

TIPS FOR PASTORS

PART ONE:

I am not ashamed of Christ or His gospel.

Desire and be to the praise of God's glory.

The Lord is searching for someone through whom He can show Himself strong.

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

The Lord will not leave me or forsake me; therefore I shall not fear what man shall do to me.

The Lord is my very present help in time of trouble.

Whatever I do, I will do it with all my heart to the Lord.

Those who wait upon the Lord renew their strength.

Be strong and courageous – don't fear or be discouraged. The Lord goes ahead of you and is behind you preparing the way.

Sure, Slow, steady Steps = Success

Love = Commitment, Responsibility, Accountability.

Leading or led?

A shepherd who follows sheep steps in stuff!

Better to go in some direction than no direction at all.

Acknowledge the Lord in all your ways, and He will show you His ways.

Do what you know to do. What you don't know will be revealed.

“Trust the Lord, lean not to your own understanding, acknowledge Him in all your ways, and He will direct the steps.”

God will never lead you where He has not been.

Jesus says, *“My grace is sufficient for you. In your weakness My strength is perfected.”*

Faithful shepherd or hireling? – Called or hired?

Jesus entrusted himself to His Father, not men.

He who seeks men's praise loses God's praise.

All that matters for a servant is that he be found faithful to his Lord.

For me to live is Christ, to die is gain – but it is helpful for others that I help them grow in God.

Your labor in the Lord is not for nothing.

Except the Lord build the ministry, there is no ministry.

God confirms His word with signs and wonders.

God is not interested in my opinions – only His truth.

Speak God's Word. He will confirm it.

Speak life, not death.

Cooperation, not competition = completion and compliment.

A holy house is better than a full house.

Practice what you preach!

People follow your lead and your example.

Conviction is better than preference.

The Lord is who He says He is: “I am” – are you?

The Lord, not the sheep, develops His shepherds.

The Lord calls who He calls.

The Lord equips those who He has chosen.

The Lord empowers those He trusts.

The chosen are those who respond to the call.

Fulfill your calling, not someone else’s.

People and money are not what make a ministry.

The Lord’s presence is what makes the difference.

The servant of the Lord is not for sale. He has already been paid
for.

True ministry begins at home.

What do you do when you are by yourself?

The Holy Spirit prepares things in advance.

When you stand for God, God will stand for you.

Humility brings honor from God and man.

Who can build a house for the Lord?

Isolation brings desolation.

To gather is not to scatter, unless one gathers to self.

Lift Jesus up and He will draw all men to Himself.

You can talk about something you don't know about, but you cannot live it.

I must decrease that He might increase.

To live for self is to deny Christ. To live for Christ is to deny self.

As I go about God's business, He will take care of mine.

"Obedience is better than sacrifice."

The Lord is my defender, protector, provider, lover.

I will make my boast in the Lord who always causes me to triumph in Him.

Comparison brings confusion.

My God shall supply what is needed, or it is not needed.

Fear of man or woman is a snare.

If God cannot do it, nobody can!

The Lord will fulfill His plans, not mine.

It is strength to admit weakness and draw on God's strength.

Thank you, Lord, that I am not You!

Don't kick your dog.

God calls things that be not as though they are and they become.

"We walk by faith, not by sight."

Appreciation never depreciates.

Find joy in God's presence.

Do not love what you are doing more than the One you are doing it for.

Love what you are doing because you love the One you are doing
it for.

Cheer the Lord on to victory!

Concentrate on the people you have, not the ones you don't have.

Love the people while you have them.

Impart, and they will not depart.

Honor those who labor with you in God's church.

Have nothing to hide and nothing needs to be found out.

Rise early and meet the Lord.

Talk to and about Jesus.

Think about Jesus. He is thinking about you.

The minister and ministry that gives – receives.

Minister to Jesus, and He will minister to you.

Life is too short for fussing.

Bless, don't curse.

Jesus loves you and them.

The Lord saves you from the faces of man – when you quit looking to them.

Compromise leads to being despised.

How can I expect the people to believe if I don't believe?

You can preach with conviction what you know is true.

Stay in your calling, vision, and anointing.

Those who refresh others will themselves be refreshed.

The time to be with people is after you spend time with God.

“Diligent hands prosper.”

Those who believe in Jesus will do what Jesus does.

Sometimes we get godly desires, but it may not be what God wants us to do.

If you want to be like Jesus, you must have His fruit (character) and His gifts (of the Spirit).

Lay hands on the sick in Jesus' name , and they will get delivered and healed.

Whatever you ask in My name I will do to glorify my Father.

The word of faith is near you – even on your tongue. Speak it!

How blessed it is for brothers and sisters to dwell together in unity.

We either stand with or against – gather or scatter.

The Lord will do what brings Him glory.

Greater is He that is in you than they that are in the world.

The devil does not see me – he sees Jesus!

When you tell the devil to get behind you, do not turn around to see where he went.

I love you, Lord!

The Lord knows my beginning and my end. He knows what I will face before I face it. He has His provision already waiting.

Do not go beyond what God has revealed.

The reason people compromise is that they don't want conflict.

The opposite of compromise is conviction.

Conviction breeds conviction.

The Humble Heart:

- looks for ways to bless others.
- is available to people as God directs.
- is always available to the Lord.
- is not a complainer.
- is a proclaimer of good, God things.
- is not a self-promoter, but a God promoter.
- is honest, patient, faithful, consistent, and has integrity.
- loves at all times.
- is teachable, wise, and does not mind correction.
- is obedient to God.
- is compassionate, giving, generous, and thankful.
- is full of faith and the Holy Spirit.

Salvation is free – no works attached! Now work out your own salvation. (Philippians 2:12-13)

If we were not responsible for our own actions, only the devil would burn in hell.

Lift up Jesus – He will draw all men to Himself.

All that matters is that a servant be found faithful.

Think about God's love. Think about His goodness.

Love is the greatest! If Christ had not first loved us, we would have no faith or hope.

The Holy Spirit will give you what to say.

Study and meditation of the Word produces a message the Holy Spirit can bless.

Do not go beyond what is written in the Word.

Lord, grant me the hearing ear and the instructed tongue. Direct my day your way, Lord.

Stop, look, and listen.

Comparing hinders sharing and caring.

Prayer proceeds action.

God will supply for what He wants.

If you do not like what you have, consider changing who you are.

Insanity is doing the same thing over and over, expecting a different result.

To the Spirit – through the Spirit.

God's faith only works on what God wants to do.

The spirit of unbelief always comes against the move of God.

Do not lose your passion for the compassion.

God only does what He wants to do.

God only does the things that He takes pleasure in – do likewise.

What is it that I am really looking for?

The proof of your desire is the activeness of your pursuit.

Three evils for pastors: funds, females, and fame.

PART TWO: Growth Lessons

PRESSURE SOURCES IN MINISTRY

People

—

Expectations
Demands
Agendas
Cares
Degree of Relationships

Time

—

Scheduling

- Vacation
- Availability
- Limitations

Resources

—

Facilities (rent and building programs)
Offerings
Investments
Staff and volunteers
Equipment

Self

—

Health
Emotions
Values and beliefs
Family and relationships
Spiritual
Financial
Goals, vision, expectations:

- “Save the World”
- Messiah complex
- All things to all men
- Comparison-Competition

PRESSURE SOLUTIONS

1. Seek the Lord's will and direction. Take a moment with the Holy Spirit before making a decision or response.
2. Do not entrust yourself to man (for praise or criticism).
3. Examine motivation of self and others (love, peace, righteousness).
4. Remain under God's authority (it's not for me to give).
5. Education of people in proper policy and personnel. (Psalm 127:6). There are no emergencies with God! (People want things now.)
6. Know and maintain your vision and focus. Your belief system affects your vision.
7. Know when to "push off the boat."
8. Do not let others' vision or unbelief cause you to lose your peace or get distracted. Remain in faith and focus on God's vision for you.
9. Conflict of wills and interests bring pressure, but without pride there is no contention.
10. Selfishness and lack of love bring pressure. Being led by love, peace, and righteousness removes pressure.

PRESSURE EXERCISES

(Jesus dealt with pressures everyday of His life (Hebrews 4:14-16). In this exercise match the pressure solution Jesus used to deal with the pressure situations He faced.)

- Jesus' mother and family attempted to put him away. (Matthew 12:46-50)
- Man with son: "*If you can heal my son...*" (Mark 9)

- Boat in the storm: “*Don’t you care if we perish?*” (Mark 4:35-41)
- James’ and John’s mother wanted positions for her sons. (Matthew 20:20)
- Woman in adultery: “*Neither do I condemn you.*” (John 8:11)
- Man wanted Jesus to divide their inheritance.
- Martha: At the tomb of Lazarus. (John 11)
- Pharisees: “*Show us a sign.*” (Matthew 12:38-45)
- 3/12/70/120 – the multitudes (groupings of relationships in Jesus’ life)
- Satan: temple temptations. (Matthew 4)
- People wanted to follow: “*Foxes have holes.*” (Matthew 8:18-22; 12)
- People wanted to make Jesus king. (John 6:14-15)
- Peter: “You don’t have to go to the cross.” (Matthew 16:21-23)
- Peter and John (John 21:15-23)
- Pilate and Sanhedrin (John 18)
- Judas betrayed with a kiss. (Matthew 26:47-56, Luke 22:47)
- Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-45)

Study:

ACCELERATED GROWTH INTO THE IMAGE OF JESUS.

Study based on *Mark 4:34-35 (Amplified Bible)*. *Why do some produce 60, 80, 100 from the same seed? Increased receptivity will increase productivity which will increase growth. The word of God is spirit and life (John 6:63). The natural man apart from Jesus Christ cannot*

understand the Word of God. He is not spiritual. The true seeker wants the truth of God (spirit and life). The goal for a Christian is to grow into the image of Jesus Christ (*Romans 8:29*).

For this increase to occur there are factors involved which must be carefully considered and developed. These are presented in *Mark 4:23-25*.

1. The person must have **“ears to hear”** = openness, teachability, willingness, interest, attention. The person must want to hear God’s word, be interested in God and in becoming like Jesus.
2. Let him **“listen”** = receiving, perceiving, comprehending, understanding, discerning. It is one thing to hear. It is another thing to understand and receive or believe what you hear.

Faith comes by **hearing** the Word of God (*Romans 10:17*). Only those who have “ears to hear” can understand what the Spirit of the Lord is saying. They are swift to pay attention and seek to understand what God is saying. They ask the Holy Spirit to give understanding. They continue in God’s Word, seeking to know the truth and application for their lives which will set them free to have abundant life in Jesus (*John 8:31-32*). They value the Word of God.

The person who hears and does not understand, yet does not seek to understand, has the Word stolen from him by the devil. He lacks the interest or fails to see the importance of the Word for his life. He does not continue in God’s Word. The true motive of the heart is exposed. Such a person is not a seeker or a disciple.

Understanding occurs when one observes, ponders, reasons, learns, and reaches a conclusion for action. The word understanding or “sachal” occasionally is translated “prosper.”

3. **“Be careful about what you are hearing.”** Does what you hear produce faith or unbelief? Does it build up and encourage or tear down and discourage? You will produce what you receive. You do not want to spend time listening to unprofitable words which do not produce faith, hope and love and do not develop God’s character. The disciple wants to hear God’s truth.

4. The **“measure of thought”** or meditation upon the truth that you hear will produce insight, conviction, and purpose of action. Revelation of and by the Holy Spirit will occur. The truth will gain rhema understanding and status as God and you personalize the truth into your life. When people keep the Word of God (truth always in thought), God’s word and wisdom comes alive in their actions and words.
5. The **“measure of study”** upon the truth that you hear will determine the depth of quality of information or interpretation of the truth in your life. The truth needs to be rightly divided or interpreted. It is not natural knowledge, but spiritual knowledge. It can only be appreciated and understood by the Holy Spirit’s instruction and application. The word of God is life and food to the disciple because it is how growth in the Spirit is developed (*Hebrews 4:12*). What is determined in study is developed in meditation.
6. The **“measure of virtue and knowledge”** is the increase of godly character and truth in a person’s life. The measure of study and meditation, as well as obedience to God’s Word which the disciple applies. More obedience to God’s Word creates growth, increase, and maturity, which allows God to receive more glory. Thus this is why some produce 60, 80, or 100 from the same word of truth.
7. God’s plan for **healthy spiritual growth:**

EACH WEEK One worship service
 One teaching service
 One opportunity for ministry
 One Day of Rest (Sabbath)

PEOPLE WHO DO NOT WANT THE TRUTH
 (Fools)

are defensive
 do not want the truth
 do not want things exposure
 do not want to change
 do not receive correction and instruction

believe only some things of God's word
like to talk much (about self)
do not like to listen
think of themselves more highly than they should
think they already know it all!

STEPS FOR GOAL SETTING

1. Identify what you want.
2. Write it down.
3. Spell out why you want it (motivation).
4. List obstacles.
5. Identify God's provision/resources (people, funds, etc.) who can help you accomplish vision.
6. Develop plan of action.
7. Put date on completion.

Be patient with others and God will enable you all to become willing.