

Action Speaks Louder Than Words

Becoming A Performance and Purpose Driven Church

Acts 1: 6-11 NLT

6 “So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?”

7 He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know.

8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

9 After saying this, he was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, and they could no longer see him.

10 As they strained to see him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them.

11 “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into

heaven, but someday he will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!”

Introduction: Attentiveness, Awareness, Alignment and Action, must never be influenced by Alternative reasons or realities.

- **Observational viewing must be managed so that obstruction of duty never occurs and delays production, and disobedience takes over.**

Traditionally when we hear the word performance, we think of a stage presentation that consist of acting, dance or musical presentations. But another definition of the word performance and the one to which this teaching ascribes, carries a different interpretation.

Performance Driven:

- **The action or process of carrying out or accomplishing an action, task, or function.**

This definition gives profound clarity to where I find myself in regards to not only the future of the church, but the truthful facts that castrates the contemporary behavior of church people who have put their own spin on that which Jesus Christ established and intended.

Purpose Driven:

- **Purpose Driven is the idea of relevancy based upon the actual created reason for the existence of a thing.**
- **When something has been given a purpose, every plan implemented must be centered around that purpose, not the plan.**

Church Identity Challenges to Overcome:

- **Church has become a place that we attend and not a people that we have become.**
- **We tend to foster a religious appearance that looks like one thing but acts like something else.**
- **We've become more socially, politically, worldly and recreationally driven but in many ways, less spiritually relative, or relevant to a biblical mandate.**
- **As a result, we see no spiritual change in the things that we give so much of our time to.**

- **“If what we do, does not produce change where we are, then we must evaluate who we are, not where we are.”**
- **If division and demonic influences are dominating within the organization of a religious institution, then that religious institution will not be a change maker in the world.**
- **The word of God has to be taught, revered, mandated and accepted as the only authority within the Church assembly.**
- **Anything that over rules the Word of God is an idol of satanic infusion and an antithetical contradiction to a Christ centered movement.**

In other words; “It Ain’t No Church.” I want to reverberate something that I quoted in the message, When God Gets Through With His Church. I quoted.

- **“Whenever God builds something or instructs others to build something in his behalf, he has predetermined its design.”**

- **As Christians, we must remember that we are the Church of Jesus Christ, founded upon the principles and practices of his word.**
- **The Church is not a chartered institution found by men and established upon human ideas.**
- **We are to be the authentic and absolute authority of who Christ is, yielding fruit that represents his very nature.**

You see I clearly understand local, state and federal regulatory statues, but those statues do not overrule the biblical principles and tenets of our christian faith and alliance. We must be an assertive and anchored in God Church, even when every other institution in the world is compromising or modifying in order to give way to those things that we know to be contradictions to the Word of God.

- **As the Church, we don't have to compromise our biblical, spiritual and moral disciplines in order to demonstrate our love.**
- **We don't stop loving because of how people start living, we love harder and deeper.**

Rather you believe it or not, the love of Christ is deeper than the worse sins and flaws of mankind. But the mantle of Christ on my life is too valuable to my life to where I allow the choices of others to change who God has called me to be. Let me be transparent right through here. I've made choices in my life that were out of bounds as it relates to my biblical beliefs, but whenever I sinned, I didn't sin with the idea to change my beliefs, I sinned because I couldn't resist my flesh in those moments.

- **“Momentary mischiefs must never change the mandates of your internal spiritual beliefs.”**
- **As a Church body we must not surrender our righteous banner to a system that dishonors God and demand that we compromise our beliefs to prove our love.**
- **We must stand and be stable in the power of his might, even when we know that we have personal flaws yet to be corrected.**

It is to this end that under the Holy Spirits guidance, I challenge us to get our minds focused not on coming to church but be-coming the church. I don't want to be guilty of mismanaging this historical moment that God has used and is using to get us in true alignment with his vision.

- **We cannot continue to confuse church work with the work of the church, nor good music that move the people but true worship that moves God.**
- **“Preaching that’s good must be preaching that’s grounded in the word and challenging to those who hear and adhere.”**

Let’s get our act together and become a performance driven church and stop this acting of staged and rehearsed religious presentations that’s merely entertainment at its best.

So what does it mean to be a Performance Driven Church?

- 1. Make sure that you are with Jesus and his agenda and not following your own.**

Acts 1:6 “So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, “Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?”

- **Dr Tony Evans said and I quote. “The quickest way for God to get you where he wants you is for him to be able to use you where he has you.”**

2. Make sure that you know and understand the boundaries within your walk with God.

Acts 1:7 He replied, “The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are not for you to know.

3. The power to perform or take action as a Church comes from the Holy Spirit within you, not your talent or skill.

Acts 1:8a But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.

4. You must have a personal encounter and have personal experiences that connect you to Christ.

Acts 1:8b And you will be my witnesses....

- The only way to be someone who reflects Christ, is to become it through both regeneration and transformation.**
- Once this happens and you fully embrace the process, being his witness becomes authentic.**

5. Must understand that the mission is global and our messages must point people to Jesus, not to ourselves.

Acts 1:8c.. telling people about me everywhere in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”