

ALM Preaching Elective

Date & Time	Session Plan
17/05/25 9.30am -2.00pm Venue: St James Church Stopes Brow Lower Darwen BB3 0QP	Sessions 1-2 – Inspired to be a Preacher In these sessions we will consider what we are doing when we preach, and how we ensure that the content of preaching is based in scripture. By the end of this session, participants will know how to begin to go about shaping a straightforward developmental sermon based on a scriptural passage. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NB: Please remember to bring your own lunch (drinks will be provided)
04/06/25 7.30 – 9.15pm Zoom	Session 3 – The Plot Thickens In this session we will consider why the way we tell God’s story matters. We will explore how sermon are plotted and how strong beginnings and endings to our talks can be developed.. By the end of this session, participants will be able to identify different ways of ordering material in preaching, from beginning to end, within a simple framework.
11/06/25 7.30 – 9.15pm Zoom	Session 4 – The Points of Connection In this session we will think about how hearers experience talks, taking a look at the potential, and potential pitfalls, in the illustrations we use. By the end of this session participants will be able to critically analyse the role illustrations play in talks.
02/07/25 7.30pm – 9.00pm Venue: St James Church Stopes Brow Lower Darwen BB3 0QP	Session 5 – The Place of Performance In this session, we will consider the delivery of sermons and why it matters. This will include exploration of using sermon notes that free us to deliver confidently and effectively. By the end of this session participants will be able to identify some of the next steps they can take to grow in confidence as a preacher.
12/07/25 10.00 – 3.00 pm Venue: Whalley Abbey The Sands, Whalley, Clitheroe BB7 9TN	Sessions 6-8 – A Preaching Workshop As part of this day, largely focussed on practical skills, we will consider how to make the most of feedback on our preaching and develop our understanding of the needs of our hearers. The rest of the day involves practical group work. Participants will be preparing their own overarching “focus and function” statements for a potential sermon based on a biblical passage. They will pitch their ideas to their group and receive feedback on what they are proposing. By the end of these sessions, participants will be able to think critically about their preaching, mindful of the needs of their congregation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refreshments and lunch will be provided at Whalley Abbey