

# Be Professional, Respectful, and Cheerful to the Work

## (the second part)

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### 3. Power

- a) The evangelism relies upon the power of the Holy Spirit, not upon the strength of individual.

*“But ye shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*  
(Acts 1:8 ; Eze 36:26-27)

- b) Through prayer to manifest the power of the Holy Spirit

The Lord said *“tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”* (Lk 24:49)

How to receive power ~ *“with one accord in prayers and supplication”* (Acts 1:14) As expected, when the Holy Spirit descended on the Day of Pentecost, the disciples greatly received power and then bravely preached the gospel with fearlessness to the risk, persecution, and death. Even though James was beheaded, Stephen was stoned to death, and the believers were greatly persecuted and scattered abroad, the gospel was hence be widely spread.

*“whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them... and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith. And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people”* (Acts 6:6-8)

## II. Be Respectful to the Work

### A. To take the responsibilities with all one's strength

*“Let a man so consider us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.”* (1 Cor 4:1-2)

Paul's attitude toward preaching is – *“Woe is to be if I do not spread the gospel. If I do this thing willingly, I have a reward – I may make gospel of Christ without charge and may be partaker of it with you.”*

It is not easy to lead man to the Lord. Especially in the society of abundant materials, for acquiring the enjoyment everyone strive hard for their own business. Yet we shall not let it go and make excuse such as “I am busy. I have no time. I don't have the gift of preaching.” or

*“Men’s hearts are hardened, they don’t have good conducts, so they are unworthy to be the ones chosen by God.”* as to the point that we become idle and not try our best to the work. It is not an action of being responsible. At least we shall bring the truth seekers to the church, especially to the evangelism service.

B. When encountering with difficulties, we shall face with it boldly and try our best to deal with it regardless of the troubles.

*“And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there. Except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me. But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.”* (Acts 20:22-24)

This is a respectful attitude of Paul to his work. – Although he knew that a great danger was ahead of him, he still moved forward. All what he did was for completing the mission entrusted by the Lord. Even he knew he would encounter many troubles and crisis to his life, he still bravely went for it with all his might regardless of the death.

C. To bring up all the troubles which are unsolvable to the Lord Jesus.

#### \* Lead people to see Jesus

Whenever facing with problems or difficult questions while having conversation for the truth with people, we can transfer those issues or take advice from some members, elders/deacons, preachers who are with better knowledge and gifts, or even bring those people to the church—to Jesus. Just as *“Andrew said to his brother that ‘We have found the Messiah.’”* when Simon doubted about it, it was the time Andrew found difficulty and did not know how to explain to his brother clearly. So *“he brought him to Jesus”*. As God as Jesus is, He at once recognized Simon’s status. *“Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, ‘You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas.’”* (Jn 1:41-43)

#### \* Come and See

When Philip said *“We have found Him of whom Moses in the Law, and also the prophets, wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph”*, Nathanael showed his doubt and despire. He said *“Can anything good come out of Nazareth?”* Philip said to him, *“Come and see.”*

Consequently, amazed by Jesus’ accuracy of knowing him, Nazareth believed that *“He is the Son of God! He is the king of Israel!”* (Jn 1:45-49)

### III. Be Cheerful to the Work

When one is cheerful to the work, he/she has the enthusiasm on it. Speaking to the aspect of spirit, that is one works heartedly. *“For if I do not preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for necessity is laid upon me; yes, woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! For if I do this willingly, I have a reward; but if against my will, I have been entrusted with a stewardship.”*

(1Cor 9:16-18) We shall know that to preach the gospel is a mission entrusted by the Lord; if we do not preach, we are to receive God's grace in vain.

The attitude of preaching the gospel shall be – endeavoring with all one's heart and mind; only striving for the plowing and weeding, instead of for the result, and other than that, just to trust the Lord. Yet how do we zealously spread the gospel with joyfulness and gladness?

#### A. To be inspired by the love of God

Paul was originally the one who persecuted the believers and a notorious man. After the light of the Lord shone upon him, he repented for who he was and was totally transformed to bravely go to the ground of the gentiles to proclaim the word of God. As being deeply inspired by the love of God, even though sometimes he had no food to eat and no room to sleep and danger often encircled him, he still persisted with firmness to boldly strive for the Lord regardless of his life. If he did not preach the gospel, he would feel guilty for not repaying God's love and owed Him. *“For the love of God compels us, ... and He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.”* (1 Cor 5:14-15)

#### B. A Grateful Heart

*“He who did not spare His own son, but delivered Him for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine? Or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ... Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us.”* (Ro 8:32-27)

By reflecting that the great love and grace of the Lord have made who we are, with fully gratitude we shall be willing and joyful to do the work.

#### C. To love God and love man

As God had sacrificed for us to show His love to us, we shall also love man to repay God's love and freely to spread the gospel which has been freely given to us. So we work with willingness, gladness, and diligence, just as Paul who worked willingly with all his life even to the point of death for loving God and loving man.

*“For to me is Christ, and to die is gain. But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what shall I choose I cannot tell. For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you. And being confident of this, I know I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of faith”* (Phil 1:21-26)

*“Therefore whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God. Give no offense, either to the Jews or to the Greeks or to the church of God, just as I also please all men in all things, not seeking my own profit, but the profit of many, that they may be saved.”* (1 Cor 10:31-33)