



EXCELLENCE AT TWCC

S T E P P I N G U P H I G H E R A N D B O L D E R F O R G O D !

TWCC Teaching Handout – Wednesday, November 1st, 2017

EXCELLENCE - "Let's Step It Up!"

- **Philippians 1:9 – 11 (NKJV)** – “And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are **excellent**, that you may sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.”
 - **V 10 Amplified Classic** – “So that you may surely learn to sense what is vital, and approve and prize what is **excellent** and of real value [recognizing the highest and the best, and distinguishing the moral differences], and that you may be untainted and pure and unerring and blameless [so that with hearts sincere and certain and unsullied, you may approach] the day of Christ [not stumbling nor causing others to stumble].”; **Read Daniel 6:1 – 3 NKJV**
- **THE KEY TO PROMOTION:** We don’t have to attend the “school of _____ knocks” in order to gain wisdom and find _____. **1 Corinthians 10:1-11** says that the lives of the Old Testament saints were recorded as examples for us. If we take the time to learn from their life stories – both the good and the bad – we can avoid some of the _____ that comes when learning through trial and error.
 - In the book of Daniel, we see that Daniel and his three Hebrew friends gained _____ in an evil, ungodly society.
 - Like his three friends, Daniel was _____ because he had an _____ spirit.
 - The phrase “excellent spirit” only appears in the book of Daniel, yet the concept can be found throughout the Bible. (By the way, this word *spirit* isn’t talking about a part of someone’s makeup, like spirit, soul, and body; it’s referring to an _____.) Jesus often spoke of the importance of having an excellent spirit: “He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much.” – **Luke 16:10**; This concept is also in a parable – **Read Matthew 25:14-30 NKJV**
 - In this parable, it was the servant’s attitude that got him fired. We can also see a great attitude from examples like Joseph and David.
- **THE BIG LESSON AND QUESTION: Read Zechariah 4:10 NKJV**; Will you and will we choose to walk around and serve in a constant state of conflict and tension because what we envision or what we see is different than what we see in the natural? Will we despise small beginnings, new beginnings or small local ministry when we want big ministry? What is our attitude?
 - What is your mindset or mental attitude like when no one is looking or when you have to minister to one or two people?
 - People want the BIG STAGE, the STATUS and the SUCCESS; but forget that the Kingdom true promotion process is preceded by STOOPING to SERVE, SACRIFICING to SOW and SUBMITTING to SUPPORT others.
 - Though the temptation to give less than our best in there, God is calling all of us to be _____!
 - We must give TWCC (our guests, members, attendees, our community, our city, etc) all we _____! Our attitude today will solidify an _____ spirit inside of us and allow God to promote us to new places and new graces.
 - How many of us are willing to be faithful, even in the small things that no one sees? (Time, Talent and Treasure). We must remember, that we are not just here to “Do Church”, but to “Be the _____”. We are to _____ MINISTRY, not just DO MINISTRY. How many of us will keep a good attitude in the face of difficult circumstances? How many of us will remain true to our values, our culture and our convictions, even when it hurts? Will we develop an excellent spirit?
- **A HEART ISSUE: Read Psalm 78:41 NKJV**; Let’s take the limits off of God! Don’t settle for less or the path of least resistance!

Preparation, Principles and Process in Pursuit of EXCELLENCE

- Our challenge is to see how far we can press into greatness. **Philippians 3:14 (NKJV)** – “*I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.*”
- As we diligently follow God’s principles of excellence in every aspect of your life and ministry, I believe, our Father God will take us to a higher realm of ministering in His power than we’ve ever imagined was possible. Fruit will come forth in our lives and our Church life that will not only bless us (individually and collectively), but everyone around us. And God will use us mightily to build His Kingdom in our church (TWCC), our community, our city – even to the ends of the earth to the glory of God.

1st - BREAK THE POWER OF YESTERDAY! – The principles of _____ God has given us are the basis by which we can change our future and determine the outcome for our lives.

- Don’t become and “excusiologists”! It is important that we all assume 100% of the responsibility for pursuing the Will of God with “EXCELLENCE” and make 0% excuses. We must reach beyond our _____. We must refuse to allow the demons of our past and the demons that we have allowed to hinder, harass and hold us back and hold our families bondage to hold us down.
 - “Genetic Determinism” (**Numbers 14:18**) can be overcome IN CHRIST! **Titus 3:5** says our Father God has “re-engineered” us IN CHRIST!
 - God made us ALL winners IN CHRIST! – **Galatians 3:26, 28 (NKJV)**
 - **It’s Your Choice, It’s Our Choice**: Life is a series of choices, not a series of chances. So if God has called each of us into His ministry and we haven’t said yes, we should make excuses for ourselves. **Read 1 Kings 19:15 – 20 (NKJV)**
 - **We must always remember that there is no future in your past! YOU SEE, CHOICES ARE A LORDSHIP ISSUE.** God must be _____ in your life. If He is first in your life, that means His is first in how you choose to spend your time. It means that His call, plan and purpose for your life is the course you choose to pursue. YOU MUST PUSH OFF YOUR PAST AND GET RID OF YOUR YESTERDAYS. If you don’t dump all that baggage, you’ll be hopelessly side-tracked.
 - Believe in where you are headed in life, not in where you used to be. (**2 Corinthians 4:18 KJV**). Start praying for excellence! Cultivate your inner drive to pursue excellence with all your strength. Determine to reach beyond your yesterday’s so you can take hold of your God-ordained tomorrows.

2nd – PREPARE FOR THE CALL, PURPOSE AND PLAN OF GOD WITH EXCELLENCE: Read Acts 13:1 – 4 (NKJV)

- Preparation is absolutely vital to our future success! We get what we PREPARE for. Prepare to grow and increase, prepare to expand, prepare to sow and reap; prepare by prayer and intercession, etc.
- Some Principles of PREPARATION FOR EXCELLENCE: (**Read Mark 10:45 NKJV**)
 - (1) An Excellent Minister pursues the change that will prepare him or her for the future. (**2 Corinthians 3:18 NKJV**)
 - (2) An Excellent Minister chooses to dismantle his or her life in times when he or she can withstand the pain of change.
 - (3) An Excellent Minister embraces short-term denial in order to create long-term benefits. We must realize today’s excellence is tomorrow’s mediocrity!
 - (4) An Excellent Minister understands that lasting change requires rooting out yesterday’s pain in order to experience relief from yesterday’s memories.
 - (5) An Excellent Minister builds his or her life on firm foundation and lives life by his or her principles, not by his or her emotions.
 - (6) An Excellent Minister knows that testing is required for promotion. Passing the tests are the by-product of our preparedness and preparation.

Preparation, Principles and Process in Pursuit of EXCELLENCE continued...

- (7) An Excellent Minister is convinced that every step away from temptation is one step closer to God's dream with him or her.
- (8) An Excellent Minister knows that obedience to the known Will of God is the key to unlocking His unknown Will.
- (9) An Excellent Minister establishes God's principles in his or her life one step at a time.
- (10) An Excellent Minister uses focus to deliver him or her to his or her God-given destination. BROKEN FOCUS IS ONE OF THE GREATEST ENEMIES OF EXCELLENCE! There should be great joy to found in completing a task. However, if we live our lives in continual disappointment and frustration due to busyness, stress and the burden of ministry, we can become derailed and so many tasks that are started don't get finished. We have to break the cycle of living week to week and from one day to the next without a sense of accomplishment. WHEN YOU TAKE YOUR EYES OFF YOUR GOAL TO LIVING A LIFE OF _____, YOU WILL PRODUCE THE MEDIOCRITY YOU ARE FOCUSING ON.
- (11) An Excellent Minister cannot determine the time of his or her promotion, but he or she can prepare himself/herself for his or her reception of it.
- (12) An Excellent Minister always sets goals that he or she is willing to wake up with a passion for every morning.
- (13) An Excellent Minister pursues the finish line with as much passion as he or she pursues the starting block.
- (14) An Excellent Minister only knows one path to follow – the highest one.
- (15) An Excellent Minister embraces the Word of God as Heaven's only handbook on EXCELLENCE!

• **3rd – THE PROCESS REQUIRED TO PURSUE EXCELLENCE: “Changing Our Trajectory” (Read 1 Kings 17: - 7 NKJV)**

- **New People** (People Precipitate Change) Relationships Influence Us. “Show me your friends, and I'll show you your future.”
 - **New Problems** (1 Kings 17:12 NKJV); Expect to experience new problems and new pain. But God is faithful and God is good!
 - **New Places** – God is taking us (TWCC) to where we've never been before!
 - **New Possibilities** – Change always brings into our life new situations and scenarios that are in the realm of what can be.
 - **New Perspectives** – The new place we are in, the new people we are with, may bring you huge changes of perspective. (1 Kings 17:17 -24 NKJV); OUR OUTLOOK DETERMINES OUR OUTCOME.
 - **New Preparation** – The times of great change will also lead us into new preparation. Every level of life will require a new kind of readiness. The higher the level you enter, the greater the preparation needed.
 - **New Priorities** – Life's changes will also give us new priorities. Our priorities will have to be reordered. Our priorities are reflected in the things that we actually get done.
 - **New Passions** – (1 Kings 19:19 -20 NKJV)
 - **New Provision** - New resources of increase and income to fulfill our God-given assignment and Kingdom tasks. We must see and seize them by faith.
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