

I was ministering in a church and I was taken to the back and the pastor said I want you to stand here while I count this offering. I said, "Excuse me?" The pastor said, "You know, so that you don't think I took anything." I said, "I beg your pardon?" The pastor said, "Well, some ministers that we had come in here have accused us of keeping some of the money for ourselves and to eliminate that, I just have the minister stand here while I count." I said, "WHAT?" Then I found myself shocked, mortified, embarrassed for the pastor and for me. I explained that I would never doubt or question anyways.

I next heard from a dear pastor friend of mine that they choose to allow each minister to take up their own offering because they have been accused of keeping some out and it is just easier to let them do it and then they aren't accused of anything. Am I missing something here?

Next I go to this website where the minister has posted that for something like \$20 they will counsel you in a brief email. For \$50 a longer email. For \$120 a questionnaire will be sent out to you and a more in depth analogy of your situation will be sent based upon time spent in prayer over your situation. For over \$200 they would be a life coach and give you a series of phone calls.... HELLO? Am I missing something here?

So.... I can not contain this when it happens. Sorry, I just have to say something.

I know that a minister who comes and sacrifices and gives and gives is worthy of a blessing and rightfully so. I also know that we call ourselves the body of Christ and yet we act like this?

Here is my take on it all. I am appalled first of all that pastors feel "not trusted" while I am sure there are some who have not done things as they should have. When someone calls me in to minister or to speak I pray about whether I am to go there. If the Lord leads me to go, I am trusting that Pastor to hear from God about covering our expenses or blessing us for our time there. If that Pastor says to the people that the offering collected is to go my ministry then that should be followed through with. If the Pastor just takes up an offering, I have NEVER thought that "I" had the right to decide that it was ALL MINE or that the Pastor himself didn't have some type of expenses to maybe cover as well. I don't go to receive but also to BLESS. Is this some new kind of concept that many have seemingly never heard of? It is my hope in a meeting that the people and the pastor received what they needed to hear from the Lord and what they give to my ministry is between them and God. Now I hear that ministers are going into a region, an area, a ministry and taking (not against one being blessed for their time) but are taking to the extreme of standing by a pastor and watching it be counted so as to not be cheated. If that was to go to me and the pastor did something else, that is between them and God as well. I am just shocked that this is going on. I would NEVER go into a ministry with a predisposed idea that the pastor can not be trusted. Am I perhaps GULLIBLE? Maybe, but I would rather go to minister somewhere with a PURE HEART towards those who have called me in instead of an accusatory one! My Lord!! So many churches are financially hurting and if I can go and minister and the Lord uses me to draw in some people, shouldn't that church and that pastor be getting something (a blessing) for this as

well? Am I wrong but aren't we ministers supposed to go and help BUILD the Kingdom of God? I am just shocked, shocked, shocked. Am I setting myself up to perhaps be taken advantage of? Perhaps I am. Yet I have already been highly taken advantage of for my willingness to serve and that is still between them and God. My blessing doesn't come from man anyway. I don't look to man for it. I look to God from Whom all provision flows! Do you know I am certain that at times I wasn't honored or blessed financially for time, but my blessing STILL came in because MY BOSS is JESUS! Do you know when the harvest came in? When I stepped into listening to HIM instead of MAN! Hearing His Voice, obeying it in obedience, even when it wasn't the most popular. Going simply because He said so and not thinking that I had to manage what the next meeting took in! Hmmm.... Isn't that called ummmm let me see....FAITH!

Oh my Jesus...I can't help it. This is not good folks. What is GOING ON? Do you not think that God isn't going to judge some of this that is going on?

I also have NEVER put a price on the anointing. I could NEVER charge someone for a word or for more of my time. Do I think I have a right to be blessed for my time...yes. Do I appreciate it when God moves upon someone's heart and they bless me? Of course. Do I require that from them in order to minister...my Lord NO! Can these people who are putting a price on their time, not understand that Jesus never asked for anything and had no place to lay down His head and yet His needs were met? Would Jesus say, I will give you a word or a letter about your situation if you pay me this much???? Lord God help us all. Save us from ourselves!!!

What about those who can't afford it yet find themselves so desperate that they give their grocery money for this? I can hear it now, some of you are saying that they will be blessed for giving. YOU manipulate their giving by telling them HOW MUCH IT COSTS AHEAD OF TIME! This is manipulation over those who are desperate for a touch, any touch. It makes you no different than the physicians who made money off the woman with the issue of blood. She gave all she had to get healed and they couldn't do it. But one touch of the hem of the garment of JESUS and she received all that she needed.

People...don't PAY these people for a word ahead of time. My Lord! Do you not think that when you are in relationship with the Lord Jesus that you can't hear Him speak to you YOURSELF? You don't need this! The real and true can visit you the same as they can speak through another! Of course God uses people to confirm and to speak into our lives but if they put a price on it....if they are taking advantage of the weak and poor and desperate...then I am sorry but that is what the psychic hotlines do. I'm not saying that all these don't hear from God but before you go PAYING in advance for a word or for a phone call....CALL UP JESUS YOURSELF!

What about the typical phrase that "There are five people here tonight who are going to give \$500! If that is you then come up front!" IF the Lord led you to give \$500 and He might....man wouldn't have to tell you, God would and you would pray about that and give it in secret and NOT stand up to show a whole congregation that it was you...you

who gave \$500....you were one of the ones. When we take our glory from man we don't receive it from God for we have already gotten our reward. WHAT ARE WE DOING?

And Pastors, as far as having ministers in to speak who demand to stand before you as you count the money or who demand that it ALL goes to them or who DEMAND anything....do you not think that there are other ministers JUST AS ANOINTED BY GOD...who God will use and send in that would NEVER THINK of accusing you of taking some of THEIR money? God will use a donkey! We don't have to conform to this just because they are WELL KNOWN MINISTERS!

I would also NEVER think of having a minister in and not doing my best to adequately bless them. I just am that way. They made a sacrifice to come and I know if God called them then He will meet the needs and bless them. Works very well that way actually! Yet I bless with all I have. At the same time, I am sorry but I don't think I would need to have you come if you are going to mistrust me and accuse me and decide for me what to do with the money that comes in. There are many more people out there that are mightily used of God who wouldn't treat me that way and would TRUST me to give them all that I could.

What is this mistrust in the body anyways? Do you think I haven't been hurt? I have gone and ministered a three night revival and drove 7 hours to get there and had an hour and half drive both ways each night for three nights to get there and poured out all that I had to the people and was given NOTHING by the Pastor. Is that wrong? Of course. Does that cause me to say to the next pastor, that I a servant of the MOST HIGH JESUS CHRIST, demand ANYTHING? No, in my opinion, no it doesn't. That pastor has to answer to God. People gave in those services thinking that they were blessing our ministry and none of it was given to us. I was shocked and yet I am not bitter. God blessed us at the next meeting. God knows our sacrifice and our harvest will STILL come in.

I have this willingness in me to just go serve and you know what the enemy hates that in me. I pray that no matter how far I go that I never loose that. I want to remain ever more His humble and faithful servant. I want to help others and help to build up their ministries and I want to encourage them in their walk with the Lord. It isn't a one way street for me. I am not there for me and my ministry. I am there because God told me to go. Yet with this kind of belief in my heart, I still was just recently accused of prostituting the anointing on my own life, by going out and holding meetings at all. This was from someone I once trusted very much. It is funny how the enemy operates. The good old accuser of the brethren. He calls us exactly what we would never want to be.

I just felt the heart of God in all of this. If you think He is not going to judge this, you are wrong. As He will judge us all accordingly. Lord Jesus have mercy on us all.

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