Contents

Editor’s Foreword vii

Introduction and Acknowledgments 1

Chapter 1 • Choosing Preaching Words 3
  Choosing Communication 4
  Choosing the Right Words 6
  Choosing Resurrection Speech 9
    Resurrection Speech Has Particular Content 11
    Resurrection Speech Has Particular Effects 13

Chapter 2 • What Preaching Words Do 17
  1. Preaching Communicates 17
  2. Preaching Persuades 19
  3. Preaching Tells the Truth 22
  4. Preaching Gives Us a Language 23
  5. Preaching Interrupts 24
  6. Preaching Transforms 25

Chapter 3 • Weekly Word Work 29
  The Sermon Process: Twice-Born Words 30
  Interpreting for Words and Imagery 33
  Imagining Words and Imagery 36
  Writing Words and Imagery 39
  Preparing the Manuscript with Words and Imagery 44
  Editing Your Words and Images 48
  Planning for Long-Term Work with Words and Images 50

Chapter 4 • Preaching Words in Action: A Sermon with Language and Imagery Commentary 55
  The Sermon 56
  Language and Imagery Commentary 61

Chapter 5 • Leftover Words 65

Appendix: Theories of Communication 87

Notes 89