

# Hear the Word of the Lord!

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Freeing the Voice for Storytelling

# Today we will share:

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I. This Holy Ministry

II. The Most Important Tool We Use  
When We tell

- Exercises

III. Let's tell – look at the text

- Addressing diction issues
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# Welcome

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- You have been asked to tell God's Word. You have been called by God to tell. Congratulations and welcome to this awesome holy task.
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# Called in Our Weakness

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- 2 Corinthians 12:9-10

The Lord said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weakness, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong. "

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# Three basic components to speaking in public

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**ME**

**MY AUDIENCE**

MY MESSAGE

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# ME

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- Me – butterflies the size of the QEII hatching our stomachs...putting ME at the top of MY concerns – am I going to tell well? Am I going to trip and fall? Is my tie straight, my earrings too big? Will my voice crack? Will I lose my place? Are there any hard words? That's natural...that's being human.
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# My Audience

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- Human response . . . so right in the middle of my hierarchy is my second greatest concern: My audience.
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# My Message

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- . . .almost forgot about that. Got so caught up in the other two. Let's see.
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# So what do we do?...

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- give it up - - -to God.
  - Pray: I am going to give it all up to you God because God you can deal with it and I can't and I need your help....and God will tell you what to do with your hierarchy...because God is going to take it and turn it upside down for you.
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God takes that hierarchy and turns  
it upside down

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# MY MESSAGE

My Audience

Me

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. . .and hands it right back to you

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# MY MESSAGE

My Audience

Me

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# The Difference

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My Message  
My audience  
Me...little me!

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## II. The Most Important Tool We Use When We tell:

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- What do you think?
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# Excuse me your tenseness is showing

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- Removal of blocks that inhibit the human instrument
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# Exercises

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1. Stomp feet
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# Exercises

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2. Breathing – releases spine, allows for fullest breathing – vocal support – helps gets us relaxed and staying relaxed
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# Exercise

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3. Joint release – great for tension in the arms and neck

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# Exercise

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4. head rolls – relieves tension in the neck

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# Exercise

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5. shoulder rolls – relieves tension in shoulders and upper back
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# Exercise

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6. Rag Doll – relieves tension in shoulders and upper back – stimulate deep breathing and relaxing of the rib cage
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# Exercise

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7. Facial massage – increases circulation to facial muscles, allowing for greater flexibility and sound production – allows for clarity and invitation
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# Exercise

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8. Jaw release – jaw tension a number one problem – this allows for full vowel sound (invitation), releases voice stuck in nasal passages (authenticity), gives tongue room to create full consonants (clarity and meaning), decrease mumbling and helps with vocal variety (interest)
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# Exercise

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9. Fish kiss – great projection – creates full vowels – vocal variety

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# Exercise

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10. **motor boat** – releases lip tension, creates saliva, opens sinuses, wakes up lower facial mask, helps gets voice moving from one resonator to another – if you do nothing else do THIS – helps gets the frogs out even if you have a cold

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# Exercise

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11. Broccoli clean – gets tongue doing its job, great for clarity and meaning

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# Exercise

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12. Ing-Ga – opens up range of resonating chambers, strengthens soft palette which reduces nasality and increase authenticity, also focuses sound forward

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# Exercise

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13. Me-May-Mah-Mo-Mu - expands the chest, helps increase awareness of fuller range of sound and gets the voice accustomed to traveling, supports invitation and authenticity

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# Exercise

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14. Danny didn't do the dangerously dastardly deeds that Dicky did, did he?

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Remember it is God's Word to ALL of us,  
including me.

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- Let it bring you to life.
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# You are telling the Word of God

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- remember this may be the first time your listeners are hearing this portion of scripture – share your sense of urgency or excitement or wowwness! – if you do let it come through!
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You are a leader of worship with the authority to

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- Share God's story through telling!
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# Learning the Text

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A few tips



# What kind of text are you telling?

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rejoicing, condemning, lamenting –  
remember, just as the bible is a  
whole library of books, so your voice  
is a whole orchestra – vary it  
according to the content you are  
telling – experiment

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# IGNORE PUNCTUATION

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- exercise: then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt offering, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in trench.
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# Exercise:

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- as he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay of spittle and anointed the man's eye with the clay...so he went and washed and came back seeing.
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- As he said this he spat on the ground (*spits, gets down and kneels in the dirt, swirls together the spittle and the dirt with his finger*) and made clay of the spittle (*now stands up, clay in one hand, places on man's eyes*) and anointed the man's eye with the clay...so he went (*there he goes, watch him, now he reaches onto the fountain and cups water in his hands and splashes water onto his face*) and washed and came back (*here he comes, getting closer, closer, and when he gets close enough, you can tell: he's not blind any more!!!*) seeing.
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# Exercise:

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- So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac...so they went both of them together.
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# Exercise:

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- Abraham built an altar there, and laid wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar, upon the wood. Then Abraham put forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, Abraham! Abraham!"
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# EMPHASIS

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- Emphasis can radically alter meaning
  - Try: **I** am going to church today. I **am** going to church today. I am **going** to church today. I am going **to** church today. I am going to **church** today. I am going to church **today**.
  - Emphasize the idea carriers...usually nouns, the main idea, the main character, the location
  - In the next sentence the new ideas or the contrasting idea will be emphasized
  - Don't stress prepositions
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# Exercise:

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- The Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.
  - tell with prepositions stressed: The Lord make his face to shine **upon** you, and be gracious **unto** you; the Lord lift up his countenance **upon** you, and give you peace.
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# Instead . . .

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- Tell with more important words stressed:

The Lord make his face to ***shine*** upon you, and be ***gracious*** unto you; the Lord lift up his ***countenance*** upon you, and give you ***peace***.

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# Connecting Words and Phrases

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- Exercise:

- . . . and suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

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# Instead . . .

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- Tell like this:
    - . . . .and suddenly there was with the angel a great multitude of the heavenly host...praising God...and saying (*no pause*) Glory to God in the highest!
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# And while we're at it . . .

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- Peace is the most important word in the proclamation...so lets' tell it this way: Glory to God in the highest! (*slight pause*) and on earth (*long pause...setting peace as the gem it is*) Peace (*another long pause*) among those with whom he is pleased.
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# VISUALIZE, VISUALIZE, VISUALIZE

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- See it then tell us what you saw – be a character, look around the room, what do see, smell, hear, taste
  - Exercise: and they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the babe lying in the manger.
  - Some crowded living conditions!
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# Articulation Problems

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- s/z sounds ; practice bits – bids, cats – cads, dots – Dodds, cease – seas, fuss – fuzz.
  - Go back and forth between s and z with your fingers on your larynx and feel the vibration of the z. Make sure the vibration is there on the end of wordz
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# Exercise “L”

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- try: lay, lee, lie, law, loo
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# Exercise "R"

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- r: try: rob – rut – plural – bride – father – air – tray – tree- Elroy
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# Enunciation Problems

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- Tell aloud the passage backwards.  
ie: backwards passage the aloud tell.
  - This slows you down and helps with enunciation because you are concentrating on the sounds rather than the sense – after a few times try telling forward at the same speed and with the same energy
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# FINAL CONSONANTS

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- Put them in there!!! Praise the Lord....Praise the Lorduh! The book of Jobbah.
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# Frequently mispronounced words:

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- ❑ Acts....not ax
  - ❑ Arctic, Antarctic...not artic antartic...there's an ark
  - ❑ Catch . . .not ketch
  - ❑ Couldn't . . .not coodn't
  - ❑ Did you . . . Not Didja
  - ❑ Duty . . . Not doody
  - ❑ Government . . Not guvvament
  - ❑ Length . . .not lenth
  - ❑ Mighty . . .not mighdy
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# Frequently mispronounced words:

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- Often . . .not ofTen
  - Our . . .not are
  - Picture . . .not pitcher
  - Poor . . .not the paw . . .pore
  - Probably . . .not probbly
  - Strong . . .shrotng
  - Sure . . .Shir
  - Twenty . . . not twenny
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# Your Holy Work

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- Requires preparation
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# On The Lord's Day

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- Arrive early
  - Check the Bible
  - Caffeine is a no-no
  - Sit back, breathe, and be filled with the Holy Spirit
  - Hear what the Lord is saying to you
  - Tell what is printed
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# Rejoice!

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- ❑ Our awesome God has seen in you special gifts that this community of God's people need!
  - ❑ You are an instrument for God to work through.
  - ❑ Let us make our God known and by doing so we will come to know God in richer ways.
  - ❑ Again I say REJOICE!
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