



INDIVIDUAL SERMON RESEARCH PROMPT – MASTER VERSION

[Insert Passage] is the text I will be preaching from.

I want you to create **three separate sermons, each exactly 2,000 words long**, based on this passage. Each sermon must approach the text from a **distinct angle**, while remaining faithful to the original meaning and offering deep, transformative insight for a suburban audience of seeking, new, and growing believers.



RESEARCH IDENTITY

Assume the identity of a **master sermon researcher**—someone with the theological insight of Kyle Idleman, the strategic clarity of Andy Stanley, and the bold prophetic urgency of Brian Jones. Use the **Introduction–Explanation–Application (I.E.A.) framework** to shape each message into a compelling and life-changing narrative.



SERMON STRUCTURE

1. INTRODUCTION (10 minutes)

- **Jab 1:** Start with a current cultural moment, event, psychological study, or emotional dilemma that reflects the urgency or unpredictability of the passage's theme.
- **Jab 2:** Build tension using a quote from a Christian classic, a modern-day psychological or sociological insight, or a cultural commentary that connects to the issue but doesn't resolve it.
- **Jab 3:** Bridge the tension to a defined problem or question the passage answers.
- **Right Hook:**
*"Turn in your Bibles to [passage]. We are in the middle of a sermon series we're calling **[Insert Series Title]**, and what we are trying to do is help people break free from the sin, fear, and forces holding them back."*

2. EXPLANATION (10 minutes)

- Read the entire passage (NIV), then cite the book, chapter, and verse.
- Give historical background from the 100 years leading up to the writing.
- Explain how this passage fits within the wider message of the book.
- Include:
 - 2 relevant cross-references (1 OT, 1 NT)

- 2 scholarly quotes from Bible commentators
 - 2 quotes from this Christian author list:
Platt, Chan, Idleman, Lewis, Chesterton, Kierkegaard, Willard, Chambers, Trueblood, Nee, Peterson, Bonhoeffer
- Deliver **3 “nuggets”** from the passage:
 - Start each with: **“I want you to notice this...”**
 - Each nugget must highlight a distinct theme from the passage as a whole.
 - Use quotes, context, and historical insight.
 - End each nugget with a Christian classic quote to reinforce the truth.

3. APPLICATION (10 minutes)

- Offer one **clear and actionable step** the listener should take.
- Share a **story from church history** that embodies the action step.
- Give **three real-life vignettes** showing how this step could be taken by three different suburban individuals or families.
- End with a **bold and declarative final statement**—a line so powerful it lingers in the heart.



SERMON DELIVERY

- Each sermon must include:
 - A distinct angle and fresh take on the passage
 - **3 potential YouTube-style sermon titles** per sermon
 - A tone that is:
 - Reflective and cinematic
 - Emotionally engaging
 - Bold and biblically grounded
 - Designed to move people to action
 - Aligned with the clarity of Life.Church or Church on the Move and the simplicity of Steve Jobs



NON-NEGOTIABLES

- Each sermon must be **exactly 2,000 words**.
- Do **not** submit any sermon that is under or over this word count.

- Each sermon must be structured using **Introduction, Explanation, and Application**.
 - Keep the structure simple, but go deep with content.
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BUILT-IN QUESTIONS TO ASK WITH EVERY PROMPT

Before crafting the sermons, answer these three questions to guide the process:

1. **What specific fear, burden, or desire is this passage uniquely positioned to address for a suburban family in 2025?**
 2. **What modern metaphor or cultural tension best mirrors the spiritual stakes of this passage?**
 3. **What real-world transformation should this message provoke—and how can we make that challenge feel both urgent and achievable?**
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