

TITLE: THE ESSENTIAL ATTITUDE AND STRATEGY FOR SUCCESS- 'HAVING A PEOPLE ON THE GO'

Text: *1 Corinthians 4:1* "Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God"

Introduction: We live in a world that loves to take it easy. We want instant results- and we want them right now. Technology has made almost everything instantly accessible. The entire world is centred on making things as easy, fast, effortless, and painless as possible. People want to get everything they want instantly.

They don't understand there is a price to pay for true success. But whether we like it or not, the fact remains: True greatness, great achievements, and real success won't float to anyone on clouds that suddenly materialise above their heads.

If anyone wants to achieve something great and significant, he or she will have to put a lot of hard work and effort into making it happen. When we look at the life of Apostle Paul, according to some Bible scholars, it is believed that apart from Jesus Christ, the Apostle Paul affected Western civilisation more than any other man in human history. Paul achieved incredible accomplishment with his life. His epistles have impacted world history and leaders, and what he accomplished in his life and ministry remains legendary.

So let's look at Paul and ask:

- ❖ How did he do it?
- ❖ What kind of attitude did he possess regarding his life mission?
- ❖ What attitude did he possess that enabled him to dramatically affect his world?

In 1 Corinthians 4:1, Paul says,

"Let a man so Account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God"

Paul calls himself a "minister" in this verse. The Greek Word for Minister has a dramatic term that conveys the essential attitude necessary to get a job or assignment done - especially the work of the ministry. However, this word doesn't apply only to ministry. It also denotes the essential attitude a person must possess to become successful in any sphere of life.

Paul used this word to describe himself and his attitude toward the ministry. Paul was a successful man who understood what it took to get a job done - and

no word can explain this work ethic more accurately than the Greek word “*huperetas*” that Paul chooses to use.

This word described the kind of people who were responsible for keeping the engines of those huge ships on the move. The word describes those whose job was to keep rowing and rowing. They were called under-rowers because they lived and rowed down in the bottom of the ship. Their entire existence was devoted to keeping that ship moving toward its ultimate destination. Their job was to heave those massive oars forward and backward, pushing them through the water to make the ship move through the Sea and keep the ship moving to its destination.

This is the same word the apostle Paul uses to describe the attitude that is necessary to do what God has called us to do! God has called us to take our place in His salvation plan. We are to keep rowing, rowing, rowing and rowing, doing our part so that the Kingdom will keep advancing toward its ultimate goal which, is to see all men saved.

The principle for Church growth and the advancement of the kingdom is having a people on the GO! Jesus said,

“GO ye therefore and make disciples of all the nations...” **Matthew 28:19.**

If we don’t “Go” people will not come into the Church and into the kingdom. If you want to see Church growth we must Go or have a people on the Go! There is no shortcut to it. It’s a Covenant between God and us. You will do your part and God will do His part. God will not alter His part because He said

“My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips.” **Psalm 89:34**

Until we do our part God is not committed to doing His part. There are two things about the immutability of God: He cannot lie and He cannot change. We have to do it God’s way or no way at all because He said;

“...My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts.” **Isaiah 55:8 & 9**

In wining souls for Jesus and advancing His Kingdom, we must “Go” into the world, we must grab hold of an oar, so to speak, and start rowing, and advancing the Kingdom - our destination is to every city, every town, every village, and every hamlet and to the entire world. God has given us the power to row the kingdom:

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. Acts 1:8

The people who rowed the boat didn't quickly finish their assignment of rowing; it was their responsibility for a lifetime. In the same way, we need to realise that Soul winning endeavours is our lifetime responsibility. It takes hard work and a lifelong commitment to achieve the Great Commission and do great things that God wants to do through you and me.

We need to mentally and spiritually prepare ourselves for a long stretch at doing what God is calling us to do. It will certainly take strength, commitment and energy to move our Church vision from the realm of dreams to the realm of reality- so, let's all jump into the Church boat; take our place on the rowers' bench and start rowing with all our might, with all our strength and abilities! With each step of obedience we take and each day of faithfulness we live, we will come closer to the desired kingdom advancement destination which is the ultimate fulfilment of God's plans and purposes for our life.

We may live in a world that loves to take it easy and that delights in instant results. But in order to achieve the true greatness God desires for us, we all have to be determined, committed, and willing to do anything necessary to accomplish the Golden Commission and whatever else He has for us.

Real success doesn't float to you on clouds that suddenly materialise above your head. Therefore, I encourage all of us to make the decision to start putting a lot of hard work and effort into soul winning and making our kingdom assignment successful. It's going to take strength to do, so you might as well resolve to get started today!

Prayer Points for today:

- Lord I'm determined in my heart to jump into Church and grab an oar, and start rowing with all my strength
- Lord I realise that doing the minimum is never going to advance your kingdom, so right now I am making the choice to put all my energies forward to achieve maximum success in soul winning.
- Lord help me to be faithful, steadfast, unmoving, and unflinching in the face of opposition
- Lord help me to tell my flesh to be silent when it tries to scream out that I'm doing too much

- Lord help me as I choose to crucify the flesh and press forward with all the strength You give me. As I do this, please use me to win souls and advance your kingdom thereby fulfilling the Great Commission

Now ask the Lord for grace in the essential attitude you need for success

- Grace to receive the strength that you need
- Grace to commit to Soul Winning endeavours
- Grace to achieve all that God planned for you with maximum success in soul winning
- Grace to be single minded
- Grace to work hard and do whatever it takes to win souls.
- Grace to crucify the flesh and press forward
- Grace to become a great achiever
- Grace to maximise your potential and advance the kingdom

PROPHETIC DECLARATION

I confess that I will play my path in the fulfilment of the Golden Commission. I declare that I will win souls for the advancement of the Kingdom of God. I declare that I have the essential attitude needed for success.

I DECLARE THIS BY FAITH IN JESUS MIGHTY NAME!

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Pray for forgiveness of sins.

‘I bless the bread and wine and whatever you have. I declare it holy as a symbol of the blood and flesh of Jesus Christ.

I pray that as you partake of this communion; you will receive the essential attitude for success in every area of your life. I pray that God will give you spiritual understanding to know what you ought to do in this Prophetic season of revival.’

Give Jesus thanks!