2024-2025 Text for Proclamation and Preaching: New Testament Text John 6:51-58

INSTRUCTIONS

Include your full name, mailing address, the best phone number to reach you, and your umcsc.org email address in the upper right-hand corner of all pages submitted.

Submit all written documents (outlined below) as ONE document in your Google Drive submission, per conference instructions. The audio/video of your sermon may be submitted as an additional file. If the audio/video submission is a link, ensure the link is active and working for your readers to access. If the audio/video submission is a full service, please include the timestamp of when your scripture reading/sermon begins on your documents.

Submit clearly identified responses to ALL questions and statements in your submission. It is recommended that you copy and paste each question and statement as written, then write your responses to each one. The use of proper grammar, including correctly citing each resource you used in your writing, is required (see the *Writing Quality and Style Reference Guideline* included in the supplemental packet).

Lastly, if these instructions are not followed, you will be deemed improperly before the Board of Ordained Ministry and will not be allowed to move forward in the process.

I. **EXEGESIS OF THE SERMON TEXT - Demonstrate your exegetical work by answering the following questions:**
    A. The Text:
        1. Read the text in several (no less than three) translations, then compare and contrast each translation. Include your findings here.
        2. How does this text fit into the larger context of the book?
        3. What is the main thought of the text?
        4. What happens before the text and after? Does what happens before and after the text help inform the text you are preaching?
        5. What key terms need to be defined or clarified in the text? Define these terms using Hebrew, Greek, or Latin word-study references.
        6. What is the text doing? Is it commanding? Singing? Narrating? Explaining? Expound on your response.
        7. What are the apparent issues/conflicts in the text?
        8. Paraphrase the text in your own words (do not rewrite the text sentence-by-sentence; write as if you are telling it to someone).
        9. Think of the text as an answer or insight to someone's important question. What would that question be?

B. The Background
  1. Who were the people the writer was addressing in the text?
  2. What is the historical, socioeconomic, and cultural background of the people of the text at the time it was written?
  3. How does this text inform Wesleyan Theology? How does this inform/impact your sermon on this text?

II.   THE SERMON - Please read each question or statement thoroughly and fully answer them.

A. What are the demographics of the people to whom the sermon was preached (ethnicity, gender, estimated age range)? Note: Some of this basic information can be obtained from Table 1: Membership & Participation of your Statistical Report/End of the Year Report).
B. What is your congregants' historical, cultural, and socioeconomic background?
C. Write a one-sentence summary that expresses the message you want to convey in your sermon.
D. Provide an outline of the sermon as you plan to preach it (see the example outline).
E. Write your sermon in manuscript form. See additional instructions:
  ○ The sermon delivery time should be 15-20 minutes. Do not submit a funeral eulogy, a communion meditation, or a short homily for a special day.
  ○ The sermon should be preached and recorded during a "regular" Sunday worship service or a typical ministry setting and not preached in an empty sanctuary or room.
  ○ Your manuscript/transcript should be typewritten, double-spaced, and all pages numbered.
  ○ Write a full manuscript/ transcript. Note: If you preach using notes, an outline, or a combination of both, submit what you use in the pulpit as well as the full manuscript.
  ○ Your submitted manuscript should match the audio. Note: It is wise to listen to your audio after you preach your sermon, then go back and adjust your manuscript accordingly before submitting your final work.
  ○ All sources used in the sermon manuscript must be properly cited using footnotes (see the *Writing Quality and Style Reference Guideline*).
F. Submit a properly formatted bibliography page of all cited sources. Do not use Wikipedia or Wikimedia as cited sources.

III.   The Sermon Follow-Up - Answer the following questions after preaching your sermon.
A. What needs do you believe your sermon met?
B. Why do you feel the sermon did or did not meet those needs?
C. How do you know (did you receive feedback from any listener, and if so, what was it)?
D. Do you believe you took a risk in your sermon (did it make you feel uncomfortable, or did it possibly make others feel uncomfortable)?

- **Sermon Outline Example**
  - The sermon outline is the road map you follow when you expand and explain your sermon's topic/title and main preaching points.
  - Sermon outlines should be a cohesive sequence that will flow naturally as you present your sermon.
  - Please tailor this example to fit your sermon.

I. Passage of Scripture
II. Sermon Title
III. Introduction (The Attention Draw)
IV. Context of the Text
   A. Who is the main character?
   B. Who are the people of the text?
   C. Where do they live?
   D. Where is the setting?
   E. Transition to how this fits into our modern context
V. Issues (Talk about real church, community, world, and personal Matters) - Take a risk!
   A. Sub Point
   B. Sub Point
   C. Sub Point
   D. Sub Point
VI. What in the text prompts us to take note (Relevance to V)
   A. Illustration
   B. Illustration
   C. Illustration
   D. Offer hope
VII. Applications and Closing (How to practically apply this text to a transformed life)
   A. How to 1
   B. How to 2
   C. How to 3
   D. Make the Appeal (challenge your listeners to embrace this text/your sermon in ways that positively impact their lives, the lives of others, and the broader community/world where they live and serve).
   E. Close

If you have any questions, please contact:
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