Power Ministry and Evangelism Part 3 A Model for Staying in Step with Jesus

Thesis: We are a people who want to grow in our capacity, skill, and desire to reach others with the love of God.

Text: John 1:1-42; Acts 26:12–18; 1 John 5:21; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

The sermons I am sharing for the first half of this year were shaped by my experiences on the mission trip to Nigeria and the Global Prayerquake for January 3 – 12. I am grateful for our decades-long relationship with Apostles Mosy and Gloria Madugba. On the last day of the Nigeria Mission Trip, the Lord led me to a divine appointment with Evangelist Miracle Chris. That conversation spoke into our word for the year. And, during the *Ministers Prayer Network's Global Prayerquake*, the Lord reminded me of our calling as a church to move in the power of the Holy Spirit in ministry, evangelism, and warfare.

Let's remember that this is a time of reaping, not just sowing.

- 1. This is a time of reaping, not just sowing.
 - a. John 4:34 "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. 35 Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. 36 Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. 37 Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. 38 (1) I sent you to reap what you have not worked for. (2) Others have done the hard work, and (3) you have reaped the benefits of their labor" (John 4:34-38).
- 2. **Pay attention**. Lift up your eyes. The fields are white for harvest.
- 3. Hear what Jesus is saying: "I sent you to reap for that which you did not labor. Others have labored. You have entered into their labor."
- 4. Our prayer:
 - a. May we seize the opportunities to reap what has already been sown.
 - b. May we speak that word over our children and teens today to seize and reap where others have labored and sown.
 - c. Lord, empower all of us to seize the harvest that is ready and ripe today.
 - d. Lord, we ask for that grace to do that today; give us the reminders to do that today.

Let's remember that evangelism involves spiritual warfare.

- 1. We desire to get equipped to fight with the weapons of our warfare.
 - a. **2 Corinthians 10:3–6** (NIV84) 3 For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. 4 <u>The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world.</u> On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. 5 We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. 6 And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete.
- 2. We recognize that our fight is not against human beings, but against spiritual forces and darkness.
 - a. **Ephesians 6:10–18** (NIV84) 10 <u>Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his</u> mighty power. 11 Put on the full armor of God [which is the nature, character, presence, and power of Jesus so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. 12 For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. 13 Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. 14 Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, 15 and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. 16 In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. 17 Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. 18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints.
- 3. We want to let the Lord examine our expectations and assumptions.
 - a. **1 John 5:21** (NIV84) Dear children, keep yourselves from idols.
 - b. Evangelism also means dealing with idols in us as the evangelist, or messenger of good news.
 - i. Idol of misunderstanding what the gospel is.
 - ii. Idol of expectation on what needs to happen for the person to get saved or to come into a personal relationship with God.
 - iii. Idol of expectation of what harvest looks like and how it comes.
 - iv. Idol of expectation in how to reach each person.
 - v. We all have expectations and assumptions that the Lord wants to highlight and correct.
 - c. It is easy to adopt expectations and assumptions that are out of alignment with the way of Jesus and the kingdom of God.

- i. Taking over.
- ii. Setting up a theocracy.
- iii. Looking for king so that we can have shared power.

Let's remember that the gospel of the kingdom of God comes in word and works and in proclamation and demonstration-- as we walk in intimacy with God, as we follow the Lord Jesus, and as we depend upon the presence and power of Holy Spirit.

- 1. Matthew 4:23–25 (NIV84) 23 Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people. 24 News about him spread all over Syria, and people brought to him all who were ill with various diseases, those suffering severe pain, the demon-possessed, those having seizures, and the paralyzed, and he healed them. 25 Large crowds from Galilee, the Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea and the region across the Jordan followed him.
- 2. 1 Corinthians 2:1–5 (NIV84) 1 When I came to you, brothers, I did not come with eloquence or superior wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. 2 For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. 3 I came to you in weakness and fear, and with much trembling. 4 My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, 5 so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.
- 3. Luke 4:18–19.
- 4. Matthew 4:19.
- 5. Matthew 9:35-38.
- 6. Luke 9:1-2.
- 7. Luke 10:1-2, 9.
- 8. Matthew 28:18-20.
- 9. Acts 1:8.
- 10. Acts 10:38.
- 11. 1 Thessalonians 1:5.

QRST Ministry Model: Question, Reason, Solution, Teaching

Here is a model to help us in ministry, helping us stay in step with Jesus, so that we might proclaim and demonstrate the good news of the Kingdom of God. (See Luke 4:18-19; Matthew 4:23-28, 9:35-38, 10:1-8; Luke 9:1-2, 10:1-2; Acts 1:5, 8; 10:38; 1 Corinthians 2:4-5; 1 Thessalonians 1:5.)

=				

- What is the need or problem? Physical, emotional, spiritual, relational
- What hurts?
- What do you want God to do?
- Learn to listen both to the person and to the Holy Spirit.

R = Reason:

- Why is this person hurting?
- Why do they have this condition?
- · Why do they have this need or problem?

S = Solution:

- · How shall I pray?
- · How do I help?
- How are we doing?

Pray humbly, graciously, and sensitively whatever the Holy Spirit leads.
Pray with your eyes open: Watch for physical effects.
Ask questions: "What is God doing?"
Ask for feedback: "Does this mean anything to you?"
Bless whatever God is doing.
Stop praying when the person you are praying for indicates it is over, when the
Spirit tells you it's over, or when you cannot think of anything else to pray.

T = Teaching:

- Where do they go from here?
- Where does the Scripture address this need?

☐ General counsel of Scripture may be given ("go and sin r	no more").
--	------------

- ☐ Be open to supernatural leading for special direction.
- Always get them moving toward God. Encourage prayer, Bible study, Christian fellowship, worship, etc.
- Always thank the person for letting you visit or pray with them.

Action:

- 1. **May each of us recommit** to doing the works of Jesus and sharing the words of the Lord in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- 2. **May we both proclaim and demonstrate** the gospel of the kingdom of God in our spheres of influence. We do that in word and works.
- 3. **May we risk appropriately** and step out in faith to reach others with the love of God.
- 4. **May we continue to learn**: get new information, practice what we learn, reflect on our practice, and grow in our capacity to know and follow God.
 - a. Sign up for Ministry Team Training each time it is offered. The remaining sessions for this year are scheduled for July 26 and Oct. 18.

			_:		
N/I	nı	strv		m	Δ,
1711		JLI V			┖.