



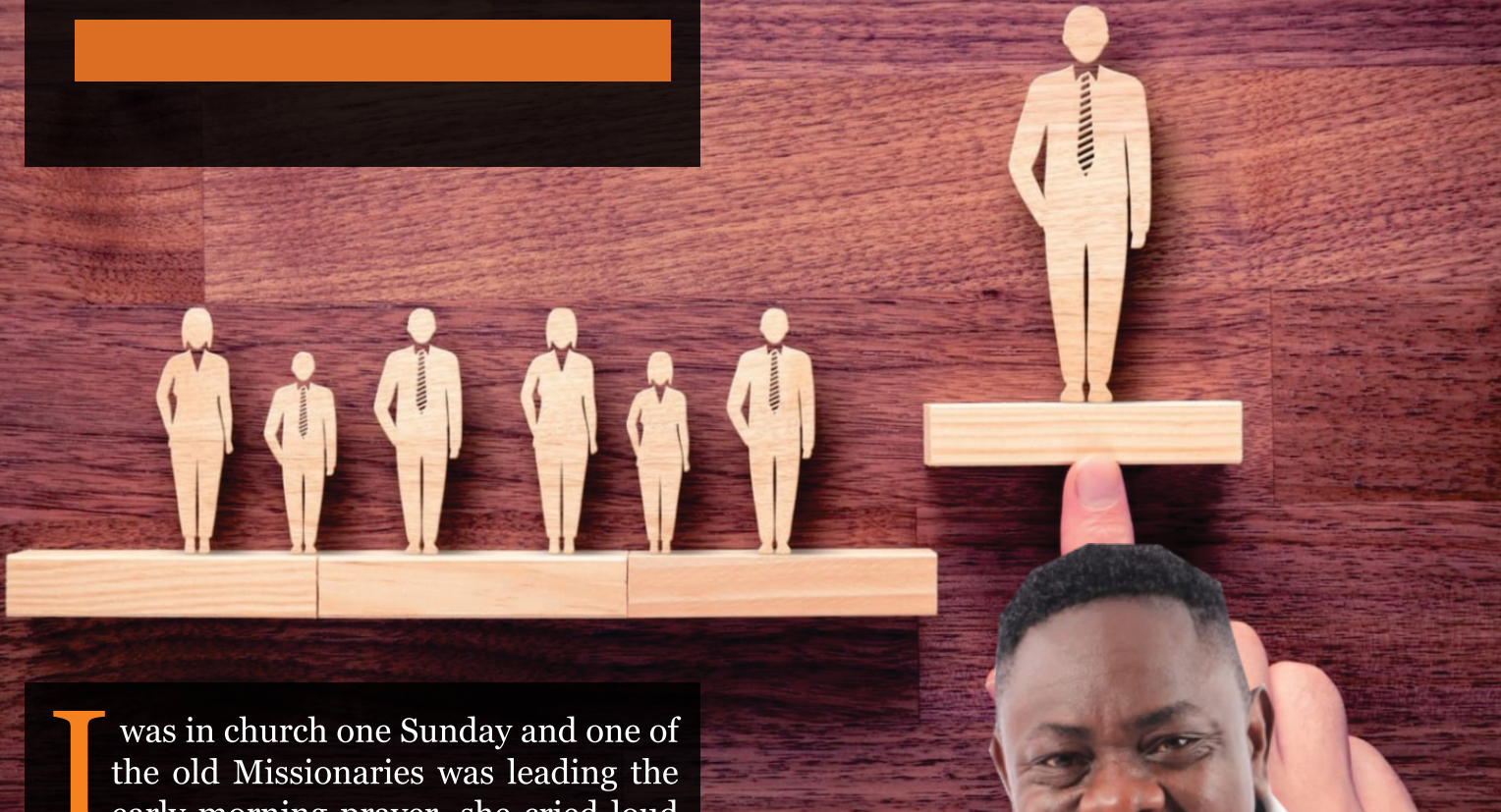
**THE PLATFORM
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THE CHURCH NEEDS DISCIPLES NOT MEMBERS

NewEra

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I was in church one Sunday and one of the old Missionaries was leading the early morning prayer, she cried loud and shook the rafters as she prayed. She said at one point “Lord send the sinner man into this church!” It was uttered with the utmost sincerity and piety, but she was very much wrong! God doesn't send sinners to church! He expects US to bring people to Jesus Christ! Jesus told His disciples to pray for laborers for the sole purpose of harvesting LOST SOULS! Too many pastors expect their churches to be like “magnets” and sinners will just come to church! We must invite sinners to Jesus first and foremost, and we must also invite people to our place of worship.

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**DR. VICTORY
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International President



**THE CHURCH
NEEDS DISCIPLES
NOT MEMBERS**

It is not enough to have a nice edifice! Churches **HAVE** to aggressively share the Gospel of Jesus in their communities **AND** minister to it's poor. This is the primary reason Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to the church, so we could preach the Gospel and make disciples (students).

Too often pastors want everyone to embrace and support **HIS** vision, but he forgets that others vision (purpose) helps support the church as well. Every Pastor **NEEDS** an **EVANGELIST** in their church to bring people to Christ so the **PASTOR** can nurture them, The **TEACHER** make them disciples and helps them go from milk to meat. The **PROPHET** inspires people to press into the perfect will of God. It is not a

prophet's job to “see” new cars in your future!

We have merchandised the anointing so much, that church is 90% business and 10% actual ministry! You would be amazed at the professed Christians (to include clergy), that don't actively win souls. There is more emphasis on raising money in our churches than there is winning souls! And it is killing our churches. Yes some of the money preaching churches have large numbers! I have visited many of them and they have one thing in common, they keep the congregation hostage by telling them if they don't give they won't be blessed! So everyone is waiting for the “sanctified lottery” with God!

Outreach is not popular because there is no “payoff” to the carnal minded clergyman and their churches. You can't get a speaker offering for witnessing and preaching on the street. The modern day preacher looks at street preachers like they are buffoons or unlearned simpletons with no real credentials. Well I beg to differ! In this wicked generation we need some modern day John the

Baptist! I have won more souls on the street than I have from a walnut stained pulpit. We have to get back to the basics and fulfill the Great Commission!

If pastors stressed soul winning as much as they stress giving and honoring themselves maybe our churches would be filled with committed Christian converts. You may think I am being hard on pastors but I have to be because in our modern system of church government, it is the pastors that call the shots! Whatever the shepherd feeds the sheep is what they get. You want soul-winners? Then preach soul winning!

I was once affiliated with the Navigators Ministry while stationed in Washington, DC. They are the models of what EVERY church SHOULD be about! Navigators prime directive is to win the lost and disciple them so they can in turn win souls and make more disciples! We would go out with our Jesus T-shirts and tracts and make the devil mad! The devil could care less about you wearing a Gucci suit or a designer dress and hat to church. But he gets mad when you bring a lost soul to Jesus Christ first and second to church.

I thank God for my mentors in Christ! There was a preacher named Ike Sierson, whom I met while stationed Kunsan AB in Korea. I used to go out with him on "Soul Patrols". He taught me the importance of soul winning and what it cost! Ike was not a popular guy mind you, I have seen so-called Christians call him a fanatic and a

trouble-maker. But no one won souls like this guy! Why? 1. He was dedicated to the cause 2. He didn't care what people thought about him 3. He realized that was the most important purpose a believer has.

By the time I went back to Korea for a second tour, I had become just like Ike! I lead teams of saints out every Friday and Saturday night downtown. We preached on corners, handed out tracts, and witnessed like Jesus was coming back that night! My pastor then was Elder Herman Platt. Elder Platt like Ike had a burden for the lost and loved outreach. But I learned a different lesson from Elder Platt! He taught me the importance of intercessory prayer and the need to depend on the leading of the Holy Spirit.

Pastors! Please make soul winning and intercession a priority in your churches before it is too late! You are planted in that community for the primary reason of winning the lost. God is tired of the Sunday fashion shows the lack of concern for sinners and the poor, and the preaching of prosperity over the preaching of the Gospel.

If you are a Pastor of a church and your membership is decreasing through the years of ministering, then look back and ask, "What have I been preaching?" Well I am not a prophet or a gambler, but I'll bet you haven't been teaching soul winning! If you have ministers in your charge and care, make those lazy rascals go on the

street and preach and stop giving them a designated Sunday! I believe a TRUE preacher called of God will preach ANYWHERE! I have never in all my life seen so many sorry excuses for preachers as I have recently.

Everyone wants to go full-time ministry! That means live off of the saints! I was full-time in the Air Force overseas! What the church really needs is ministry minded saints that take every opportunity to win a lost soul to Christ. You can do that at work, in the laundry mat, at the golf course, or on a street corner. Jesus was full-time! He preached to the woman at the well, In the wilderness, in the Temple, and even on a boat. Of course I realize very large ministries may need a paid staff. The storefront church on Martin Luther King Blvd. however does not.

Jesus told the disciples “freely you received, freely you give.” That means the things of God are not for sale! Sure it is nice when someone blesses you, but we don't do it for the blessing!

Jesus set the example for ALL ministers to follow, and that is preach the Gospel for FREE. The gift of salvation was NEVER meant to be earned or purchased. Salvation is the most important message we can preach, yet it has been replaced with prosperity and happy syrupy sermonettes that won't get anyone SAVED. If the last words Jesus said centered around winning souls then

THAT must be the most important thing Jesus had to say.

Paul further emphasized it by saying, "Woe unto ME if I preach NOT The Gospel". Paul knew his calling to win the lost was the prime directive of Jesus to His ministers. Preachers today are more concerned about receiving honor and honorariums than seeing souls saved. Oh how it must break God's heart to see his representatives MISREPRESENT HIM! Jesus was a humble servant that came and ministered to the poor, the sick, and the lost. We MUST follow Jesus example and be soul-winners in a lost and dying world.

Pastors have to teach soul-winning to the congregations, NOT just to increase numbers, but to also stir up gifts in the assembly of God. Spiritual gifts are activated when we do ministry, in particular soul-winning. The Gifts of the Spirit are not for show, they are for WORK. Every one of the Gifts are primarily given so we can win the lost and help them get filled with the Holy Ghost and make them disciples of Christ. (Acts 1:8) It grieves the Lord when he sees ministers become hirelings with no concern for lost souls.

Too many churches are showcases or museums built to display the egos of the leaders. Churches named after men and women with their pictures plastered everywhere. Jesus was so low-key and

humble when He did His fathers business. Jesus favorite title was "Son of Man". Jesus was God in the Flesh yet He carried himself as a lowly servant.

1Co 9:16 Yet when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, for I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!

It amazes me when I meet ministers for the first time and they introduce themselves as "Apostle" or "Evangelist", Jesus didn't even do that, in fact he called his disciples friends. Some ministers today are so high minded they won't even talk to you, you have to go through their "administrative assistant" or "armour bearer". And we think God is pleased with our foolishness? Freely you received...freely you give.

1Co 9:17 If I preach voluntarily, I have a reward; if not voluntarily, I am simply discharging the trust committed to me.

Welcome To August 2023.

Have a Blessed Month.



Dr Victory Godspower





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