1 Steering Questions

What one text will I focus on?

What other scripture supports this? <u>(Never read a verse- scripture interprets scripture)</u>

What is the literary genre of the text? (The Bible is literally literarily true)

How does the context of the text relate to our current context? What were they going through? <u>(It can't mean now what it never meant then)</u>

Why is this important? Why does the listener need to hear this message?

What are the important words in the text? Why did the author choose that word?

What Problem will we solve in this sermon?

Finding the application

Doctrine: What should I believe?

Instruction: How should I behave?

Correction: How should I not behave?

Reproof: What should I not believe?

IS THERE…

> Attitude to adjust?
> Promise to claim?
> Priority to change?
> Lesson to learn?
> Issue to resolve?
> Command to obey?
> Activity to avoid or stop?
> Truth to believe?
> Idol to tear down?
> Offense to forgive?
> New direction to take?
> Sin to confess?

Think of your audience   (Contextualization)

3 questions
What are their needs?

What are their hurts?

What are their interests?

6 things I know about every audience:
1)   Everybody wants to be loved.
2)   Everybody wants their lives to count.
3)   No matter how wealthy or successful life is empty without Christ.
4)   Many of these people are carrying a load of guilt.
5)   Many are consumed with bitterness over a past hurt.
6)   There is a universal fear of death.

2. Finding the Timeless Truth- Craft a bottom line- Make it portable.

What do I want them to know?	**Why do I want them to know it?**

What do I want them to do?	**Why do I want them to do it?**

What is one or two pregnant sentences that summarize what I want to accomplish in this sermon?

What are 2 potential threads that tie this passage together?

One way to create unity: use "**Category Words" SAMPLE CATEGORY WORDS**

Abuses Aims Arguments Attributes Blessings Changes Contrasts Differences Essentials Expressions Failures Gifts   Acts Alternatives Aspects Barriers Causes Commitments Dangers Disciplines Evidences Facets. Fears Groups   Advantages Answers Assurances Beliefs Certainties Conditions Decisions Discoveries Examples Factors Features Habits   Affirmations Approaches Attitudes Benefits Challenges Consequences Demands Duties Expectations Facts Fundamentals Hopes

THE 2 Timothy Grid

What should they believe?	How should they behave?
What should they not believe?	**How should they not behave?**

2. MY APPLICATION ACROSTIC
12 questions to ask about the text
IS THERE...

Attitude to adjust?

Promise to claim?

Priority to change?

Lesson to learn?

Issue to resolve?

Command to obey?

Activity to avoid or stop?

Truth to believe?

Idol to tear down?

Offense to forgive?

New direction to take?

Sin to confess?

3. The last 5 minutes.

How would you complete this thought: Imagine if this became a reality in our lives.

What is a story that illustrates this?

What is the one thing I want them to do to put this in practice?

What is my final sentence?

What happens after the sermon is over in the service?

4. The First 5 Minutes- Finding Common Ground and Creating Tension

Is there a question that this sermon answers that people are asking?

What is the tension between life and the text? How would life improve if we followed God's way?

Who are two people that would need this sermon and why?

Is there a common problem that people face that is an example of this tension? How do we usually navigate this problem?

What is my personal struggle statement on this issue?

What is the clear direction of this sermon? "At the end of this message I'm going to ask you to…"

5. Sermon Outline

5.1 Intro

What is the clearest way to state the tension?

What is the problem we will solve?

How does this connect with the audience?

5.2 The Text

What is the bottom line?

What is a story of someone that experienced this?

What are some illustrations that make the point?

5.3 Conclusion

What is the imagine statement?

What do I want them to do?

What is the closing line?

notes