

# Sermon Evaluation Study and Form



St. John's Lutheran Church  
Howard, South Dakota

# What is Good Preaching?

## Law and Gospel

**1 Tim 1:15 (ESV)** – Rightly dividing the Word of Truth. Law and Gospel

*15Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.*

### **LAW AND GOSPEL - By C.F.W. Walther**

*Thesis I. The doctrinal contents, of the entire Holy Scriptures, both of the Old and the New Testament, are made up of two doctrines differing fundamentally from each other, viz., the Law and the Gospel.*

*Thesis II. Only he is an orthodox teacher who not only presents all the articles of faith in accordance with Scripture, but also rightly distinguishes from each other the Law and the Gospel.*

## **The Law says do it or die.**

The Law calls anything short of complete obedience sin.

**Matthew 22:37, 39 (ESV)**

*37And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.*

*39And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.*

## **The Gospel says it is done. Christ on the cross.**

**Rom 8:3-4**

*3For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, 4in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.*

## **St. Paul says:**

**1 Cor 2:1-2**

*1And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. 2For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.*

**Gal 1:6-7**

*6I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel-- 7not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ.*

**Gal 2:6-7**

*6And from those who seemed to be influential (what they were makes no difference to me; God shows no partiality)--those, I say, who seemed influential added nothing to me. 7On the contrary, when they saw that I had been entrusted with the gospel to the uncircumcised, just as Peter had been entrusted with the gospel to the circumcised*

**2 Tim 1:8-11**

*8Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, 9who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, 10and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, 11for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher,*

**2 Tim 2:5-8**

*5An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. 6It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. 7Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you understanding in everything. 8Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel,*

**Rom 1:15-17**

*16For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. 17For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, "The righteous shall live by faith."*

**1 Cor 1:21-25**

*21For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. 22For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, 23but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, 24but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. 25For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.*

# Sermon Evaluation Form

What is a "good" Christian sermon?

Sunday \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Sermon Text \_\_\_\_\_

## Law and Gospel proclamation:

**The pastor preached the law to me.** The Law "shows us our sin"  
I was told that my problem with God is my sin.

1            2            3            4            5

The law didn't  
apply to me

I saw my sin

**The portion of the *law* that was particularly applicable was:**

## The pastor preached the Gospel to me.

The Gospel "shows us our Savior"

I was told that the solution to my problem is Jesus Christ crucified.

1            2            3            4            5

The Gospel  
wasn't clear  
to me

I saw my Savior  
on the cross  
for my sin

**The portion of the *Gospel* that was particularly applicable was:**

## This sermon is about Jesus Christ crucified for my sin.

The Gospel was at the center of the sermon

1            2            3            4            5

The Gospel  
was the main point

The law  
was the main point

Use these diagnostic questions to help you evaluate the sermon's Gospel content:

- ⊗ How many times was Jesus mentioned? (simple count)
- ⊗ Is Jesus the one doing the actions in the sermon? (is Jesus the subject of the verbs)
- ⊗ What did the pastor say Jesus did for me? (what are the verbs)

**Points in this sermon's language that applied directly to my life.**