

The Anointing for Apostolic Oversight

I learnt a number of important maxims for my life in my early adulthood. One was: 'Don't get into debt'¹. Another was: 'Don't judge others'². I also learnt to be a listener, less prone to babble on with my own desire to inform others, but more interested in actively listening.³ All these came from reading scripture, but each maxim was delivered as a *rhema*.



A third one came from an understanding of the futility of trying to please everyone which I gained from the children's story of 'The Miller and His Donkey'⁴. As a consequence of this and being a 'listener' I developed the habit of letting others give their point of view, and then weighing them all up before making a decision.

So today, in my apostolic oversight role for KLC, I listen to what members say, but I am not influenced by them if I have a leading from the Spirit. I will not listen to 'natural' wisdom when I have heavenly wisdom and a Kingdom assignment to undertake. Being controlled by others, whether it's manipulation or their desire to push their view, does not impact me as I need not submit to the fear of man, the thing that causes peer pressure to be successful. TD Jakes gives an example of this pressure:

“One of the things that causes us not to be able to be as focused as we ought to be is because we are distracted by other people. We're distracted by other people. My son, my older son's Jermaine. Jermaine taught me how to wear a baseball cap. Now, I've been wearing baseball caps before they were born but they came up to me, “Aww, daddy you can't go out there like that. That's not how we wearing them any more.” They got to wear them straight, so you had to press it straight. And then I went on a couple of years, I finally got used to it. I'm now thinking I'm supposed to curve it in real tight around the head. And then Dexter came along, he's younger and looked at it curved around my head an' all, “Daddy, you can't go out with me looking like that. You got to have it straight.” And all of us, and my whole opinion about what the baseball cap looks like has been influenced by somebody else.”⁵

When I was given the responsibility by the Lord for our Community, it was given to me as a Kingdom assignment. It didn't come from men, it was a commission from Heaven. As such it has extras added to it – favour, blessing and anointing. Whenever our King gives a son – any son – an assignment he resources it and empowers it. No matter what the task, if it's a King's commission which a person knows through their spirit, there will be added anointing to it, over and about their normal level. This anointing allows them to have more wisdom, more understanding, etc., for the job.

My apostolic oversight is important for the safety, stability and benefit of the group. No one else has the anointing to do that job at the present time. In the same way, I don't have the anointing to do the job of another person. We must understand that in the Kingdom there are spiritual dynamics that don't exist in the worldly workplace or in the home.

My task is also to protect the oversight function from corruption. To that end I've made myself accountable to every member, allowing them to keep an eye on me and to bring to my attention anything that they think is out-of-line. On the other 'foot', I won't permit spiritual people usurping my position of oversight or for anyone to become the *de facto* oversight of me.

My function is not control, it's governance. This is in accordance with the apostolic oversight of the first

1 – Romans 13:8

2 – Matthew 7:1

3 – James 1:19

4 – www.youtube.com/watch?v=js8zB6n6jW8

5 – TD Jakes (2017) “Start deleting distractions, so you can focus!” (youtu.be/_otfZEXBV9o)

groups of believers in the Middle East in the 1st Century and with the apostles⁶ and administrators⁷ that God placed in those groups. Their purpose is to “fully equip *and* perfect the saints (God’s people) for works of service, to build up the body of Christ”⁸, and to bring the group into “oneness in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God, [growing spiritually] to become a mature believer, reaching to the measure of the fullness of Christ [manifesting His spiritual completeness and exercising our spiritual gifts in unity]”⁹.

The essential role of prophets and apostles is to keep the group focussed on what Heaven wants and to ensure that that is understood by the pastors and taught by the teachers. Without the role of the prophetic, didactic and apostolic in a community, spiritual maturity is curtailed. In that respect, here's a question to think about.

QUESTION: “If I went overseas for 5 years you would re-equilibrate yourself spiritually in my absence. So, what would you be like after those 5 years? Would you have steamed ahead, stayed in a rut, or slid back into your old self?

I don't have any control over your spiritual maturation, that's your responsibility. I'm just available to help raise you up into your place of service in the Kingdom and to provide what's necessary for your balanced growth and development.

Laurence

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6 – Ephesians 4:11; 1 Corinthians 12:28

7 – 1 Corinthians 12:28

8 – Ephesians 4:12

9 – Ephesians 4:13