

Maxims for Ministry

July 10, 2016

I. You are a minister.

Matthew 28:18-20 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

II. Maxims For Ministry

- *maxim: a short, pithy statement expressing a general truth or rule of conduct.*

Luke 10:1 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go.

- God often uses us to prepare others to experience Him.

A. *Ministry will not always be easy.*

Luke 10:3 Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves.

Luke 10:4 Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road.

- Our task is urgent.
1. We are pipelines of peace.

Luke 10:5-7 “When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house.”
Consistency creates opportunity.

Luke 10:8-11 “When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, ‘Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God has come near.’”

2. We are agents of the kingdom of God.

- We will not always be welcomed.

Galatians 2:11 (NLT) But when Peter came to Antioch, I had to oppose him to his face, for what he did was very wrong.

- Expect the saints might act like sinners and be surprised when they don't.

Luke 10:12-15 I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town. Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. But it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon at the judgment than for you. And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the heavens? No, you will go down to Hades.

- Don't take things too personally.

Luke 10:16 “Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me.”

B. Ministry is fun.

Luke 10:17 The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.”

1. We have been given both physical and spiritual authority to minister in Jesus name.

Luke 10:18-20 He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

2. We do not minister in fear but in faith.

C. Success is not measured by numbers but names.

Luke 10:2 He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.

Matthew 9:35-38 Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

1. People matter to God.
 - Our world is in great need.
 - We pray for God to change the world.
2. Prayers are often answered when God uses those who pray.