Excellence (1) Spirit of Excellence

Text: Matthew 5:48 “Therefore you shall be perfect, just as your Father in heaven is perfect.”

Intro:
DEF: Perfect “to carry through completely, to accomplish, finish, bring to an end.”
1. We should want to have a “Spirit and Ministry of Excellence.”
2. We should desire to represent God and His Kingdom in the best possible way that we can.
3. God rebuke us if we settle for mediocrity! * Half-Hearted service will not do!

Eph 4:1 “I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called”

AMP: “I therefore, the prisoner for the Lord, appeal to and beg you to walk (lead a life) worthy of the [divine] calling to which you have been called with behavior that is a credit to the summons to God’s service,”
a: Paul is saying that we should fulfill the calling or the things that God has given us to do, in a good, suitable and excellent way.
b. One key in fulfilling the call of God and doing it with Excellence is “Dedication.”
   1. Dedication is making a quality decision to do something, and not turn back, until the task is completed in an excellent way.
   2. I challenge everyone to dedicate your life to pleasing God and you won’t go wrong.

A. God has invited us to walk with Him.
1. As we enter into this walk it usually means His anointing in our lives to minister to others.
   a. A greater anointing at your home, workplace and in our Church.
   b. His presence and His anointing helps us to accomplish any task he gives to us.

2. The “Walk” to acquire His anointing requires a “Spirit of Excellence.”

Listen: A lack of excellence can quench the move of the Spirit of God and stop the anointing.
   b. When I say “Excellence,” I’m not talking about “Ability” or our “know how”
   c. It is about giving our best to the Lord. ** Being as dedicated as we can be.
   d. It’s getting involved.
   e. It’s being on time or even early.

B. The 2nd step that we need to take to have the Spirit of Excellence is to have SINGleness of Purpose. (Focus)

James 1:6-8 “But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.”

a. “A double minded man” is someone that is “Uncertain, constantly doubting and has divided in interest.”
   • James says that this man will not receive anything from the Lord.
b. When we hear from God, we must not hesitate to step out in faith.
   • If what ever you’re doing is flowing, if your leaders are telling you that you’re anointed in that area. GOOD!
• If your leaders aren’t recognizing it, maybe you need to step back and take a look to find out if God is really in what you are doing.

**Listen:** Fear will cause a person to be double minded.
- What if I am called to do this…what if I’m not called to do this.
- You need to resist the fear and step out in faith. “GO FOR IT”

**C. The 3rd step in having a Spirit of Excellence is to “Follow & listen to the Holy Spirit.”**

**John 16:13** “However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.”

1. The Spirit of Truth will Guide you. Leaders will confirm, inmost cases what He already told you.
   a. There are going to be many times that you need the wisdom of God, you just don’t know what to do.

2. You can’t have true excellence, without being led by the Spirit of God.
   **Point:** For you to receive the leading of the Holy Spirit you need to be reading and praying.

3. If you’re an Usher or a greater someone might come in that needs something from the Lord, and you can minister to them.
   - Sometimes without them ever telling you what the problem is.
   - Or maybe it’s someone that comes in to start trouble in the church.
   - You need to be led by the Spirit of God, in this case it would be to pray, or come tell me.

4. When you’re sensitive to the Holy Spirit, you don’t have to look for someone to minister to, the Holy Spirit will them lead you at times.
   - Many times you wont even know that you are there to minister to them.
   - ii. They’ll be there if you’re prayed up and in the Word.

**John 7:37-39** “On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.” 39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy[b] Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.”
   a. Jesus in referring to the Holy Spirit.
   b. He said that it’s in your belly that the Holy Spirit will begin to do something.
   c. And what he does has something to do with bringing life.

**Rom 8:16** “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God”

1. The words “Bears witness” here means “Testifies unto” or “Speaks to us.”
   **Listen:** When the Holy Spirit Speaks to us and we obey it…
   - It will bring life (The living water).
   - It will bring God’s will and God’s blessings to others.
   **Point:** We need to be led by the HS to walk in excellence.
   - It doesn’t matter if it’s on your job, while driving your car, in church, or in the pulpit.
   - Listening to the voice of the Holy Spirit and obeying His voice will bring excellence to our life.
My last scripture today is: John 14:26
“But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.”

- Without the leading of Holy Spirit you will be limited in what God is trying to teach you.
- And what you don’t learn (at least read) He will not be able to bring things back to your remembrance.

2. When we’re obedient to the voice of the Spirit it’s pleasing to the Father.
a. Only when we’re doing what is pleasing to the Father are we walking in excellence.

**Listen church:**
We are Disciples… we are preachers and we are pillars in this church.
We must learn to walk in His Excellence.
  - Not excellence according to the world’s standards.
  - We’re not seeking the accolades of men, but approval from God Himself.

**Again:**
  1- Be Dedicated to do what is the most pleasing to the Father.
  2- Have that Singleness Of Purpose. In other words “Don’t waver.”
  3- Make certain that you are being led by the Spirit of God.

**AMEN**