Lesson 1: Using Riffs & Runs

Here are the basic chords when backing up a preacher (Examples shown in the Key of C)

If you don't know chords that well, I highly recommend you take our flagship course Create Crazy Gospel Chords before moving ahead in this training.

1. I Dom 7 (9, 13):

2. C Maj/E Dom7:

3. F Dom 7 (9):

4. F# dim7:

5. Gmin11:

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LESSON 2: CONTEMPORARY PREACHER CHORDS

SUMMARY

The main point here is to start of mellow and increase the intensity has the preacher increases theirs.

If you're not sure always lean toward being less intense than more intense, that way you won't a distraction and push the preacher too fast.

Also be mindset of how you switch your drawbar settings, be intentional and not just "snatch" them.

This will give you the most control over your organ sound.

Some sample drawbar settings you can use are:

008867000 (Mellow)

008867004 (Medium intensity)

788888006 (Medium to high Intensity)

To get a FULL array of Organ Drawbar Settings, including those for Preacher Chords go to: www.OrganMadeEasy.com/drawbars

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LESSON 3: ECHOING YOUR PREACHER

At first, just focus on hitting the gaps when the preacher is catching a breath.

* (For baptist preachers, this is when you add flourishes while you are holding the pedal tone in the bass...more on this later)

After you have this timing down, then you can start "Leading" the preacher by doing riffs, mini screamers, and more advanced and chromatic chord progressions to approach those gaps.

This is more advanced and we cover more of this in the next module.

But the most important thing is this...

BE PATIENT!!!

Don't rush, have restraint.

This is usually hard for those who don't have enough "embellishment vocabulary" to fill in those spaces.

ESPECIALLY when the preacher is rambling on for a while and NOT preaching in rhythm!

So be mindful!
LESSON 4: USING ORGAN EFFECTS

Remember, drive sequences are for when the preacher hits their "stride" so to speak.

The best way to know when to use them is when the preacher pitch is stay on the "1", and they are a little ore aggressive in making a particular point drive home.

The most common starting points for drive sequences are the:

II minor 7

VI minor 7

From these starting points you can go back to the normal Preacher chords structure OR use diminished chords as passing chords to add some more tension to the drive sequence.

You DO NOT want to stay in a drive sequence for a prolonged period of time.

Their main purpose is to add some emphasis to a particular portion of the preacher's sermon
LESSON 5: HOW TO "RESET" YOUR PREACHER

The chords to use when you want to reset your preacher are as follows (Using Key of C as the reference)

1. V Dom 7 (#9, b13)

2. I Dom 7 Sus (9, 13)

3. I Dom 7 (9, 13)

After using this sequence, you can use a bluesy run to reestablish the key.

To reset the preacher at the right time, listening for them to stutter over words and/or sing the V of the key you are in in his pitch.

Since the 1st "reset chord is a V Dom 7 chord.