

Tips for Presenting to a Camera

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Tip 1

Visualization

- Pretend that the lens of the camera is the eye of someone you are trying to communicate with in the front row.
- The top of the lens, or a point behind it can be the middle row of the congregation.
- Look behind the camera altogether to reach the back of “the room.”
- Talking to a camera, is no different than talking to your phone on a FaceTime/Skype/Zoom call.

Tip 2

Consider using at least two camera angles and obtaining the ability to switch between the angles. One head-on that you speak into, a second that's on the side of your face.

Tip 3

It's ok to break eye-contact with the camera just as you would with a person.

- For example, I often look up and to the right when I'm thinking. That's natural.
- You can look down at your notes whenever you need to, but this works especially when you are reading scripture or for any other time when accuracy is essential.
- Use props or a board where your main points/scripture are marked (a la Andy Stanley) to give you something to look at.

Tip 4

Shaking off the nerves:

- Intentional false start (Craig Groeschel advocates this) a warm-up demo.
- Repeat and record your sermon a few times until it's natural. Getting warmed up is helpful.

Tip 5

Consider editing your best takes together.

- Chances are you have access to editing software that will allow you to splice your best takes together if that's best.
- I only advise this if you just can't get to a good outcome that you're ok with.

Tip 6

Consider the platform – based on the demographic, you should be considering platforms that are easily accessible to your demographic:

- Facebook
- YouTube
- Zoom smaller than 200/300. There are packages that will facilitate smaller groups, and the costs are pretty minimal.
- Slides are easier to do on Goto Meeting
 - Zoom chat: allows some interaction for members

Tip 7

Take the pressure off: The Gospel does not depend on your presentation skills, but on God's power.