

Conversational Teaching

Resources: *The Act of Dialogical Preaching* by Dan White Jr.

Buy the book for \$4.99! <https://payhip.com/b/UNu1>

“To be a spectator allows us to assemble in a room with others while keeping our individualism unchallenged. Is there another way? Sermons, in too many contexts have become yet another thing to be passively consumed, as opposed to actively participated in” - Dan White Jr.

What if we experimented more in the way Jesus taught? What would the impact be on our lives?

“The church is one of the last places around to still be using the monologue (lecture-style) as the primary mode of communication.”

According to the ‘Learning Pyramid’ developed by the National Training Laboratory, participants only retain 5% - 10% of information from monologues and lectures. The rate plummets to 1% when tested a week later. But in dialogue/discussion learning models, 50% - 75% of information is retained.¹

What might this look like in a weekly Worship Gathering within Restore?

- 1. There will still be teaching to introduce the learning time together.** The teacher will focus on creating a point of tension by reflecting on a specific Biblical passage, attribute of Jesus Christ, or Kingdom topic. This initial time will include the teacher’s personal reflections in the hopes of stirring up communal responses.
- 2. The teacher will ask some simple questions for the community to consider:**
 - Where is there some conflict for you in this teaching? (What is the Spirit disrupting in you?)
 - Where is there some clarity for you in this teaching? (What is the Spirit confirming for you?)²
 - The teacher will give some silent space for the community to consider these questions. This won’t be new to many of you as we have practiced this a number of times in Restore.
- 3. What follows is a invited time of expression from the community with some guided parameters:**
 - The teacher will say something like, “Now I’m hoping you will share some of you thoughts or questions about what the Spirit disrupted in you or confirmed for you.

¹ The Act of Dialogical Preaching. Dan White Jr. Pg. 11

² Pg. 15

Please keep your responses to under a minute so others can share. You also might hear something you don't agree with. That's okay. Listen to it. Take it in. Give grace to each other."

- During this time of expression from the community, the teacher will take notes on points of clarity, common feelings, themes, or questions. What might God's spirit be saying
4. **Conclusion - the teacher will share the Good News collected**, some with material prepared beforehand, some based on the time of community expression.