

2 Kings 3:11-12 – *“(11) But King Jehoshaphat of Judah asked, Is there no prophet of the Lord with us? If there is, we can ask the Lord what to do. One of King Joram's officers replied. Elisha son of Shaphat is here. He used to be Elijah's personal assistant. (12) Jehoshaphat said, Then the Lord will speak through him.”*

☐ TALENT CAN MAKE DISCIPLES – RELATIONSHIPS WILL BIRTH SONS.

Leviticus 6:22,29 – *“(22) As the sons of the priests replace their fathers, they will be inducted into office by offering this same sacrifice on the day they are anointed. ...(29) Only males from a priest's family may eat of this offering, for it is most holy.”*

Leviticus 7:10 – *“All other grain offerings, whether flour mixed with olive oil or dry flour, are to be shared among all the priests and their sons.”*

Luke 6:40 – *“A disciple is not above his teacher; but every well-trained student will be like his teacher.”*

Luke 6:40, NLT – *“A student who works hard will become like the teacher”*

LETS GET SOMETHING STARTED!

- A. This is a team effort
- B. Personal ambition will never be as big as a corporate vision.
- C. The moving from one mantle to the next is where the conflict lies and where many find the greatest challenge in making the transition. We cannot fulfill Apostolic calling with a pastoral mind-set.
- D. God doesn't want us to be just another face in the crowd.
- E. 2 Kings 13:20-21 – *“And Elisha died, and they buried him. And the bands of the Moabites invaded the land at the coming in of the year. And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band of men, and they cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha and when the man was let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet.”*

KNOW THEM!

Chuck Clayton

Ephesians 4:12 – *“For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:”*

Colossians 1:28 – *“Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:”*

2 Corinthians 11:2 – *“For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.”*

Ephesians 5:27 – *“That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”*

Colossians 1:22 – *“In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and unblameable and unproveable in his sight:”*

Hebrews 13:21 – *“Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”*

1 Thessalonians 5:10-13 – *(10) Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him. (11) Wherefore comfort yourselves together, and edify one another, even as also you do. (12) And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, (know the value of) and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you. (13) And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.*

- ☐ (Clarke's) The word "know" seems to mean that they were not to make themselves strangers to them - to be cold and distant toward them to be ignorant of their needs, or to be indifferent to them. While a people are not arrogant to meddle with the business of a minister, anymore than they are with that of any other man, yet there are things in regard to him with which they should be acquainted. They should seek to be personally acquainted with him, and make him their confidant and counselor in their spiritual troubles. They should

seek his friendship, and endeavor to maintain all proper contact with him They should not regard him as a distant man, or as a stranger among them. They should so far understand his circumstances as to know what he is longing to make him comfortable, and should be on such terms that they may readily and cheerfully furnish what he needs. And they are to “know” or regard them as their spiritual teacher and rulers; not to be strangers to the place where he preaches the word of life, and not to listen to his admonitions and reproofs as those of a stranger, but as those of a pastor and friend.

“*And are over you in the Lord*” – That is, by the appointment of the Lord, or under His direction.

☐ (JFB) “*We beseech*” As a personal favor. To have respect for their office, and treat them accordingly, with reverence and liberality in supplying their needs. The ministers must labor with their people, to instruct, comfort, and edify them. And they must rule, not with rigor, but with love. They must not exercise dominion as temporal lords; but rule as spiritual guides, by setting a good example to the flock. If ministers should labor among the people, then, the people must know them. They must esteem their ministers highly in love; they should greatly value the office of the ministry, honor and love the persons of their ministers, and show their esteem and affection in all proper ways, and this for their work's sake, because their business is to promote the honor of Christ and the welfare of men's souls. Note, Faithful ministers ought to be so far from being lightly esteemed because of their work that they should be highly esteemed on account of it. (To honour).

Hebrews 6:10-14 – (10) *For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which ye have shewed towards his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister. (11) And we desire that every one of you do shew the same diligence to the full assurance of hope unto the end. (12) That ye be not slothful, but followers of them who through faith and patience inherit the promises. [Sons inherit.] (13) For when God made promise to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he sware by himself (14) Saying, Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee.*

Judges 17:6 – “*In those days Israel had no King so the people did what ever seemed right in their own eyes.*”

- ☐ (J.F.B.) Here he warns them not to become "slothful" in mind and deed. He will not become slothful who keeps always the end in view; hope is the means. Slothfulness will produce the absence of hope. Patience, long-suffering endurance, LOVE.
- ☐ (Clarke's) That ye be not slothful. This shows how the full assurance of hope is to be regulated and maintained. They must be diligent, slothfulness will deprive them both of hope and faith. That faith which worketh by love will maintain hope in its full exercise. That ye be mimics or imitators of them who are inheriting the promises. And they inherited these promises by faith in him who is invisible, and who, they knew, could not lie: and they patiently endured, through difficulties and adversities of every kind, and persevered unto death.
- ☐ (Barnes) Inactive. By diligent and strenuous effort only could they secure themselves from the danger of apostasy. Be followers imitators the you may live as they lived.
- ☐ (Wycliffe) Though he has just spoken in severe words of warning, he says he is convinced of the better things of them.
- ☐ (Robertson's) Be imitators or mimic. The writer wishes to hold and develop these sluggards through those who inherit the promises.

2 Kings 2:9 – “*And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. Am Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.*”

2 Kings 2:9 – (NLT) “*What can I do for you before I am taken away? And Elisha replied, Please let me become your rightful successor.*”

2 Kings 2:12, 15 – “(12) *My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. ... (15) And when the sons of the prophets which were to view at Jericho saw him, they said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him.*”

2 Kings 2:15, NLT – “*Elisha has become Elijah's successor!*”