

**Sermon Moves**  
**Study Sheet**  
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In transitioning from the textual unit of Scripture to the completed sermon, there are definite, intentional moves that should be made. The following steps comprise a process which the preacher can follow in preparing for Sunday.

1. Prepare the preacher before preparing the sermon (prayer, confession, meditation of Scripture, etc.)
  
2. Establish the text by identifying the preaching unit-pericope
  
3. Determine the central idea of the text—what was true for the original readers of the text (think in terms of a sermon tweet)
  
4. Establish the sermon proposition—what is true for today’s listener/reader of the text
  
5. Identify the emphases (outline) of the text
  
6. Relate the sermon purpose or function
  
7. Formulate a sermon title
  
8. Check for sermon alignment between the title, purpose, and structural outline
  
9. Develop the functional elements of the sermon—exegesis, illustration, and application
  
10. Write out a sermon brief (full introduction, outline, and conclusion) or sermon manuscript
  
11. Marinate (saturate yourself with) the message

## Sermon Moves Sample

**Title:** Readiness to Repent

**Text:** Luke 13:1-9

**Big Idea:** Jesus calls us to repent in light of life's uncertainty and the evil within.

**Transition Statement:** We should be ready to repent because:

- 1. Our lives can end at any moment, 13:1-4a**
- 2. Our own propensity to sin requires it, 13:4b**
- 3. Our time to repent is limited, 13:5,6-9**
- 4. Our obedience pleases the Father, 13:7**