

"CATCHING YOUR PASTOR'S SPIRIT"

Ezek 37:1-10

Our scripture is a powerful picture of discipleship: A man of God imparts something that causes warriors to be raised up. The key word is breath or spirit. You must catch the spirit of your pastor.

I. NEEDING YOUR PASTOR'S SPIRIT

A. Discipleship has to be more than information

1. Here: The bones/structure is present – not enough; Sinew/tissue present – not enough

a. Sons of the prophets: they had information – but never any personal miracles/achievement

2. Ezekiel had to impart a spirit into the bones/flesh to make them live – become what God intended

a. *Ezekiel 37:4-5 Again he said unto me, Prophesy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. 5 Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live:*

b. *Ezekiel 37:10 So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army.*

B. Discipleship is a spirit imparted: *Predominant characteristics of a person – becomes a supernatural dimension*

1. **Motivating passion:** *What is important to your pastor – what does he value most?*

a. *Moved with compassion* b. *Meat you know not of* c. *Must go to Samaria* d. *Must go to other towns*

2. **Outlook/viewpoint:** How your Pastor looks at life/problems/people

a. *How does he view problems or obstacles in life? What is his reaction towards them?*

b. *2 Kings 2:14 Then he took the mantle of Elijah and struck the water, and said, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over.*

1. Facing an obstacle: Something rose up in him – a holy indignation; This will not stop me!

a. *Holy aggression: We will fight this! We will win – change this situation*

b. *Supernatural outlook: This is a supernatural problem – requires a supernatural answer*

c. **Supernatural dimension of equipping:** Supernatural enablement in the circumstances of life

1. *Numbers 11:25 Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses. The Lord took some of the Spirit Moses had, and he gave it to the seventy leaders. With the Spirit in them, they prophesied...*

2. *2 Kings 2:15 Now when the sons of the prophets who were from Jericho saw him, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." And they came to meet him, and bowed to the ground before him.*

C. This is more than a program – having a class: Discipleship is a spiritual transfer - impartation of spirit

1. *2 Kings 2:15 the sons of the prophets said, The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha.*

2. *Numbers 11:25 Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses. The Lord took some of the Spirit Moses had, and he gave it to the seventy leaders. With the Spirit in them, they prophesied...*

D. Impartation is the critical factor in discipleship: Come follow me/be with me

1. More than information – impartation; You're going to catch something

a. Truth is not just taught – it is caught! b. Disciples take on the spirit of their pastor

II. MISSING YOUR PASTOR'S SPIRIT

A. The sad fact: It is possible to not catch the spirit of your Pastor

1. You can have the outward appearance/the structure of information – yet not have the spirit

a. **Missing dimension of power:** It doesn't work for you

1. Gehazi lays a staff that is empty of authority – nothing happens!

b. **Missing attitude in conflicts:** Accept your situation – or live in whining depression

c. **Missing passion:** Move away from what your Pastor believes/loves

2. Never caught his spirit - Something will be missing: Power/effectiveness/fruitfulness/discipleship

III. CATCHING YOUR PASTOR'S SPIRIT

A. This is a personal responsibility: It is available – but it is up to you!

1. **Ask God for it:** *2 Kings 2:9 And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?" Elisha said, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me."*

2. **Look for it:** Ask yourself – what is the heart behind the words or actions?

a. What is the spirit my Pastor(s) demonstrate in a given situation?

3. **Ask questions to make sure you understand things**

a. You cannot reproduce something you don't understand

1. Asking questions is foundational to discipleship

b. The more you understand it – the more chance you have of it 'sinking in' to your spirit