

# Preaching Styles

From the traditional  
deductive sermon to  
narrative inductive  
preaching





# The “myth” of the “Three points”

# Aim

## **Contrast two approaches to contemporary homiletics**

- In this lecture we consider the topic of preaching styles.
- First of all, we will see how the dominant preaching style emerges in Spanish-American Protestantism: the traditional deductive sermon.
- Then we will consider the inductive preaching style, a contemporary approach that emerged in contrast and response to the previous model.



# Greco-Roman Rhetoric and Christian Homiletics

**Logos \* Pathos \* Ethos**

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**Teach \* Delight \* Persuade**



# **The British Rationalist School: Points and Propositions**

# **The Traditional Deductive Sermon: From “Universal Truth” to “Application”**



# Deductive Preaching Limitations

## As a Homiletic model

- It has an authoritarian tint
- It arrived in colonial times and became an expression of the colonial enterprise
- Legitimized social stratification
- Totalizing



# Deductive Logic vs Inductive Logic

Illustration #1

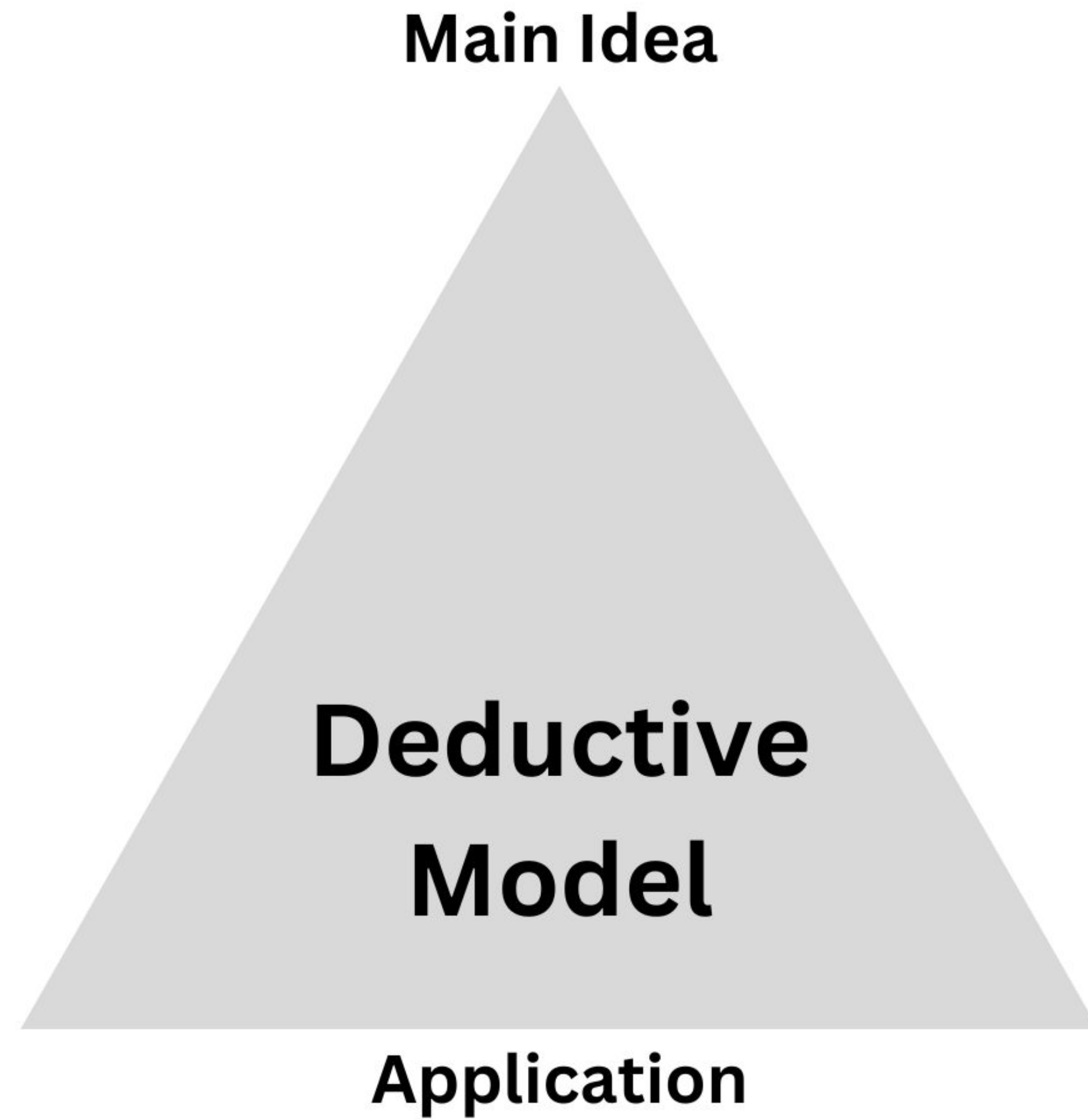
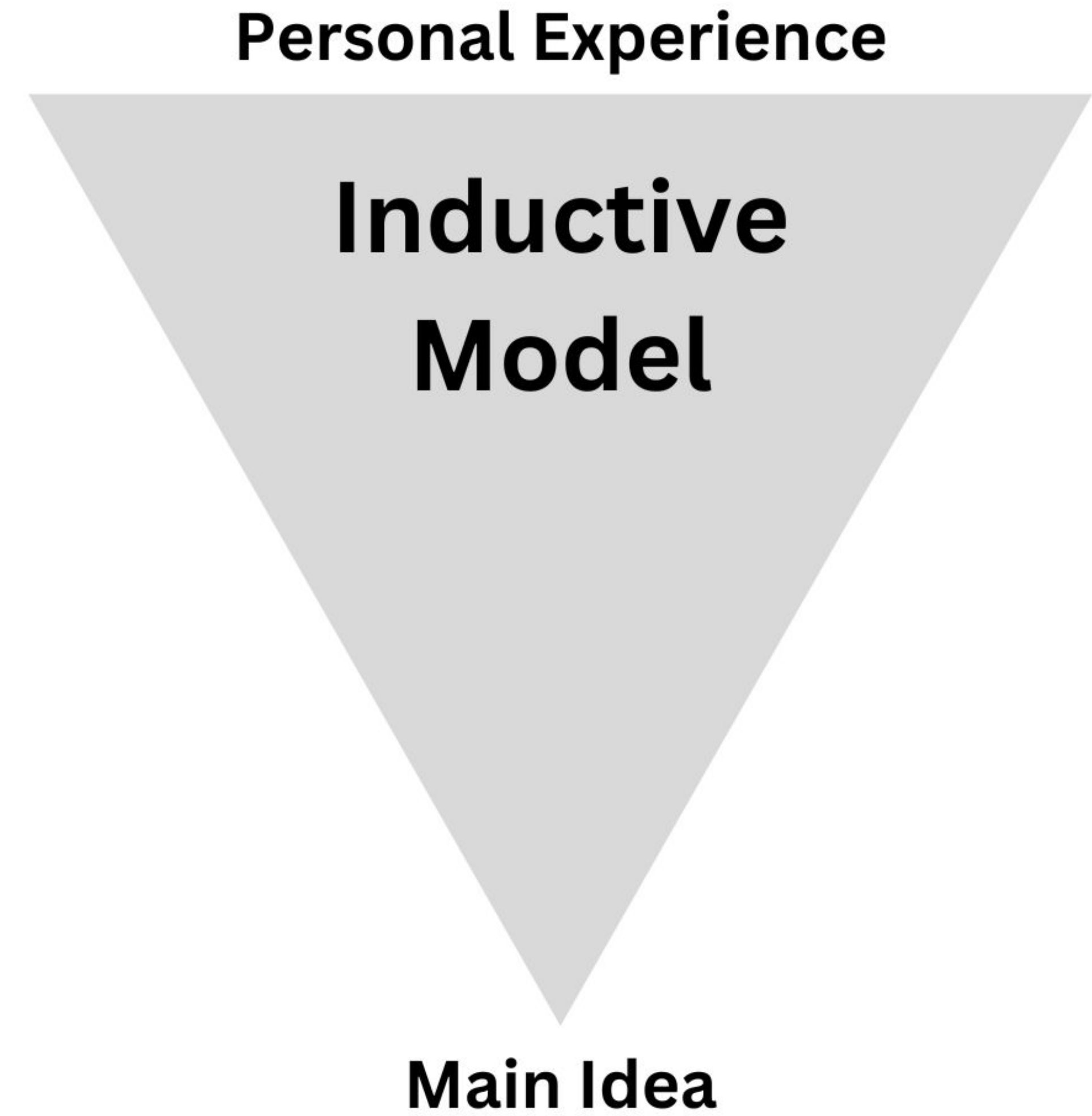


Illustration #2





# **The Inductive Sermon: From the Particular to the Universal**

# The “New Homiletic”



# The New Homiletic

## Diverse Approaches

- The narrative sermon
- Contextual biblical interpretation
- Return to the Bible and the Revised Common Lectionary
- Invitation to creativity
- The woman in the pulpit
- Preaching in ethnic-racial communities

**Limitations of the Inductive Style:**  
**“When are you going to start?”**



**The Main Issue:  
Is it Truth “Propositional”?**

# The Inductive Model in the Latino Pulpit



# Inductive Latino Models

## The Sermon as Spiritual “Event”

- The Narrative sermon
- The “Testimonio” sermon
- The “Call and Response” Sermon
- Dialogical sermons
- Experimental Sermons

**In conclusion, I affirm that every person who preaches professionally must know and master both the traditional deductive and inductive styles. The deductive model has been and will continue to be useful to the church, despite its limitations. However, inductive preaching is and will be a very useful instrument when reaching non-believers, particularly those who identify with the new postmodern generations.**



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