

General Introduction

The **AIM** of the series –

To help one another in the Lord's work (Illus: Learning to use tools).

To encourage one another in the Lord's work (Your difficulty may be another's also).

To be and to give your best in the Lord's work (Unsuspected gifts may develop).

BASIC things of which you need to be convinced –

That you are the **CHOSEN MESSENGER** for the particular occasion

(Care needed in accepting engagements).

That the Lord therefore has something to say to these people **THROUGH YOU** (This is astounding and humbling).

That the Lord **WISHES TO**, and **WILL**, show you the message.

That the Lord will **ENABLE** you to give it (Partly dependent on the other three but we shall deal more fully with this point in a later session).

Procuring the Message

THE MESSENGER	THE MESSAGE
<u>Question</u> – Who is the messenger? (Only the born again child of God) <u>Question</u> – How can you be the Lord's messenger if you are out of touch with Him? Read Isaiah chapter 6. Isaiah did not go to the Temple to get a message but to worship. Read Jeremiah chapter 1. The Lord came to him under circumstances not recorded. Read Revelation chapter 1. John in Patmos was 'in the Spirit on the Lord's day. When he received the message. Note: The FIRST and VITAL thing about procuring the message is your relationship with the Lord	<u>Question</u> – What is a message? It is not the inspiration of a moment, although it sometimes seems so (Beware the bright idea). It is God's Word through you to others (Hence its authority and purpose). It is not an isolated matter but related to your regular reading and study of God's Word; your quiet times; listening to others and your own spiritual experience. A true message is or becomes the BURDEN OF A LIFE. Suggestions that help in the CHOICE of a subject or text:- - Pray for definite guidance. - Then trust the Lord to guide you as you work. - Have in mind the hearers both as to age and sex. - Remember the TYPE of meeting and therefore your AIM. - Do not ignore the BIG THEMES of the Bible. - Watch for the text that 'jumps out of the page or the theme that persists in the mind. (This does not always happen) - Avoid ready made outlines. (Advertisements)

Psalm 81 verse 10 was not promised regarding preaching. The Lord does not bless laziness – Spurgeon.

Homework – A teenagers' meeting (¾ Christians) – give outline of a message on any parable.