

Christ Our Perfect Example

The Lord Jesus poured 3.5 years of intense prayers, training, and ministry into 12 guys that He had personally handpicked. Jesus was the very explanation of God; He had a solid prayer life; He was the logos of God. Yet, every single one of those men that had been personally handpicked and trained by Jesus was flawed (even after He had painstakingly trained them).

Every single one of them denied Him when He was captured. After all the hullabaloo, one of Jesus' boys even committed suicide! Imagine the shame and scandal of it, a close associate of Jesus committed suicide! Those who were against His message would have had a field day. The Pharisee spirit with its kindred spirit, the Sadducee spirit, would have circled like vultures.

The Lord Jesus did not receive any of this "feedback" as a testimony that He had failed. Man of God, be careful how you measure "result." Don't judge too early. Trust the working of God's word. He received courage from knowing that He was in the Father's plan. He stayed His course. Stay your course too.

Eventually, the deposit of real ministry in those men was stirred up. Those **same** 11 men stood in the knowledge of who they were in Him and with that knowledge they shook and shaped the known world. Man of God, don't judge after the way things appear. Judge righteous judgment by trusting in the ability and potency of God's Word.

The message has already worked in that it has raised Jesus from the dead. That **Same** message on your lips will work miracles in your hearers, strengthen their resolve and bring forth fruit for God's glory. Stay in there!

The pure gospel is not for the lily-livered. It is a marathon. We don't back out, cave in, give up or rollover. Stay in the Word and be unapologetic about the finished works of Christ and keep contending earnestly for it.

Looking Unto Jesus

I have come to this cogent conclusion with the help of the Spirit that man does not want the truth. He will love you, praise you, bless you, support you, honour you, help you, cherish you, love you, finance you, connect you, accept you, push you, celebrate you, kowtow you, boot-lick you, flatter you and see you as his own as long as you will tell him what he wants to hear, show him what he wants to see, prophesy to him what he wants God to tell him, give him what he wants to receive and be around for him for all his selfish, ambitious and devilish needs.

We will preach the truth on the rooftop and in the bedchamber, rebuke as necessary, exhort as possible, correct as frequent, prophesy as led by the Spirit, and counsel in and with the truth. For in this is the Father honoured. I will rather sit, stand, and stay in the truth and die poor, unpopular, uncelebrated, without help, without support, without the honour of men, without the connection and contacts of men, unacceptable before the eyes of men, cursed in eyes of men, unsuccessful in the mad rush for fame, gain and luxury than to compromise the truth for the help of man and the praise of man.

Beloved, let's stand for the truth and die for it '*and they love not their lives unto death*', that is the conviction of the saint. Daniel 11:32 "*And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits*". Knowing God is knowing the truth for Jesus said "*I am the way, the truth and the life*", "*buy the truth and sell it not.*" The truth held and applied is strength, power, unction, blessings, and heaven on earth, favour, and life.

Beloved, whether you are an apostle, prophet, evangelist, teacher, pastor, labourer, missionary, lay worker, or whomever you are in Christ, stand by the truth and be set and made ready for the defence of the gospel. Nothing but the truth.