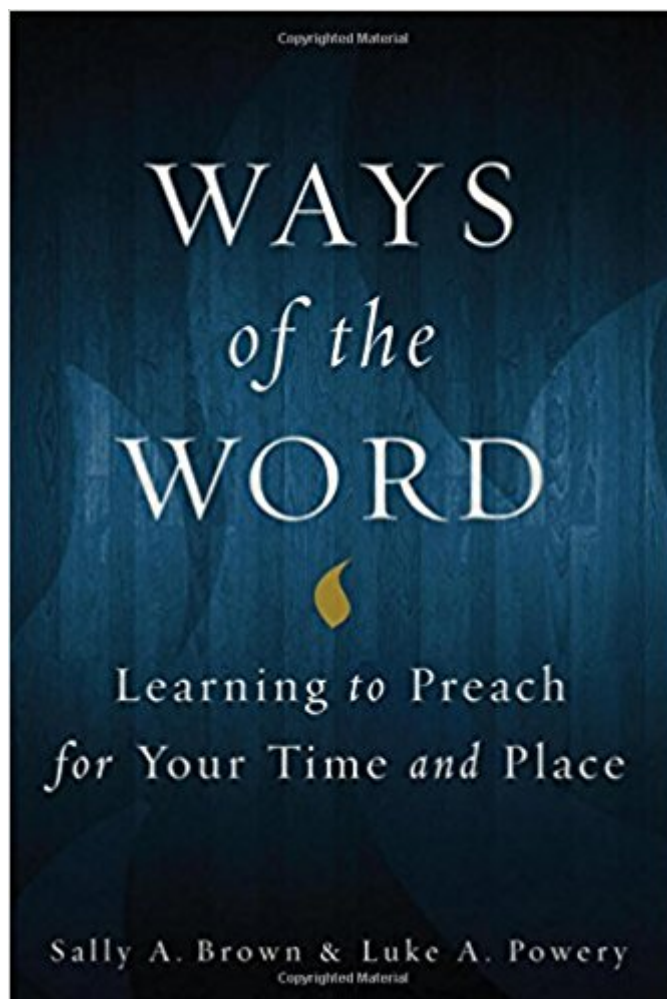




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# Ways Of The Word: Learning To Preach For Your Time And Place



## Synopsis

Preaching, and the discipline of preaching, is at a crossroads. The changing realities of church and theological education, the diversity of our classrooms, and our increasingly complex community contexts leave us in search of tools to help train a rising generation of preachers for a future whose contours are far from clear. The questions are immense: How to support preachers in contexts that are diverse religiously, culturally, and ethnically, both inside and outside the church? How to help students take varied contexts seriously as they are formed as leaders? In *Ways of the Word*, a dynamic team of master preachers brings much-needed help. Different in race, gender, age, and tradition, both Sally A. Brown and Luke A. Powery speak with one voice their belief that preaching is Spirit-empowered event: an embodied, vocalized, actively received, here-and-now witness to the ongoing work of God in the world. They aspire to help students and preachers alike to reflect on a journey of learning by doing. They aim to help preachers to become more attuned to the Spirit, more adept in preaching's component skills, and more self-aware about all that is at stake in proclaiming the redemptive work of God in specific contexts.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Sally A. Brown and Luke A. Powery do a wonderful job of encouraging students to think of preaching as dancing on the grave of despair. They model the kind of collaboration they hope students will use in learning this sacred task from one another. Few preaching books address so well the issue of diversity in the classroom, and fresh winds blow through this one in part because of

the robust theology of the Spirit the authors sing about. They make it difficult for readers not to join them in song." --Paul Scott Wilson, Emmanuel College, University of Toronto

Sally A. Brown is Princeton Seminary's Elizabeth M. Engle Associate Professor of Preaching and Worship. She encourages preaching strategies that enliven listeners' imagination, equipping them to risk creative public witness to God's redemptive work in ordinary life. Her book *Cross Talk: Preaching Redemption Here and Now*, was listed among the Academy of Parish Ministry's top ten books of 2008. Luke A. Powery is the dean of Duke University Chapel and associate professor of homiletics at Duke Divinity School, Durham, North Carolina. He has also taught at Princeton Theological Seminary and is an ordained Baptist minister. His most recent book is *Dead Dry Bones: Preaching, Death, and Hope* (Fortress Press, 2012).

Required reading for a seminary class, and one of the most readable and approachable texts we have. Brown and Powery make an excellent team with their point-counterpoint approach to writing these exceptional essays. Each chapter easily stands alone as a good reading. This is worthy of a place on the shelf of any student, preacher or practitioner.

Sally and Luke are brilliant and accessible in this beautifully crafted book. Truly spirit-inspired!

These folks know their stuff and by example help preachers to draw on their own unique gifts to bless congregations of all types

An excellent book for both preachers and folks in the pews. Drs. Brown and Lowrey offer helpful models for writing sermons. And lay persons say that they can hear a sermon much more effectively for having read the book. A great book for any preacher's library as well as for a lay study group.

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