERIES TITLE

Part # X of Y – “Message Title” (Date)

**BOTTOM LINE:**

**OBJECT LESSON:**

**MESSAGE DESCRIPTION:**

**CRITICAL QUESTIONS:**

1. What do you want people to know?
2. Why do you want them to know it?
3. What do you want people to do?
4. Why do you want people to do it?

*NOTE:* Often, the bottom line emerges during the message writing process.

**CONNECTION** – Create common ground with the audience and a connection to you as the communicator.

A.

*TRANSITION:*

TIPS FOR CONNECTION:

- Connect relationally. People need to buy into the messenger before they can buy into the message.
- Use an engaging story or example to connect you to the crowd and to the topic.
- You must establish common ground with the audience before moving further into the message.
- Question: How has this topic affected my life personally?

**TENSION** – Interject tension to intrigue their attention.

A.

*TRANSITION:*

TIPS FOR TENSION:

- This is where you begin to unload the burden.

- Think of tension as the felt need OR unfelt need?
- When you interject tension, you engage emotionally and create a need to hear the:
  - Problem that demands a resolution.
  - Mystery that needs a solution.
  - Question that must be answered.
- Think strategically about how to transition from the tension to the message. Examples include:
  - “I bet you have felt this way, too.”
  - “But that is probably something that only I struggle with, right?”
  - “Can anybody other than me relate that that?”
  - “The good news is that we are not the first people to struggle with this. The people in Jesus’ day did as well. Turn with me to...”
  - “God must have known that was going to be a problem for us because Jesus addressed this very issue one afternoon on the way to...”

**FORMATION** – The truth from Scripture allows us to connect what is true to why it matters.

A.

*TRANSITION:*

TIPS FOR TRUTH:

- Always provide background and context for the scripture.
- Think of yourself as a navigator through the text.
- Develop interest by:
  - Voicing your personal questions about the scripture – “If God would allow me to erase one piece of scripture, it just may be this one.”
  - Helping the audience anticipate the main point of the text – “Then Jesus drops a bomb...”
  - Deliberately read the text the wrong way.
  - Have the audience read certain words out loud for emphasis.
- Summarize the text with a well-crafted statement.
- Use visuals (on-screen or props) every chance you get.
- Be sure to transition to the application: “Now, in light of all that, what should we do? How does this principle intersect with our lives? What do you do with this tomorrow morning when you show up at your office or school?”

**APPLICATION** – The purpose of preaching is not information, but application that leads to transformation.

A.

*TRANSITION:*

TIPS FOR APPLICATION:

- Now tell the audience what to do with the information they have heard. And be as specific as you can.
- The application section is another place to use personal examples, especially times where you've got this wrong.
- Thinking in concentric circles of application allows you to include several categories of people hearing the message.
- Be sure to transition to the conclusion: "I realize this might be tough to apply, but just for a minute, imagine what could happen if in your life if you actually did this."

**INSPIRATION** – The final moments of the message provides a chance to inspire a sense of urgency and importance for the truth and application.

A.

TIPS FOR CONCLUDING THE MESSAGE:

- People need to be inspired to change. How do you plan to inspire a change of belief and behavior?
- Is there a critical question for the audience to ponder? Be sure to give space for introspection.
- Take time to imagine with the audience. Painting a picture of what should be helps people imagine what could be.
- This is a great place to include a sticky statement. Don't force it, but spend time wordsmithing to find it.

**PRAYER**

TIPS FOR YOUR PRAYER:

- This is not the time to provide more teaching. This is a moment to ask God to do what only he can do.
- Keep this short. You've landed the message, so don't attempt another takeoff.

## TIPS FOR CREATING A CLEAR OUTLINE

You may be the person communicating the message, but you'll rely on many others to help make the message great. As you craft the content, use specific highlights and notations to help your support team support you.

### ON TEACHING SCREEN:

- Use boxes and color fills to clearly identify what needs to appear on the teaching screen.
- Highlight what needs highlighting. Yellow highlights important words or phrases. Use cyan sparingly to spotlight what's most important or the point of an entire passage.
- Pay attention to the spacing! The content should be visually balanced and appealing to the audience.

#### John 3:16 (NIV)

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Everywhere Jesus went, people  
who were not like him liked him

### PREVIEW NOTES

- Use highlights in the message outline for preview monitor cues.

### EXAMPLE:

Sin is something that we should be against, because God is against it. Sin is a big deal! God allowed his Son to die in our place for our sin! Sin separates us from God.