

5 Tips to Help You Survive a Moment With a Microphone

Friday's List—This week's list is helpful to those who are handed a microphone when least expected. Impromptu speech making is terrifying most of the time, but a little preparation can make the experience survivable.

"Steve, come up here and share a few words about thermonuclear dynamics and the law of entropy."

Isn't that great? I was just thinking about that topic with my Cheerios this morning.

The key for me is to always expect to be called on. I learned this in college. I have one of those faces and my forehead has a sign that says, "pick me!"

If you have a preparation tip, please share it below in the comments section.

1. Memorize a couple of all-purpose quotes or relevant Scriptures. I save good quotes in my notes app on my phone. Scripture is hidden in my heart and Holy Spirit helps me share the right verses.

2. Practice telling a story about one of the big surprises in your life—explain how the surprise of "being called on" ranks right up there as a top surprise. Stories are very helpful in connecting with your audience very quickly.

3. Be the object of any humor. Pick on yourself. You probably did something funny today!

4. Shift the attention off of you and to someone you can compliment or thank in the audience. "Without Billy Bob, I wouldn't be speaking today. Let me tell you a story about Billy ..."

What if you are unexpectedly called to the platform to receive an award?

5. If you receive a plaque or trophy or any type of award, show quiet confidence. Be firm in how you thank the presenter. Tell everyone what you will do with the award and how you hope it inspires others to reach their potential. It's also a good time to share a Scripture.

Build a library in your mind. Practice thinking, "What would I say if I was called on to speak right now?"

Be ready to give an answer for the hope that is within you.

Today's Scripture

"Preach the word, be ready in season, reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with all patience and teaching" (2 Timothy 4:2).

Platform Tip No. 144

If I only told my wife one time about my love for her, how would that impact our relationship?

I've spent most of my life loving her and finding ways to say it and show it.

Love is a drip.

Your message is love. Share it with great frequency.

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