



# CITY CHAPEL SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

## MINISTRY SCHOOL Lesson 12 7 Principles Of Ministry

### INTRODUCTION

As we come to the closing lesson of Ministry School and start preparing for LEADERSHIP SCHOOL, we will now attempt to encapsulate what Ministry entails within seven key principles. This list of points is by no means exhaustive; however, they help to focus the mind on what ministry means and what is important.

### #1 IT STARTS WITH GOD.

*Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup> And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. <sup>3</sup> Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn." <sup>4</sup> So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."*

Exodus 3:1-4

I came over to England the country of my birth at the age of twenty-four and fresh out of Medical School. I was visiting my Sister who lived on the outskirts of London and was due back at the Teaching Hospital in Nigeria after my three-month break. Training to become a Doctor was 5-6 gruelling years of academic toil, blood and sweat! I was glad that it was over and many of us new graduates were looking forward to the new chapter of our careers,

The defining moment of my life was the night I walked into the University students all night prayer meeting. I entered as a Muslim and came out as a Born-Again Believer. The key statement I made to the God who spoke so clearly to me that night was, "you will be my God on the condition you speak to me everyday"



# CITY CHAPEL

## SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

The Father kept His Word and began a deep and meaningful commune between us from that night. As I arrived in the United Kingdom and began taking in the spiritual state of the Nation I was in shock. For some naïve reason, I had assumed that Britain was the ‘mecca’ of modern Christianity! However, I soon realised how different the reality was from my fantasy.

I began to ask the Father what the issue was with the United Kingdom. One day during those early days of my arrival, He spoke these words to me. *“You are not here by accident, but you are here by divine design. You are part of my recruitment to this part of the World in preparation for the Coming of My Son Jesus. Therefore, drop your programme and pick up my agenda”*

The Lord Himself called me as an Apostolic Missionary to these Isles and Europe. The call came from direct interaction and communication from Him. Many times when I was faced with very challenging situations in Life and Ministry, these words and His call have strengthened me and kept my feet on the path of ministry.

### **#2 YOU HAVE COME TO SERVE NOT BE SERVED**

<sup>25</sup> But Jesus called them to *Himself* and said, “You know that the rulers of the **Gentiles lord it over** them, and those who are great exercise **authority over them**. <sup>26</sup> Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, **let him be your servant**. <sup>27</sup> And whoever desires to be first among you, **let him be your slave**— <sup>28</sup> just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

Matthew 20:25-28

**Another word for Minister is Servant.** The Lord says that the person in the Kingdom that is considered GREAT is the one who serves. This is a very important key to the heart of God, the place of humility.

God resists the proud but helps the humble. The most High God loves to connect with those who have lowly hearts and are ready to serve.

For thus says the High and Lofty One  
Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:  
“I dwell in the high and holy *place*,  
With him **who has a contrite and humble spirit**,  
To revive the spirit of the humble,  
And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.  
Isaiah 57:15



# CITY CHAPEL

## SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

### **#3 IT IS ABOUT THE GOSPEL ULTIMATELY**

<sup>31</sup> "Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' <sup>32</sup> For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. <sup>33</sup> But **seek first the kingdom of God** and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Matthew 6:31-33

**The main thing is to keep the main thing, the main thing, says Stephen Covey.** There are so many things that a church or ministry does these days. In the busyness of church and spiritual activity, we can sometimes lose focus on the main goal.

Many Christians are pulled into many things that are good and necessary but if the end goal is not fulfilling the Great Commission directly or indirectly, those things cannot be considered ministry but perhaps humanitarian.

<sup>41</sup> And <sup>42</sup> Jesus answered and said to her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things. **But one thing is needed,** and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."

Luke 10:41

**Everything we do in ministry must ultimately BRING PEOPLE TO CHRIST one way or another. This either to BEGIN a relationship with Him or DEEPEN the relationship in Him.** Everything else that diverts from that is a distraction. If you are clearing the beach so that the marine life do not get contaminated by the debris, this is NOT ministry but aiding the Planet. You can of course do these lovely things in addition to ministry but not REPLACE ministry.

### **#4 SUFFERING**

<sup>25</sup> Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; <sup>26</sup> *in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;* <sup>27</sup> *in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness—* <sup>28</sup> *besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches.* <sup>29</sup> *Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to stumble, and I do not burn with indignation?*

*2 Corinthians 11:25-29*

In the course of serving the Lord and expanding the Kingdom, you will suffer. This is sound doctrine and should be received as such. There are segments of the church that actively teach against suffering and will dismiss any notion that Christians should expect or welcome suffering. However there are too many scriptures that bear this out for us to dismiss.

But you, be sober in all things, **endure hardship,** do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

2 Timothy 4:5

**Suffer hardship** with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 2:3



CITY CHAPEL  
SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

for I will show him how much **he must suffer** for My name's sake."  
Acts 9:16

For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, **but also to suffer for His sake,**  
Philippians 1:29

Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in **suffering for the gospel** according to the power of God,  
2 Timothy 1:8

And **if one member suffers,** all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.  
1 Corinthians 12:26

yet he has no firm root in himself, but is only temporary, and **when affliction or persecution arises** because of the word, immediately he falls away.  
Matthew 13:21

"Then **they will deliver you to tribulation, and will kill you,** and you will be hated by all nations because of My name.  
Matthew 24:9

except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, **saying that bonds and afflictions await me.**  
Acts 20:23

for this reason, brethren, **in all our distress and affliction** we were comforted about you through your faith;  
1 Thessalonians 3:7

In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by **various trials,**  
1 Peter 1:6



CITY CHAPEL  
SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

**#5 DO NOT TRUST IN PEOPLE**

Some *trust* in chariots, and some in horses;  
But we will remember the name of the LORD our God.  
<sup>8</sup>They have bowed down and fallen;  
But we have risen and stand upright.  
Psalm 20:7-8

The Bible actively talks about Trusting God but teaches against trusting IN Human beings. There is a big difference between trusting people and trusting in people.

<sup>24</sup> But Jesus, for His part, **did not entrust Himself to them**, because He knew all *people* [and understood the <sup>25</sup>superficiality and fickleness of human nature], <sup>25</sup> and He did not need anyone to testify concerning man [and human nature], for He Himself knew what was in man [in their hearts—in the very core of their being].  
John 2:24

You will find out as you walk with the Lord that He is very sensitive about this subject. He wants His Minister to always trust in Him and not shift that trust into things and people. That is why God and Money (mammon) cannot coexist in the Believer's 'trust chamber'.

It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man.  
Psalm 118:8

Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.  
Jeremiah 17:5-6

Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation  
Psalm 146:3



# CITY CHAPEL

## SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

### **#6 FIND A HEALTHY BALANCE OF REST AND FAMILY**

<sup>30</sup> The apostles [who had been sent out on a mission] gathered together with Jesus and told Him everything that they had done and taught. <sup>31</sup> He said to them, “Come away by yourselves to a secluded place **and rest a little while**”—for there were many [people who were continually] coming and going, and they could not even find time to eat. <sup>32</sup> And they went away by themselves in the boat to a secluded place. <sup>33</sup> Many [people] saw them leaving and recognized them and ran there together on foot from all the [surrounding] cities and got there ahead of them.

Mark 6:31

**Ministry is a bottomless pit of needs**, so resist the temptation of trying to save the world! That is not your job. Your role is to serve the Lord and always obey Him. So do not engage in activities that are good and great but do not concern God’s job description for you. Many more gifted and resourceful than us have tried but ended up burnt out.

<sup>26</sup> Therefore I do not run without a definite goal; I do not flail around like one beating the air [just shadow boxing]. <sup>27</sup> But [like a boxer] I strictly discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached [the gospel] to others, I myself will not somehow be disqualified [as unfit for service].  
1 Corinthians 9:27

To prepare for a major task [Luke 4:1-2, 14-15](#).

After Jesus was baptized He spent 40 days praying in the wilderness. After this He was tempted by Satan and then began His public ministry.

To recharge after hard work [Mark 6:30-32](#).

Jesus sent the 12 disciples out to do ministry. When they returned He encouraged them to separate from the people who were following them to rest.

To work through grief [Matthew 14:1-13](#).

After Jesus learned that his cousin John the Baptist had been beheaded, He went away by Himself. Yes, even the Son of God grieves.

Before making an important decision [Luke 6:12-13](#).

Early in His ministry Jesus spent the whole night alone in prayer. The next day He chose his 12 disciples.

In a time of distress [Luke 22:39-44](#).

Hours before Jesus was arrested He went to the Mt. of Olives and went a short distance away from His disciples to pray. He was in great emotional agony knowing what he was about to face.

To focus on prayer [Luke 5:16](#). Many times in Jesus’ ministry He spent time alone in prayer.



# CITY CHAPEL SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

## **#7 CHARACTER IS KEY**

<sup>5</sup> For this reason I left you behind in Crete, so that you would set right what remains unfinished, and appoint <sup>[a]</sup>elders in every city as I directed you, <sup>6</sup> namely, a man of unquestionable integrity, the husband of one wife, having children who believe, not accused of being immoral or rebellious. <sup>7</sup> For the <sup>[b]</sup>overseer, as God's steward, must be blameless, not self-willed, not quick-tempered, not addicted to wine, not violent, not greedy for dishonest gain [but financially ethical]. <sup>8</sup> And he must be hospitable [to believers, as well as strangers], a lover of what is good, sensible (upright), fair, devout, self-disciplined [above reproach—whether in public or in private]. <sup>9</sup> He must hold firmly to the trustworthy word [of God] as it was taught to him, so that he will be able both to give accurate instruction in sound [reliable, error-free] doctrine and to refute those who contradict [it by explaining their error].

Titus 1:5-9

If you are going to represent Christ and His Kingdom well, then you have to enrol in the School of Character building. This the foundation and fruit of a transformed life in Christ that acts as a witness to non-believers. The call for Ministers is not for the perfect people but for transformed lives.

Colossians 3

<sup>12</sup> So, as God's own chosen people, who are holy [set apart, sanctified for His purpose] and well-beloved [by God Himself], **put on a heart of compassion**, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience [which has the power to endure whatever injustice or unpleasantness comes, with goodtemper]; <sup>13</sup> bearing graciously with one another, and 3.

**willingly forgiving** each other if one has a cause for complaint against another; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so should you forgive. <sup>14</sup> Beyond all these things put on and wrap yourselves in [unselfish] love, which is the perfect bond of unity [for everything is bound together in agreement when each one seeks the best for others]. <sup>15</sup>

Let the peace of Christ [the inner calm of one who walks daily with Him] be the controlling factor in your hearts [deciding and settling questions that arise]. To this peace indeed you were called as members in one body [of believers]. And be thankful [to God always].

<sup>16</sup> Let the [spoken] word of Christ have its home within you [dwelling in your heart and mind—permeating every aspect of your being] as you teach [spiritual things] and admonish and train one another with all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. <sup>17</sup> Whatever you do [no matter what it is] in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus [and in dependence on Him], giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

## **END OF MINISTRY SCHOOL**

**Download all outlines 1-12 and file them into your folder and target your Disciples to teach them everything you have learnt.**