

REMINDERS FOR THOSE ASSIGNED PUBLIC TALKS

- Before you begin preparing your talk, please review pages 52-55 of the *Ministry School* book. All speakers do well to consider this information from time to time and adjust their talks accordingly.
- Although it is likely that most in your audience will be Jehovah's Witnesses, keep in mind that non-Witnesses may also be present. Develop your talk primarily for the benefit of newly interested ones and Bible students, and present it in a way that will be understandable and appealing to sincere members of the public. Speak positively about Jehovah's organization and members of the congregation.
- Do not speak in a derogatory way about non-Witnesses. Rather than disparaging their beliefs, attitudes, or lifestyles, focus on the positive message of the Bible and on the benefits that come from applying its wisdom.—*be* 200 ¶3-4.
- Whenever possible, avoid using terms that non-Witnesses are unfamiliar with. If you must use these, be sure to explain their meaning.—*be* 227.
- Make it clear that what you are teaching is based on the Bible, not solely on your experience or personal opinion. (*be* 52 ¶6) You do not need to mention the outline, nor should you read portions of it to the audience. Rather, use the Bible to teach the points made in the outline.
- Remember that teaching effectively from the Scriptures depends, not on how many scriptures you read, but on how well you develop those that you do read.—*be* 53 ¶1-2.
- Do not assume that a visitor will grasp the meaning of a scripture simply because you read it. (*be* 256 ¶1-2) Take time to introduce each scripture properly. Allow the audience sufficient time to locate the text. Read scriptures accurately and with sense stress, and explain their meaning. Be sure to pronounce Bible names correctly. (*be* 91 ¶1) In these areas, pay close attention to the suggestions found in studies 1, 3, and 20-22 of the *Ministry School* book.
- If appropriate, toward the end of your talk, acknowledge that those who are visiting may have questions about what you have just presented. Invite them to ask the Witnesses for more information.
- Regardless of how long you have been giving public talks, do not hesitate to solicit feedback from a mature brother or two. If possible, before giving your talk, let the brother know that you would like to hear his observations afterward.