



THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD

APRIL 30, 2017

Living Faith Chapel, Calgary (Solution Center)

WORD FOR THE WEEK

POTENTIAL PITFALLS IN MINISTRY AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

We thank God for the theme we have been considering for the month of April: “**Divine Calls and Ministry Gifts**”. We have heard so much about the theme from the men and women of God as they are inspired by God. I have no doubt that we learnt a lot and have been blessed by the unraveling of the hidden treasures in the word of God as exposed to us in our various gatherings; Digging Deeps and Worship Services.

Today, we will be sharing the Word on “Potential Pitfalls in Ministry and How to Avoid Them”. There are three key words in the topic - 1: “**Potential**” which means “**possible**” or “**likely**”, 2: “**Pitfalls**” – **booby traps, unexpected difficulty or surprises** and 3: **Ministry - service to God and mankind**. Therefore, our topic for today can be simplified as “Possible or likely unexpected difficulty or surprises in the service of God and how to avoid them”. It is important for us to be aware of those potential booby traps so that we can avoid them and thus make full proof of our ministry – **2 Timothy 4: 5**. We need to be vigilant, the reason being that the devil is going about like a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour – **1 Peter 5: 8**. We should not be ignorant of the wiles of the devil. Indeed, we need to arm ourselves with the wisdom from the word of God to be able to withstand and overcome the booby traps – **Ephesians 6: 11**.

Below are some of the potential pitfalls in the ministry and how to avoid them:

- (1) Comparison – comparing one another breeds pride, hostility, envy, jealousy, schism, disunity, division and possibly loss of focus in the body of Christ. We should always remember that we are assigned different roles and thus endowed with different gifts. It is not advisable or wise to compare one another but rather focus on accomplishing the purpose we are created to fulfill – **2 Corinthians 10: 12b**.
- (2) Robbing God of the Glory due unto Him – There is a possibility or tendency for the individual being used by God to assume that he/she is the one doing the signs and wonders. Even people around the men and women of God in most cases flatter them to the extent that they forget that God is only using the individual as vessel, while God is the one that is actually working through them. – **Philippians 2: 13**. God is a jealous God and will not share His glory with any mortal - **Isaiah 42:8**. In any way God is using us, let us give Glory due unto His name. When people praise us for what He is doing through us; let us return the Glory to Him - **Psalms 96: 8, 1 Chronicles 16: 29 & Acts 12: 21 – 23**.
- (3) Failure to recharge or maintain personal and intimate relationship with the Lord – It is crucial for every child of God and more so the one being used by God to maintain intimate and personal connection in order to be effective and motivated in the service of the Almighty. Refreshing after an outpouring of grace in the body of Christ through us is vital. We can learn from our perfect example, our Lord and master Jesus who will always separate Himself unto God to recharge - **Luke 6: 12, Mark 6: 46 and Mathew 14: 23**.

There are many more pitfalls. As we lean on the Holy Spirit for guidance and also submit to His leadership, we shall overcome. Our reward for the service will not be stolen or taken away in Jesus’ name!

NOTE: If you have been blessed by our Word for the Week or inspired in any way by them, please let us know by sending an email to The Pastor at pastor@rccglfc.org