

Chapter 11 (Blind and Beggars)

“Let us practice the fine art of making every work a priestly ministrations. Let us believe that God is in all our simple deeds and learn to find Him there.”- A.W. Tozer

In university I stood at the front of the class. What were they waiting for? Of course, it was me. I had hesitated. You see, in my pastoral preaching class they have the original pulpit of A.W. Tozer. He was revered as a great preacher and communicator. The trouble was the pulpit. Half that year we sat studying preaching. In the corner of the class was this monstrosity of a pulpit. It was tall, made of wood, and you didn't preach at it but in it. My goodness, it even had steps. How was I going to honor this pulpit and Tozer? So, I paused.

All that a ministry person does in their lifetime is fill the shoes of the people before them. What are the best and worst of times? It's replacing greatness. In sport, usually the next one fails. The expectations are too high. That day in school I climbed the stairs. There I placed my hands on the wings of this pulpit. I felt like Tozer for the first time. The power, majesty, and honor of speaking in the name of Christ Jesus. What a daunting task considering all the shoes we fill.

As we leave university the world is our oyster. Are we the shining pearl within? I was made for ministry. I was made for church. Every bone in my body screamed ministry. Yet, I do hear the words of Tozer.

“Let every man abide in the calling wherein he is called and his work will be as sacred as the work of the ministry. It is not what a man does that determines whether his work is sacred or secular, it is why he does it.”- A.W. Tozer

What is the ministry? I always return to the dictionary. You have a choice. Ministry can be described as a governing office. The other side is that ministry is administering to someone. I contend you cannot have it both ways. As one person you either serve people or you govern the

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state. For too long ministry leaders thought that they owned their ministry. That each one of them were hired directly because they were qualified, ordained and sanctified. As we leave school the lights get dim. We tend to lose the mission while gaining a tittle. Many tend to govern far more than tend to the sheep.

“Beware of any work for God that causes or allows you to avoid concentrating on Him.

A great number of Christian workers worship their work.”- Oswald Chambers

Christianity is different. Let me say it again, Christianity is different. Do you really think that ministry can be decided by charts, spreadsheets, and numbers? Does the time you take to create ministry within meeting after meeting justify the time lost ministering? In my youth, my mom went to weight watchers. At that time, she had a motto on the wall that talked about all the reasons we eat too much. At the end it stated “what a fool I am.” Ministry and meetings need that motto pasted on their foreheads so that every time they sit down for the long haul, they can see the fool clearly across from them.

Matthew 5:16 *“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”*

Matthew 5 is extremely daunting to ministry leaders. You will be held accountable. You will be securitized in heaven. The flip side is who will be honored in heaven. Not once did Jesus say it will be ministry leaders. No, he said it will be the humble, poor, and merciful. Just chew on that ministry leaders? Over the years we have excluded some fine Christian people in ministry. Their ministry ideas were ignored. Why? It's because it was not someone else's idea. Sometimes, an idea arises but it's dismissed because funds are low. Maybe they said the time

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was not right. Yet, a Christian, called by God to start a ministry is standing at your door. What great things were ignored or abandoned when God was calling?

You will be held accountable. I do believe we all get into ministry for the right reasons. We want to show the love of God. The issue I have is in how ministry is administered. How often did the disciples question Jesus on ministry? The questions flew. “Why are we feeding them.”

“Why are you talking to her?”

I love John 11, directly because Jesus was doing ministry to his own drummer. He was driving them nuts with his reckless behavior. They just tried to stone you! You want to go back! I love Thomas too. He would make a great ministry leader. “We can’t do that it’s too dangerous.”

“Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

Can’t you hear the excuses “We don’t have enough money”.

“It needs prayer.”

Just say anything to keep ministry safe and quiet.

Sometimes I just don’t think we get God. Imagine the Israelites leaving Egypt. I wonder how many of them were looking back as they moved forward? It’s Biblical to do that just ask Lot’s wife. Jesus said in John 9:62 “*No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.*” Yep, that is it. Ministry leaders that always say “we can’t”, “we

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must tread lightly”, and “we shouldn’t” you are not fit for ministry. These types of leaders are way too passive for Jesus. He is always moving forward without excuses.

They are the blind too. The pastoral love to say “*in the past this is how it usually goes*” or “*Statistically speaking.*” I love this one “*I don’t know what we will do, but it will not be your way.*” Either way, many things will be debated and scrutinized for hours in ministry meetings. I’m betting that if a pastor cancelled all the meetings for the month they would be horrified. Two things would be clear. One is that the total hours saved would be staggering. The second is that church would still be standing by the fourth Sunday. I just think they put on the horse blinders of ministry and miss the little things. The simple things.

Why do I say blind? It’s that we are trained and conditioned to be corporate. Let’s have a meeting to gather the minds. We can brainstorm new ideas and new ways of reaching the masses. Yet, all along the way the church is running behind the scenes. People come and people go. Ministry leaders are much less concerned with the leaving than the coming. If everyone leaves, it’s back to the boardroom to debate a new idea. The Blind don’t really see people. They see sustainable ministry. That means we need to keep the revolving door well oiled.

I mentioned (a few times) my kids’ colossal debacle in a youth group. Did the leaders that cornered and threatened them see kids or the mission? My kid and his friend have not gone near church for twenty years since that night. That ministry worked! Honestly, how many kids from that night still attend a church? You don’t want to know. I can still hear the swish of a revolving door.

Oswald Chambers is right. Far too many people idolize the ministry. They have been given authority and power. It’s theirs. They created it. My favorite is that they are chosen to lead.

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Listen closely “over others?” If the numbers are good then the ministry thrives and survives. Do they take a health survey? Sure, the numbers are good. I asked to run a ministry for the divorced. They let me do it with one small clause. No pulpit time, promotion, or funds. Patrick, you can promote it on your own. Nobody came and it disappeared. Honestly, the church was never interested in helping.

Is it more that I tried poorly or that the leadership cared poorly? I fully believe they just wanted me to go away. My ideas were not their ideas. Now, their ministries got pulpit time. Their ideas found their way into the sermons. Their ministry was given budget considerations. How is that possible? The ministerial leadership were on the board that decides what is budget and what is on the docket Sunday. It’s pretty simple. My attempt at ministry? Those numbers were lost in the shuffle, I’m sure.

Maybe I’m just a sore loser? Ok, I’m sore about it. I had a pastor lead a friend to Jesus on the same street. It’s a nice story. That friend led a lady to Christ on the same block. Wow, God was moving. That older lady asked if she could return the favor with ministry. She wanted to make cards and letters for the congregation on their birthdays and anniversaries. They said no. Why might you ask? They asked where the money would come from? She said she would do it for free. They asked who would take it over if she left? Hence, it never happened. She left by the way through the revolving door.

Ministry is blind. Blind to those who really want to help. Blind to those who wanted to stay but had to leave. Blind to great ministries that would have bolstered the love. What is blind? Men and women that chose their hearts desires for their glory over the glory of others. You say it’s not so. Yet, PK kids are put on pedestals to be admired by their pastoral parents. Ministries are

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paraded across stages by those who invented them. However, the blind does not necessarily see what God wanted to do. There too busy parading.

Ask yourself these questions. Who are you targeting? Why are you targeting anyone? Does ministry target a need or a number? I knew a lady that was having a tough time at home, yet she served in a ministry. In the backroom, some fun-loving ministry leaders questioned her commitment to the cause. She was sad, slow, and distracted. Did they know the truth? Did they really care? Who asked her (from the ministry leadership) what was going on? In the back room, nobody did!

What is a need? I know companies and institutions that say we can eradicate poverty and bullying within 20 years. We can make this world a safer place. Yet, for 10,000 years we have had bullying and poverty. We have had rape and prostitutes. The other day I saw a praise on how the prostitute industry in Vegas is the safest in the world. Good for you! I was in a ministry meeting where the pastor cut a woman pastor off in mid-sentence and never returned to her. I will never forget the look on her face. She quit. Ministry fights for woman's rights? Blind as bats.

The woman at the well story is so good. If you look at a map, Jesus took the direct route. At times I feel that Jesus was intentionally walking towards God's will. Did he know the woman would be there? I just don't think so. The only reason I say that is his comments. He sent the disciples for food. In Samaria? Jewish men would not be that welcomed in Samaria. There must have been tension. This would have not been friendly territory for Jews.

Secondly, it's Jesus' flavor. He just traveled and said words like reap, harvest, and signs. Jesus also mentioned that he had no bed to rest his head. It was not his purpose to live a

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comforting life. The mission is wherever he was, not necessarily where he wanted to be. I'm betting (with all things being equal) Jesus would have rather been in heaven with his Father. He had eyes on the mission.

The disciples are confused. Why are we here? Can't we keep moving? Did you notice Jesus came from Bethlehem? They had rejected him there. On his way through rejected Samaria the disciples wanted to reject them too. Then Jesus stops. Why? To prove a point? No, Jesus stops because the Spirit said stop. The disciples leave and a woman arrives. Is it a divine encounter or dumb luck? I suspect it's a little of both. What drove Jesus into the wilderness? The Spirit leads. What drives Jesus? The Father's will. Was it dumb luck that the road traveled through Samaria? What if it was a divine encounter appointment that drew the woman and Jesus to the well?

Is it predestination that Jacob met Rachel at the well? There is no coincidence that this woman came at that time of the day to gather water. They always had a daily routine. Yet, Jesus seizes the opportunity to talk to the woman at the well. God provided spirit led opportunity and a village is changed forever. It's interesting that the disciples can't see it as a divine encounter although the villagers can. This is so rich. Then Jesus stayed for two days. That is ministry. Staying when you see God working. Half the time ministry stays where God is not working. There we stand trying to make it work. While God is off to the side working.

In John 4, Lazarus dies. Jesus is asked to come at once. Yet, he waits two days. What does he do? He travels 70 miles away from Lazarus. Back through dangerous unwanted territory. Isn't the ministry about consoling the grieving? That is where we get blind sometimes. It's a rule of thumb for morticians to help the living and bury the dead. Jesus purposely waited until Lazarus died. Why?

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He said that it's good he did not go. Why? It's a teaching moment. People die. Sometimes God does miracles. Yet, in-between there is work to do. The living is still here. It's here in John 4:9-10.

“Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble, because they see the light of this world. 10 But those who walk at night stumble, because the light is not in them.”

Did you read that? Jesus says “stumbles at night: blind? To do Gods will is to see what God sees. Night or day has no baring with God. The Israelites backed up to the Red Sea had no baring. God told Gideon it's not the number of men but the heart of the warrior. Solomon was fine until he gathered too much. Ministry is simple. Listen for God's small voice. If you can't hear it them maybe you're not listening. If you're not listening then maybe you need to ask why you're in ministry? Much of the time we are seeing where ministry should happen in our eyes. Yet, we can be blind to where God is doing ministry right under our nose.

“I didn't see that coming” is not an excuse. Yet, ministry trumps family right. You know it's true Mr. 60 hr. a week pastor. Right, (booked) family time pastors? What do many ministry leaders do when the going gets tough? They head out on a sabbatical. They travel to a quiet place. Is it really ever into the arms of their loved ones? You decry “I never saw divorce coming.” I never saw trouble with my kids coming.” Dam straight you didn't, you were never there.

I knew a pastor that spent a week at a monastery to get his head straight. You know a popcorn night with family just might have helped just the same. One weekend I went away on a pastoral staff retreat. The speaker had a story to tell of almost losing his wife because he worked

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too much. You want to know what blind is? That man was preaching family time yet he spent three days with us. Every one of us were not with our family. Hello? I'm all for team building but isn't your home family a team too?

Ok, you get my point. Ministry makes us blind to those around us. Family takes a hit. The lost are rarely seen. Great ministry drawn by God is lost in the shuffle or numbers through pride and blindness. We see what we want to see. How many divorces and lost pastors' kids must we except for Gods glory? I doubt God is pleased and honored. My problem is this. You can never say "you never saw it coming" if you were never there. That's called dropping the ball.

There is a crazy story of a man who was lame in John 5. Just let this roll around in your brain for a bit. 38 years this man needed help. 38 years! Who is to blame for this? I could say that the religious leaders passed him by every day. Not once did they pick him up. On the flip side, you're telling me he could not get in the pool for 38 years. Just for fun on a calculator that is 13,870 days. He played the victim for every single day of those 38 years.

Certainly, I will pick on the man. That is a very long time to wish, wonder, and plead. Clearly, he could have made some type of effort within that time. Yet, the story is played out in church sermons as an example. We need more resources. How many more victims are out there? Local Christians need to notice. However, ministry leaders abstain because it's their job to grow sheep. It's not their fault if the sheep are blind too. The kicker for me is that Jesus comes along and fixes it. Isn't he the leader? It's not rocket science. Just notice and fix it.

I know a church that is probably 40 years old or more. About 20 years into their existence a low-income housing project was built next door. One pastor was surprised that I went there during my internship. They had never been able to get a pastor to go. Does it really surprise you

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that the man in John 5 was waiting 38 years? Blind is what blind is. Yet, churches are begging for new people.

We are beggars too. People love to play the victim, 38 years begging. Wow! Do pastors script sermons for money? I can guarantee you that church holds mission fundraising dinners and end of the year sermons on giving. I attended a church that used a school for its children's ministry until they added on to the church for about 5 years. Not once did they offer to build the school playground. No, the school parents held a fundraiser. I know I was one of the parents. Yet, within that church, money was raised for a foreign ministry. Black kids were paraded across stages while local kids' clubs and schools lacked funds. A ton of devised begging goes on in a church.

We are blind to where God is. We are not blind to where we think God should be. Why is it that our very own missionary leaders have to spend a certain amount of time begging for funds? Why do church leadership teams hire consultants to raise building funds? Why? We love to beg. All the money and all the time to do the right things at probably half the cost is not the goal. Were blind to that. Instead, we are begging for the bigger things. The brighter things. Secular school playgrounds don't need begging but giving. Where is the fun in that?

Should church money go to non-Christian things? Now that is a question. I know a bread ministry that stopped because of time and cost. They wanted to give the gospel first and food second. Seriously! John 13:35 is just for Christian brothers "*By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.*" Because secular schools are technically not brothers in Christ you walk on by? Maybe the reason is they did not beg for 38 years first?

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Marie Enns has an inspiring mission in Cambodia. God opened her eyes to the need. Why must she come to North America constantly for funds? We have heard the plea from across the globe. Electronic funds transfer is really not that hard. Yet, that's not how we roll. We parade her across our stage. We highlight what "we" are doing for this poor fragile old woman and her poor destitute Asian kids. Then we use it as a massive spring board for missions giving. Yet, right in our own backyard is a school that had no playground. Patrick, that is local governments responsibility. Clearly!

How can we call our sermons biblical? We search for topics that push a ministry. Trust me, if I had a dime for every time a pastor mentioned a ministry in regards to a biblical point I'd be able to fund missions myself. We are so blind and targeted. We read a passage and it hits us. That would totally fit this or that ministry we are doing. Are sermons being taught or used? How dare you use Gods word as an example for something you want done. Was that really the point in the passage or were you caught looking?

Scripting prayer for money is a doozy. Oh, we love to find ways to beg. How often does a pastor pray that God will enable us? As if he hasn't to this point. How often has a pastor prayed that God would entice, pick on, and push us to give more? Yet, the real question is why isn't the money there to begin with? Where are the hearts looking to give? It's because were trained to beg. Further to that, were trained to give only when the beg comes.

There is a famous experiment called Pavlov's dog. They studied the saliva levels of a dog when given treats. What they found is that the dog took cues more than just being hungry for food. We know how that works. Just watch commercials. Just drive by the golden arches. In church, we are the dog waiting for the cue. Many in a congregation only give by cue. Pastors are trained to beg with cues too.

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I was part of two building projects that were quite different. The first asked straight up for the money to build. This particular church raised the whole fund within a year. It was stunning. To that point, another local church gave them 25,000 dollars too. Who ever heard of that? I was there the night they presented the cheque. I'm positive there was not a dry eye in the house.

Secondly, I got an invitation in the mail from my home church. They were asking the membership to come to an evening of inspiration and instruction. Our coats were taken at the door. There was, laid out before us, a really fancy roast beef dinner. During desert they played a video from the lead pastor. He was asking for money to redesign the church. Ah, the building project.

Several couples were offended. Yes, I was too, but why? All they had to do was ask. The shmoos and kiss ass approach was insulting. All you had to do was ask. Yet, they felt inclined to beg. I will bet you thirty couples left that church within a year directly because the church leadership didn't trust our hearts. Also, they missed the target by a ton. Some people even stopped giving their commitment. The problem always was that begging precedes asking. I know a church that has an offering slot on a wall. It's odd that they don't miss budget. Why? That church loves to give with a joyful heart. They are not trained for the cue.

Why on earth are we passing a bucket or bag? Just drop it already. Must you really beg? Sure, I needed a giving sermon so you understand my role in the church. I get it. Yet, laid out in our prayers and sermons is the beg. Pastors come up with a yearly plan. We're going to do this, this, and certainly this. Then we weave and twist the gospel around what we want to achieve. In comes the carefully crafted begging cues like missions' weekend. Let's bring in Marie Enns to pull the strings.

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Who is ministry for? The people Patrick. Actually, your wrong. It's to glorify our Father in heaven. When sinners help people in the name of God, he is glorified. Trust me, there is not a ton of giving in this world. Why are we so strung out these days on rich vs poor? It does not take a rocket scientist to see the need. Why is their need? We will always have the poor and we will always have tight fists. There is always need in our own home towns directly because our mission budgets out shine the local giving.

At church, it works this way. How can a church survive? How can a pastor survive? I am all for paying a minister. Yet, we are blind to those (in-need) next door directly because the pastor has horse blinders on. He sees his job. He sees his church, ministry, and forecasting. Everything that is wrong with church begging is correlated to the job sustainer. Financing ministry overseas for poor little black kids looks wonderful. Ministry to the food bank looks caring. Ministry next door to a government run low-income program?

I had a conversation with a local food bank administrator. She was a Christian. With a sigh and a huff, she said that they don't approach the 9 churches in the community anymore. They had a massive budget at the food bank. All the churches (in total) gave a little more than 5000 dollars. That is with two churches with over a million-dollar budget. I was sickened by that. Yet, I know one of those churches boasted they gave to the food bank

It's a power play. It makes you look like you're doing something. Busy as beavers. Imagine if you just ministered to the church and community? What if we supported things that were not Christian? Imagine that? In meetings, conferences, and planning forums do we invest in the little things? I knew a pastor that had money troubles. Nobody knew. Each ministry in the church thought someone else was paying him. Eventually they did resolve it. In the meantime, he was having sexual trouble with a minor in the church. Do we really see what's going on in the little

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details? Are we just setting up the next beg to keep the job open? All the while, little fires are burning (like a bush).

The trouble is this. That stupid little saying about insanity is way too real for me. The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over expecting different results. We are idiots in church. Beg for money and know damn well your own people are not giving like they should. Begging because you have to. Why not try building a church that has a heart of giving? That type of teaching and relationship building takes too much time. It looks terribly slow.

Pastors say that is not that simple. I suppose Acts 2 is just an allegory for something else. It can't be real. This is insanity. There are bright spots. I know there are. Some churches give as much to the community as they can. However, church is generally irrelevant in our communities. Most social programs are government run. Here's a novel idea? We should not give to the food bank. No, we should be the food bank. We should not give to the local afterschool program. We should be the local program. Yet, we are blind beggars. We don't see the need in the community because they are not begging for our godly help.

One day, I was asked why I had not saved more people. I said I was a seed planter. It is true, I am. Yet, the question remains. God is asking me too. Why have I not saved more people? My excuses come in threes. One is that I have no church to send them to. Further to that my excuse goes deeper. I can't stand how many churches are towards people. Secondly, I have been hurt by the church. I am not in church ministry. I wanted their help. They don't do things my way. Thirdly, I am exhausted with Christianity. Those two men who renounced their Christianity were exhausted too. Yet, we could do something, but the excuses make us blind and begging. That includes me!

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We scream “we are done with being blind but (within that) we are blind. Us who claim exhaustion say we are a victim of bad Christianity. Yet, we are emulating bad Christianity. Just do nothing because someone else will not hold our hand. The victim card will not fly in heaven. God is always working, by the way, Mr. horse blinder and church hater. Why does God usually work best outside the church? It’s where the lost are stupid! The church victim will have no excuse in heaven. Why? It’s because all that matters is helping where God needs us. We have no excuse to ignore the lost outside church walls while our heart has a pity party.

Why can’t church just give to the local need? Why must we give way more to overseas missions than we do at home? They say that the rest of the budget is for home. Come on people. church ministry is the sustainer for what is really meant to happen. Paying church bills and salaries is not doing home missions. It’s not helping the poor right next door.

Local church budgets should have a full-time pastor that is having a hard time giving it away. The trouble begins with honesty. The sanitized pastoral safety program has to go. Church traditions may include website blockers, tithing deductions, and congregation projections tied to a pastoral team. Performance based ministerial is a terrible idea. Moses and David had terrible performance. Noah did too. So did Peter. Who had exemplary performance? How about Paul and Jesus. Two people that did not conform to normal ministry. They were Spirit led. Honesty and performance should come from free will. Ask Ananias and Saphira.

You see, pastoral safety programs that insulate behavior is terrible. You don’t trust your pastor? What about at home? Tithe with the heart rather than a deduction. I’m troubled by all these things. A pastor must come to work careful. Yes Patrick, it’s Biblical just read Timothy. Yet, the writer of Timothy was a reckless gentile lover. A local missionary minded man. His

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sermon on Mars hill is observant, interactive, and local knowledge based. He acted like one of them. Paul's ministry temptations were not safe.

Pastors, elders and ministry leaders must be given room to make mistakes. To sin and go get drunk? No! To join a local men's ball team: yes! Will there be cussing, drinking, and sexual comments? That's the real life of the lost. I'm betting that's the real life of Peter and the twelve. We need real people running people ministry. Real people want to engage real people. Segregated and secluded pastors will live as monks. Blind and begging.

Pastors that must have money and ministry highlighted are not letting the Bible speak to them. Oh no, they are looking, not listening. Ministry highlight weekends are agenda driven, not Spirit led. Agenda driven prayer to entice and convict is terrible Christianity. I know it's not that simple but getting your pastor out in the community should be a number one priority. The trouble is this. They spent the first 10 years of their adult life in school learning the ministry. They did not learn the mission field.

Top priority? All ministry leaders must know their Bible. I mean know it. Commentaries must be banned for sermon prep. Duh! Let the Bible speak to you not some dead guy. You must read the Bible and you must listen to God. If you can't listen to God then you can't listen to people. If God's voice is small and quiet then so are the sick, troubled, and lame. If you can't get a read on trouble in your church, you're in trouble. The Bible helps us slow down and smell the roses. See the roses too. You also just might see the thorns.

Make a pastor decide to give. Pay him or her well so they struggle with giving the right amount. They are people too. Pastors have desires and wants. Make them chose because you make the congregation chose. A choosing pastor will teach people how to choose wisely. How?

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Duh, they live it. A pastor that lives for his or her community will be that bridge. A Spirit led pastor that loves the community they reside in will be infectious. Other spirit lead people in his congregation will join in. They just will. Remember, the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness. Spirit led people are willing to be led.

There is only one way to stop begging. Stop begging. Teach giving well by being a giver. I know a church that gives well. Yes, they do have an offering. Yet, I know the pastor is a giver. His board are all in ministry that does pro-bono work with their skills. They are givers too. They have a very healthy budget. The Spirit that leads will have spirits being led.

Drop most of your pastoral meetings. Cut planning in half. Just preach the word. Listen for God's prompts. It's hard to hear them when you're planning other things. It's not about you. Sorry, it's not. Take on a local cause. Be the food bank. Make it a mission to see them thrive. They should not have to beg if a church of God is backing them. Do more ministry when the funds grow? Why? What a novel idea to give away more when funds grow.

Yes, send missionaries. Support them, don't just commission them off like a toy boat. Be their savior. Go to the cross for them as they will for others. Stop believing you were commissioned and ordained. Just stop it. It's Gods church, not yours. Jesus is building a place for you. Where? In his kingdom. You are just pastoring in one of his churches. Rooms?

It's simple. The more you justify your job the more you will justify your job. On to bigger and better things in the name of advancement. To this point the gospel has taken over 2000 years from Acts 2 to here. Have we really gone that far? There is still the poor, sin, and adultery. Quit trying to rescue sin. Be the very thing that Jesus died for. The sin changers. Not by changing sin but by changing your God given community one person at a time. It takes time to listen, love,

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and understand what it means to be a friend. A good friend captures a heart. No ministry can claim that. It's just numbers, spreadsheets, and wasted time being blind and begging.