

Wed night: Feb. 6, 08 - Building Church Leaders

Review

Why do we as church leaders get stressed and burnt out?

This will happen if you haven't spent time with the Lord.

You could be trying to do ministry in your own strength instead of Gods.

Roman 10:38

Mary and Martha – had a relationship with the Lord. He reminded them that things that matter most shouldn't get in the way of what matters the least. Our work is about relationships. We should focus on building the body of Christ through evangelism, discipleship and prayer.

Slide 13. You're Too Busy If

1. You're speeding up – always in a hurry
2. You're multi-tasking
3. You can't see your desktop
4. You're irritable at home
5. Lack time/energy to love

You can take on too many responsibilities and get nothing done.

What fears may lie beneath our busyness?

Someone taking your place – do you feel you may be fired?

Trying to please others - do you go out of your way to make sure everyone likes you?

Lack of self confidence- do you stay busy to feel important?

The common theme surrounding fear is self. If you don't want to look stupid and you try to prove yourself to others all the time your living a life of fear.

What do you think Martha's fears were? Luke 10:38-42

We are to be anxious for nothing. Focus on one thing that you are good at. Jesus told Martha that Mary had chosen the thing that was better. Sometimes we miss an opportunity to do for others and miss the blessing focusing on the wrong thing. We must focused on prayer and being in the word of God.

How can we keep busyness from stifling our ministry and our ability to love others?

Refocus, slow down, and disconnect with others to reconnect with God. Have a stopping point and prioritize. Stop trying to do things in your own strength. Get to the power source. The word of God is the source of power. It will give you peace.

Remember where you get your power – from God.

What is our church goal? How can we make it more than a slogan?

Launch out into the DEP

Individually you must connect to God with a strong prayer life and figure out who you could disciple. Devote yourself to Christ and develop your relationship with him. God will show you who and how to witness to. He will show you how to walk and talk and give you the confidence. Find one thing that you're good at and help in the area and stay with it and be devoted. Do away with self. Be humble and willing to listen. Stop being afraid and get out of the comfort zone. Be prepared and know the word, study and pray.

If we are going to go deeper into any of these things we must be consistent and committed. You must be disciplined to do things when you don't feel like it. You must deny yourself and surrender to God. You must bury your flesh daily and be armed with the word of God.

Know where you are and where you want to go. Start with small steps that will lead to greater things.

The Way of Contentment Philippians 4:11-13

Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, to be content.

Paul states while he was in prison He thanked God for where he was and didn't worry about the predicament that he was in.

Discontent -Looking at other situations

How do we do this? Trusting God will teach you there is a reason for things not working out the way you might want. God sees the whole picture and sees what your going through.

Satisfaction and contentment has a lot to do with being Thankful. Are you thankful? Do you praise God for what He has already done for you? Can you still praise him in bad times?

Mathew. 14:22-33 - They looked beyond what was important but what was vital.

Jesus feeds the multitude. Jesus prayed a vital prayer, and also brought peace.

Without God you will never have peace in your life.

Proverbs 30:8 – 9

v8. Keep falsehood and lies far from me; give me neither poverty nor riches, but give me only my daily bread.

v9. Otherwise, I may have too much and disown you and say, 'Who is the LORD ?' Or I may become poor and steal, and so dishonor the name of my God.

What does this mean? Paul is saying he will be content with what ever he has wherever he is. Ask the Lord to give you what you need for this day so that I may please you.

You must understand yourself and know that God will give you the things you need when you're ready. Godliness with Contentment is great gain. The pursuit of (stuff) can and will get you into trouble. Success is not based on things.

Philippians 4:4

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

5Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. 6Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. 7And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

We need each other. We should admit our faults to one another in Love to help each other. Know where you are. Don't beat yourself up. Be honest and find a Godly brother or sister in Christ who can help you on your journey.

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