



**THE ELDER and the
PREACHING TASK:
BUILDING THE SERMON 101**

BUILDING THE SERMON

- **LOOK FOR THE BIG IDEA**
- **FOLLOW THE STRUCTURE OF THE TEXT**
- **SUMMARIZE THOUGHTS IN BROAD BUT SIMPLE PRINCIPLES THAT ALL CAN UNDERSTAND**
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- **DEVELOP 3-4 POINTS**
- **MOVE FROM THE
ABSTRACT TO THE
CONCRETE**
- **STRENGTHEN POINTS WITH
CLEAR TRANSITIONS**

ILLUSTRATIONS

- **SHOULD ENHANCE**
- **AVOID LONG STORIES**
- **AVOID REVEALING
CONFIDENCES ABOUT OTHERS**
- **AVOID OFF-COLOR JOKES**

- **WRITE A CONCLUSION**
- **AN APPEAL ISN'T ALWAYS A CALL TO A PUBLIC ACT**
- **WHEN MAKING AN APPEAL KEEP THE AUDIENCE IN MIND: ARE THEY VISITORS, MEMBERS, ETC.**