

## 7 Ways to Get a Better Speaker : CharlotteOstermann.com

*Here are a few tips to help you get a better speaker. I hope it will be me!*

∞ Please pray for me! It's truly a miracle every time we pull off a good meeting, retreat, or other speaker event. I will be praying for you and your team, too, as you coordinate theme, speakers, invitations, promotions, and all the other behind-the-scenes work you do to create a successful event.

∞ Please let me tailor a talk for your event. Take a look at the talks I've prepared for others, and see what really gets you interested. Let me know your theme, your hopes and goals for this event, and the mission or special connection that defines your group. Let's talk! I can help you think about how best to use the slot I'll be filling. Together, we can make sure your group doesn't get a canned talk for generic audiences, an accidental rerun of last year's talk, or a duplication of another speaker's presentation.

∞ Please don't place a 'dead spot' in my 'sweet spot'! Picture a triangle with a base as wide as my arms' reach, narrowing from the podium to a point halfway into the audience. If you use that area for videotape equipment, banners, or resource tables, I'll miss the energizing feedback from the people in prime territory. For best results, place your best responders in the sweet spot, and their bounce-back will improve my connection with the whole audience.

∞ Please let me know as much as possible about the people who will be listening to my talks. The more I know, the better I can design to resonate with them, coordinate with material you've been studying together, address particular concerns, and avoid hot-buttons.

∞ Please let me know as much as possible about the context of my talk. Will my listeners be grouped at round tables, seated auditorium style, circled around me living-room style, browsing resource tables while I talk? Everything I can learn in advance about the event schedule and setting, and my place within it helps prepare me to fit in smoothly with whatever you have going on.

∞ Please ask me for some excellent questions to accompany my talk. If no one speaks right up during our discussion time, weigh in with one of these proven 'starters' to get the ball rolling. These are for your event team - not our audience - so you'll be ready to prime the pump! People often value a lively discussion time more highly than the talk itself.

∞ Please recommend me to others. A personal word means so much, and will help another group get a better speaker, too.