

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Venue:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date (of sermon):** \_\_\_\_\_

**URL or Location Information: How can I find this sermon?** \_\_\_\_\_.

**The assignment.**

Listen to one sermon. It must be a 'sermon' and not something that might be thought of as a Bible lesson or lecture. You can listen by visiting a church or by searching Youtube, or any other way that you can listen or watch a sermon. Radio is fine. Many churches put sermons online. Cedarville University puts its chapel messages online, for example. I'm sure you can find many others. Anything shorter than 15 minutes is off-limits.

Your job is to listen critically in order to learn.

This evaluation will be looked at closely and graded. Use specific examples and take some time to express your thoughts. Exercises that are too short on details or unclear or simply not developed well enough will be given back to the student for elaboration.

**Delivery:**

Describe this preacher's style (short paragraph or two)?

This is a somewhat subjective appraisal—how you perceive it. Here you might include your personal appraisal of features such as: the preacher's emotional intensity, social situation and things such economic class, race, ethnicity, etc., level of intellectual sophistication, formality/informality--is it warm and personal or meant to be objective. Is this sermon hortatory or propositional or narrative by nature. Is it polemical? Defensive? Inviting? Were the style delivery issues appropriate for the listeners? Consider both the persons present and the secondary listener such as yourself listening later.

Was the main point clear? What was it?

Was there a discernable high point or climax? What was it and when did it occur?

VPS214 Preaching the Biblical Text  
Weekly Critical Listening

How did the preacher introduce his sermon? Describe his starting place.

How did the preacher finish his sermon? Describe the end.

Did the preacher seem to pad the message with banter or banalities or get off subject? Give examples.

**Content:**

Scripture Passage-main \_\_\_\_\_

Scripture Passages—secondary. \_\_\_\_\_

How did the preacher establish his point? Reasonable argument? Authority? Emotional appeals?

How was the material organized? As a narrative? Question and Answer? Exegetically—verse by verse?

VPS214 Preaching the Biblical Text  
Weekly Critical Listening

Did the preacher play any expert cards? Counseling or theological training? Biblical languages? History? Age & experience? Other credentials? Or was the preacher just 'one of us.' speaking for u.

Did the preacher make any inappropriate rhetorical moves? Self-defeating, out-of-place, offensive upon reflection. What were they?

**Congregation:**

To whom do you think the preacher was preaching?

How well did it work as you heard it—you being the secondary 'congregation.'

VPS214 Preaching the Biblical Text  
Weekly Critical Listening

**Parting shots:**

Did anything else in the content or delivery annoy you or detract from the point?

Was anything about the delivery particularly effect?

State one idea about this preacher's sermon that you will 'steal.'

Content?:

Delivery?: