

# Giving edifying feedback

## Aim

- To help preachers bring glory to our heavenly Father and the Lord Jesus Christ in gospel ministry
- To give thanks to God for the way he uses us
- To encourage and build each other up in our work for the Lord to help us to persevere in the work
- To strengthen the work we do for God's glory
- To train each other as we give feedback

## Attitudes to adopt

- **Humility** - I won't say everything I know or think
- **Supportive** - I desire to see the person progress and succeed
- **Selective** - I choose the most important things to say
- **Concise** - I make the effort to express the feedback in a short clear way
- **Specific** - I'll avoid vague general statements and focus on clearly identifiable things that could change
- **Holistic** - I'll try to encourage on a range of subjects - not simply one aspect (*Not simply on how you felt or the introduction only or one or two illustrations only*)
- **Intentional** - *For full-time staff members* - I'll make a concerted effort to take notes on the sermon to serve in this way
- **Timely** - it is best to leave feedback for preachers to at least the following day. This allows for some emotional distance to help the preacher receive the feedback but is not too far away as to forget the content. Feedback is best given face to face, not by email or text message.

## Areas to consider for feedback

*(See page 8 and 9 of the Lay Preachers handbook)*

- Faithful

To what extent was the message true to God's word and true to the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ? Did the preacher handle God's word correctly?

- Clear

To what extent was the message clear? Could the average listener summarise the overall message in a sentence or two? Were complex issues explained in everyday words? Were the central points adequately highlighted? Did the structure aid clarity?

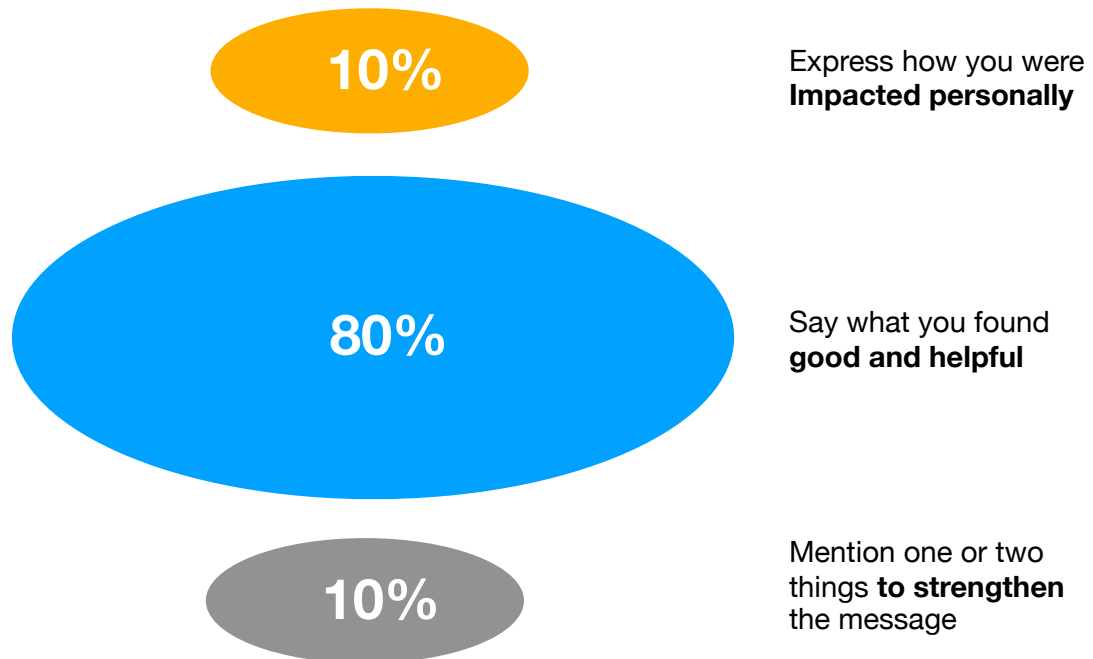
- Applied

Was the message applied to the hearer? Were both believers and 'not yet' believers addressed? Was the message applied to the heart? That is to: the mind, the conscience, the will and the passions?

## First cab off the rank rule

- The first person to speak ought to detail out everything they thought was good (Not just one thing - as that could be potentially discouraging for the preacher). Others that follow can agree (if they do) and add on further encouragements.

## General Rule of Thumb



## Receiving feedback

### Attitudes to adopt

- **Humility** - I won't get defensive
- **Explanatory** - I'll express why I made the choices I made
- **Thankful** - I'll give thanks to those who are seeking to help me
- **Self-reflective** - I'll mention areas I think I could have improved if not mentioned by others (I help other preachers to grow by modelling self-reflection)
- **Diligent** - I'll take notes of changes to strengthen things for the future
- **Reflective** - I'll personally weigh up the feedback given assessing it from the scriptures
- **Prayerful** - I'll ask the Lord to learn and change for his glory and the good of others