

- 1) Jesus used humor
  - a) Matthew 7:4
 

<sup>4</sup> How can you say to your brother, ‘Let me take the speck out of your eye,’ when all the time there is a plank in your own eye?  
(NIV)
  - b) Luke 6:39
 

<sup>39</sup> He also told them this parable: “Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into a pit?  
(NIV)
  - c) Matthew 23:24
 

<sup>24</sup> You blind guides! You strain out a gnat but swallow a camel.  
(NIV)
- 2) Kinds of humor
  - a) Canned jokes
    - i) A man joined a monastery ...
  - b) One liners
    - i) Worry works! 90% of the things I worry about never happen.
    - ii) I like work. It fascinates me. I sit and look at it for hours.
    - iii) Materialism: buying things we don’t need with money we don’t have to impress people that don’t matter.
  - c) Exaggeration
  - d) Incongruity
    - i) Two hunters are out in the woods when one of them collapses. He doesn’t seem to be breathing and his eyes are glazed. The other guy whips out his phone and calls the emergency services. He gasps, “My friend is dead! What can I do?” The operator says, “Calm down. I can help. First, let’s make sure he’s dead.” There is a silence, then a shot is heard. Back on the phone, the guy says, “OK, now what?”
  - e) Self-deprecating
  - f) Self-aggrandizing
  - g) Dead pan
  - h) Laughter
  - i) Physical
  - j) Situational
- 3) What does humor do?
  - a) Commercial
  - b) Puts people at ease
  - c) Connects us to each other
  - d) Connects us all to our struggle
  - e) Gets past logical defenses
  - f) Great contrast to a following serious point
- 4) How to find your humor
  - a) Analyze what makes you laugh
  - b) Analyze your natural humor tendencies

- c) Use what works for you but ...
  - d) ... work on a kind of humor that does not come naturally to you
- 5) Examples of sermon humor
- a) Jacob and Esau