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2.06 - EXCELLENCE IN MINISTRY.

(2.06 - Excellence in Ministry)

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1. A Standard of Excellence in Ministry.

Foundation Scriptures

Matthew 5:48

⁴⁸ Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect. (KJV)

Matthew 5:48

⁴⁸ You, therefore, must be perfect [growing into complete maturity of godliness in mind and character, having reached the proper height of virtue and integrity], as your heavenly Father is perfect. (AMPC)

Ephesians 4:1

I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that you walk worthy of the vocation where with you are called, (KJV)

Ephesians 4:1

¹ I THEREFORE, the prisoner for the Lord, appeal to and beg you to walk (lead a life) worthy of the [divine] calling to which you have been called [with behaviour that is a credit to the summons to God's service (AMPC)

As Christians, we demand excellence from god - total dedication, commitment, reliability and Success. Since we expect excellence from God, we should also be willing to demand that same excellence from ourselves - (<u>no matter what type of ministry we are called to do</u>)

Excellence in ministry -

- will not tolerate unbelief, failure or taking the easy way out.
- will pay *whatever price* it takes to get the job done God's way.
- will be executed with *dedication* and *integrity*.
- will demonstrate absolute honesty and commitment.
- will represent Jesus to the world .

2. Six Steps to Excellence.

Step 1: Dedication - it is your decision

- true dedication is a decision of quality a decision where there is no turning back.
- dedication is based on <u>commitment</u> and not feelings.
- when you make a decision of commitment, God provides the power just like the new birth.

Find Your Place in the Body of Christ.

• the bible says that the callings of God are without repentance.

(Rom.11:29)

- God will not revoke the calling in your life, find it and get into it as soon as possible.
- Choose to be a vessel of honour.

2 Tim.2:20-21

²⁰ But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour. ²¹ If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work. (KJV) **Devote Yourself to Pleasing God**

- learn those things that <u>please</u> God and those Things that <u>do not please Him.</u>
 - But without faith it is impossible to please Him.
 - the just shall live by faith.

(Heb.11:6) (Rom.1:17)



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(1 John 5:4-5) (Heb.3:16, 17) (Gal 5:6)

(Mark 1:35 & Luke 6:12)

(Gal.5:6)

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walking in offense, strife and division does not please God as strife will stop your faith, allow you to be taken captive by Satan's works (2 Tim.21-24), and stop the operation of the nine gifts of the spirit in the life of the believer.

Commit Yourself to a Life of Prayer

• Prayer is the foundation for success in every Christian plan.

- not walking in victory is also offensive to God.

- Jesus spent much time with His Father in prayer & fellowship.
- Little prayer little power, much prayer much power!
- Fellowship and build a relationship with GOD.

- when we overcome the world.

Step 2: Singleness of Purpose

To be single-minded is very important, as a double minded man is unstable in all his ways and he

Our single purpose as ministers of God (or other) is to meet the needs of the people.

- walking in the love of God please Him, also faith works by love.

receives nothing of the Lord. (James 1:5-8) A single-minded man is man that makes quality decisions and settles them forever. Do not hesitate to step out on your faith. (Luke 8:22-25) Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season..... (2 Tim. 4:2, 5) Signs and wonders will follow the word that is preached. (Mark 16.15) Step 3: Follow the Leadership of the Holy Spirit. Decide to be led by the Holy Spirit through the Word-not by the natural... Howbeit when ٠ he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you... (John 16:13) Do not lean on your own understanding, learn to follow the leadership of the Holy Spirit within you. Those who are led by the Spirit of God are the Sons of God. (Rom.8:14) You must be totally grounded in and dependent upon the Word of God. (Col. 3:16) Be spirit led and word controlled. You must let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom. (Col. 3.16)

Step 4: Strip away the Things of the World.

John 17:16-17

¹⁶ They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world. ¹⁷ Sanctify them through your truth: your word is truth. (KJV)

- To sanctify means ,, to separate unto"
- To have excellence of ministry, we must <u>strip away everthing of the world from our live</u> until there is nothing left but the Word of God.
- Strip away any sin.... you are the righteousness of God..... (2 Cor.5:21)
- Strip away negative confessions, confess God's Word in your mouth. (Prov.18:21)
- Strip away spiritual junk food feed on God's Word and fast the word of the world.
- <u>Lay aside the cares</u> of the world and trust God to meet your needs, the Word will separate you from the world. *Cast all of your cares upon him, for He cares for you*..... (1 Peter 5:7)

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Step 5: Look To the Word Day And Night.

- Looking to the Word will produce several effects on your ministry that you can not get any other way. (Prov.4:20-23 & Jos.1:8)
- You will obtain God's favour (ornament of grace) as you seek the wisdom of God. (Prov.4:5-9)
- You will increase your faith as well as your understanding of how to use your faith.
- When you exalt the word people will be delivered.
- Lifting up the Word will promote you and bring you to a place of honour. (1 Pet.5:6,7)
- Looking to the Word helps to control the flesh and train the senses to discern between good and evil.

(Heb.5:12-14)

 By continuing to put the Word of God into your mind and spirit and body, you will eventually come to the place where the Word controls all three.
(Rom.12:1-2)

Step 6: Spend Time Fasting

Prayer first -

1 Tim.2:1-2

¹ I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; ² For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. (KJV)

- The purpose of fasting is <u>not to influence God</u> into acting in our behalf. Abstaining from food does not impress Him. Its purpose is to <u>shut off the influence of our flesh to be in tune with the Spirit</u>.
- Fasting helps us to receive from God but does not push God to action.
- Whatever it is, establish it by faith and proclaim it before you enter the fast. Expect to receive it. God will see in secret and you will receive openly. (Matt.6:17-18)

The proper way to fast:

- (1) Decide the purpose of the fast before you begin..
- (2) Proclaim the fast before the Lord, so that you will not be tempted to break it.
- (3) Believe before the fast that you receive the reward promised by Jesus in Matthew 6:18.
 - you are not going to receive because you fast. You will receive because you believed in faith. Fasting is an assistance to receiving.
- (4) Minister to the Lord while you are fasting through praise and worship.
- (5) Minister to others during and after the fast, as god leads you.
- (6) Expect assistance from the angels.

(Matt.4:11)

A Spirit of Excellence

Your decision to walk in excellence in ministry will depend on you having a spirit of excellence, decide to do your best by faith and expect god to do His best in your behalf.

JESUS IS LORD!

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