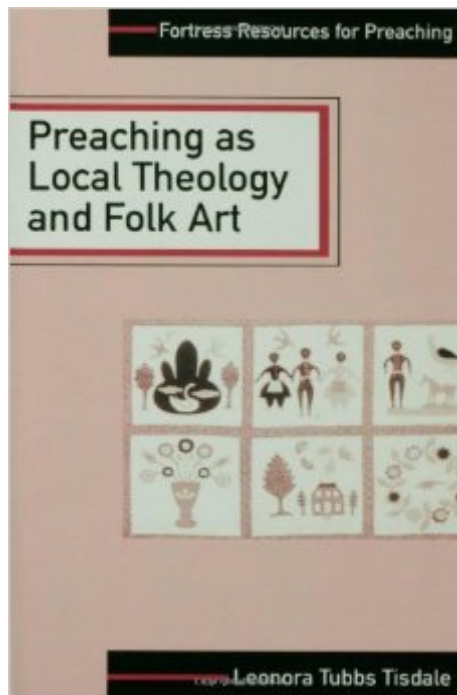


The book was found

Preaching As Local Theology And Folk Art (Fortress Resources For Preaching)



Synopsis

Illustrated throughout by cases of the author and others, this book tells how to analyze a congregation so that the preacher's sermon really fits his audience. The book then gives practical help for preparing and delivering sermons that are meaningful and appropriate. Tisdale draws from contextual theology and congregational studies.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Tisdale explores an interesting activity for preachers that is what she calls exegeting the congregation. The author highlights the significant need for preachers to understand the culture, demographics, theological background and expectations of the congregation to whom they minister. Tisdale provides many different approaches for how to gain insights about the congregation that will enhance the positive impact of the preaching. I think there is a plethora of elements for readers to consider and evaluate for their own ministry of preaching. Tisdale considers preachers to be local theologians. She writes, "Congregational preachers are also local theologians, called to craft theology that is shaped for very particular communities of faith...preaching as local theology insists that we begin with a searching examination of our own culture." Exegeting the culture, according to Tisdale, complements Biblical exegesis and helps the pastor - parish relationship. The impact of cultural difference is severe in some cases and probably exaggerated in others. Where Tisdale seems deficient is in two areas in my opinion. One is that I think she neglects the responsibility of Christians congregations to act like Christians rather than often being snide, impatient judges of

preachers. I think she could have written about how congregations are not sitting as judge and jury of preachers but as recipients of the gospel and word of Christ. Too often, authors seem to imply that finger pointing is allowed if pastors don't measure up to arbitrary expectations like being culturally sensitive and acclimated and amenable to all of the congregations' expectations.

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