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Don't Be Irresponsible

*Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm. Let nothing move you.
Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord,
because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.* 1 CORINTHIANS 15:58

Sometimes people become so heavenly minded that they are of little earthly use. If you follow them you would see footprints revealing immature and unreliable behavior. What they try to pawn off as divine leading is really a human form of irresponsibility and justification for disconnecting with the reality of flesh and blood struggles in a sinful world.

I met a married couple that felt their ministry was to move from church to church and persuade pastors to attend certain Charismatic conferences in order to expose them to the "New Thing" that God was doing. It was evident that they had no concept of what it is like to have a long term relationship with people whom you are committed to and serve daily, weekly, monthly and year after year. As I understood their concept of ministry it became evident that the footprints they were making in life included a long list of churches, shallow and broken relationships including disappointments with leaders who did not embrace their ministry. Those who didn't get it were labeled as religious spirits.

The Antonym Of Irresponsibility Is Reliability

I normally put in from 10 to thirty hours of reading, studying and praying about every word I will speak or email to our fellowship and the regional church. They were taken back to learn how much time I spent preparing radio broadcasts, Sabbath teachings or writing eJournals. The husband was shocked that I would go through all that trouble to prepare before I ministered the Word of God. He Informed Me That Their Approach To Ministry Is:

We Just Walk In The Spirit And Expect Miracles

I cannot think of one Christian I have ever met who doesn't want to walk in the Spirit and see miracles. But it doesn't take a miracle to teach a Sabbath School Class or pray over the phone with someone who is hurting or visit someone in the hospital or clean up after church or a church dinner or be taught to pray for people or share a prophetic word or mow the church lawn or help someone in need by repairing or fixing something for them or lead a friend or family member to Christ or take meals to someone who had surgery or lost a loved one recently or to meet with others for intercessory prayer or visit someone in jail. These footprints reveal "Authentic Responsible Christianity." The Word of God says; "*we walk by faith, not by sight*" 2 Cor 5:7.

You Don't Need A Miracle To Act In Faith And Do Righteous Works, But You May Become The Miracle That Someone Else Was Praying For If You Do Them. Now That's Walking In The Spirit!

Don't get me wrong, I've been to conferences and enjoyed them, and I have seen God work life changing miracles even when I have departed from what was pre-planned! But it's wrong for us to put our hands in our pockets and our brains in a drawer, jump off the pinnacle and expect God to catch us because we are already on the way down.....that's not faith or living in the spirit, its foolishness and Jesus said thou shalt not tempt the Lord (Lk.4:9-12).

Wisdom Is Knowledge Rightly Applied

God is calling us to be responsible and reliable so *“that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him.”* ²

Thess 1:11-12 NKJV

The Apostle Paul said it this way; *“faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.”* James 2:17-18 NKJV

APPLICATION: Have you ever tried to hide your irresponsibility behind the pretense of I just do whatever the Holy Spirit tells me to do? Do you like authority but resist being accountable? Do you go here and there looking for the “New Thing” while presuming that God has passed your church by? Have you forgotten about the difference one committed believer can accomplish in faith? Study to become an approved workman and then leave footprints by faith in the Spirit on the earth; you become God's miracle to a lost world!