

Exposé 247

Bucket Ministry Series 1

Title: Introduction

Hello world, this is Exposé 247 and we are back again with a new season. And then we are trusting the Lord to bless us with this new series of messages. And so with great excitement we want to start a new season called the Bucket Ministry Series. Am sure some people... I saw someone posting a question and was just wondering what Bucket ministry is all about? If you are just like me too, wondering what this Bucket ministry is all about, I just want to tell you to sit back and then call other people that you know this might interest.

And if you have ever been blessed by Exposé 247 where we have the Prodigal Father series, we have like about 27 episodes on that. We even have a beginner session about what Christ is. That is about eight or nine. Then we moved out to Knock Out Series, and that was a whole lot of packs of messages.

Knock Out Series is about how many?

It might be right up to seventy something.

There is a lot of things that we knock out through that series. So you really need to get to that page, Exposé 247 page on Facebook or to the YouTube in case you want to download those messages and listen to it again. You really want to know those things that we knocked out.

So if any of these episodes have blessed you. We want you to know that you are going to be blessed again and again, even in a greater way with this new season on the Bucket Ministry. So I will like him to quickly do a quick recap on the other seasons and to tell us what to expect with this new season and the Bucket ministry.

Now, viewers all over the world. Thank you again for tuning in unto this Exposé 247. As she has said, by the grace of God we are kicking on today a new episode which is the Bucket Ministry series.

Now, we blessed the Lord for how far He helped us with the Prodigal Father series and where we actually by the grace of God began to unfold the nature of the Father. And we moved on from there to Knock Out series. And in Knock Out series, the vision was to knock out false ideologies presenting themselves as realities in the body of Christ by the Word of God, so that those things don't steal away from us our

capacity to lay hold on the redemption that Christ paid for. That was the vision in Knock Out Series. And we blessed the Lord for how far He helped us going from different aspect of things in the body of Christ as we went through Knock Out Series.

But now the point is, starting from today by God's grace and by his strength, we are moving completely to a new set of series and we call this the Bucket Ministry Series. And you might be wondering what is all about the Bucket ministry Series?

Today by the grace of God we will actually endeavor to show you the vision, the purpose, the reason why this Bucket Ministry series is coming right in your face through this particular transmission.

Now, to show you through this vision and the purpose that we aim to achieve by the grace of God. I will just call your attention quickly to Galatians Chapter 2 verse 14.

If you look at that, there is something I want us to look at there in Galatians 2:14...

Before you go there, do you have an idea how long it will take, the Bucket Ministry? Is it going to be like Prodigal Father Series or Knock Out season or something?

Well, we are trusting the Lord through this particular year, through this whole season. We don't know how far this is going to go, because we trust the Lord to guide us. Even when we started Knock Out series, we just started with a few episodes. But you see the Lord took us through, for many weeks un-end we went through the Knock Out series. We thought....

Seasons on Thanksgiving, prayers...

What we thought is just going to be few weeks and we went for so many weeks. That is what we trust the Lord to do as well in this Bucket ministry series. We cannot guarantee you how far it is going to take us or how long it is going to take us because we are going to ride on with the spirit of grace as He leads us through. We are just tools in the hands of the Lord and we are ready to be used by him and throughout the series.

Galatians 2 verse 14.

Now we want to lay the foundation. We want to share the vision with you behind this particular new series that we are starting today, so that you can ride on with us in the spirit.

Now look at what is simply there. This was a discuss between the Apostle Paul and Peter. And there is something I want to point out to you there. If you are a believer

and even if you are not a believer, there is something very important for you to glean out from this Galatians Chapter 2 verse 14.

What does it says in verse 14?

It reads...

14. When I saw that they walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter before them all, if thou being a Jew, livest after the manner of Gentiles, and not as do the Jews, why compellest thou the gentiles to live as do the Jews?

When I saw that they walked not uprightly

Go on please

according to the truth of the gospel, I said unto Peter

So if you are wondering who were the they, that the Apostle Paul referring to? He was referring to Peter and company. Peter and co if that is the word. And then is it not amazing to you that the Apostle Paul was referring to Peter?

He said **when they did not act in line with the truth of the gospel.**

What does that mean?

It means this same Peter was the same Peter that actually preached the gospel in the book of Acts. And the Bible said there were three thousands souls were added to the church because of the ministry of the Apostle Peter. He was an Apostle. He believed the gospel of the Lord Jesus. So essentially Peter was born again. Essentially Peter was saved. Essentially Peter believed that Jesus died for his sins, forgave his sins on the cross. So Peter believed in the gospel but there was one thing the Apostle Paul said in Galatians 2 verse 14. He said he wasn't acting in line with the truth of the gospel. Can you see that?

So it means is one thing to believe the gospel of the Lord Jesus, is another thing for us to allow the gospel to be processed into our lives in such a way that when we act, when we live life, when we talked, when we have an outlook on life that we are acting in line with the truth of the same gospel that we claimed to believe.

So what the purpose of this Bucket Ministry series is, is to take the gospel from that we just believed in, into something that we act in line with, in everything we do, in everything we say, in everything we think, in our perspectives on life, in our outlook on life. That you can judge or somebody else can judge your actions

**and they can simply say that actions was in line with the reality of the gospel.
Can you see that?**

So the Apostle Paul said in Galatians 2:14 that the reason am talking right here in Galatian 2:14 is to tell Peter, I did not doubt the fact that you believe the gospel. I did not doubt the fact that you are saved. I did not doubt the fact that you are born again. But I do doubt that your actions at that point in Galatians 2:14 was not in line with the reality of the gospel.

So this Bucket Ministry series has a purpose. It has a vision. **The vision is, we trust that the Lord that as many who listen to each of the episodes, they are going to go through in this Bucket Ministry. That our lives become panelbeated in such a way that our actions, our lifestyle will be in line with the very gospel that we believed, that we claim to believe in.** And that is what we see here. So that is the purpose behind that.

You know there is one thing that actually... when I began to meditate prayerfully on this Bucket Ministry Series. One thing came to my heart and I want to share that with you. You see, there is a place in 2Peter where he says **“sanctify the Lord God in your heart. Can you see that? and be ready to answer.”**

See! one thing you will notice is, for most of us, I mean those who claim to be saved, who claim to be born again, for most of us, even though we claim to believe the gospel. But the Bible simply says that you need to sanctify the Lord God in your heart. That which you claim to know in your head must make a migration from just a theoretical thing that you claim to believe in, to something that sinks in your heart.

See what he says

So that you may be able to answer every man,

Ready to answers.

It means our response to life, to people, our responses to circumstances is not just the fact that you claim to know the gospel. He says sanctify the Lord God in your heart. Let it become resident.

There was a time I read a place in Ephesians 3, and it sounds to be confusing.

You can read that verse 16, 17, 18 to verse 20.

You know the Apostle Paul was praying for the Ephesians church and the prayer seem to be out of place if you look at it superficially. But if you look at it deeply, it makes sense, what the Apostle Paul was praying in Ephesians 3:16, 17

It says that Christ may dwell in your heart by faith. He was saying Christ may dwell in your heart by faith.

And you see what we are sharing today is to make you understand the vision behind this Bucket ministry series to the body of Christ as we go on.

Ephesians 3 verse 16, 17

What does it say please?

16. That he would grant you according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by Spirit in the inner man.

Now, before you go on, please viewers don't forget the fact that this is Ephesians church. This was written to the body of Christ in Ephesus. It wasn't just written to every Tom, Dick and Harry walking the street of Ephesus. How did I know that?

You might want to go back to Chapter 1 and look for the audience.

If you check Chapter 1, the audience is pretty much straightforward. He was talking to the church, to Christians, to the body of Christ.

Now, look at verse 17.

What does it says there?

17. That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love,

Now, if you look at that prayer point, it seems that is not relevant because this people had Christ in their heart. They were the Ephesians church. They were born again. They were part of the body of Christ. Can you see that?

So what kind of prayer point is Apostle Paul praying for the Ephesians brethren in asking them that the Lord will make sure that will enable them to have Christ dwell in their heart by faith?

That is simple. All he is trying to say is, I want the reality of that which you believe in to become something that will be so real. Something that affects the way you see life. Something that affects the way you perceive life. Not just something that you claim to know but something that really affect life itself, that affect your response to life. That affect your disposition to life, that Christ may dwell in your heart. It becomes palpable. It becomes something that affect your very words, your thoughts, your actions, your perspective. That is what he was praying. So this is a very consistent prayer to pray for Christians. Can you see that?

Even though you have Christ in you, even though you believe in the Lord Jesus, but Apostle Paul said I pray that Christ may dwell in your heart by faith. I pray that Christ will not just be a knowledge thing that you have in your mind, it becomes something that affects, that sit on top of your emotions, something that sit on top of your outlook to life. That is why he was praying that prayer for them.

This is the purpose, this is the goal of the Bucket Ministry series. To take the gospel from that which we just talk about to something that affects how we act. So that we can be like the same thing that Paul talked about in Galatians 2:14, talking about acting in line with the gospel.

Yes, taking you back to Galatians Chapter 2 verse 14. I found it very interesting and I want to have your insight on it.

He was doing name calling here which is quite strange these days. And they will rather say you address the issues, you don't call out name because we find Paul calling out... he said "I said unto Peter and to his company, he is calling out the kind of a person of status like Peter have. So in this age, how do we bring out issues? Can we really walk with this method of Apostle Paul? What can we say about this?"

Well, the fact is, there is nothing wrong with calling out the names of people. This is the reason, you see they always this thing normally even in the secular world, not even in the body of Christ. They say great minds discuss ideas. Can you see? Lesser minds discuss people. Can you see that?

So it means when it comes to the gospel is not about people. It's about the gospel. It's about the issues of the gospel. And if you notice what Paul said, he said they were not acting in line with the gospel. Have you noticed Paul never came to accuse Peter and say "Peter you know what? You are a very bad person. Or Peter you know you are a very stupid person or Peter, you are a bad influence or Peter, this... you see! he wasn't attacking the person of Peter, if you check it out. The focus of Apostle Paul was the gospel. Is that ok?"

But he had to mention the name of Peter.

He mentioned the name of Peter to give an example to the readers of somebody who was not acting in line with the gospel. So ultimately his focus was on the gospel.

You see today, some people who actually claim to be correcting other people or who actually claim to be accusing other people in the body of Christ. If you notice the bottom line of the statement, in some cases, the bottom line is about the person. But in this case, the bottom line of Paul was about the gospel. The only reason he had to

mention Peter was to make the readers understand somebody who wasn't acting in line with the gospel.

And this is a note of warning for everyone, not just whether you have been born again for one day or born again for decades. Listen to this! anyone could fall into a situation where what you believe of the gospel of the Lord Jesus is not consistent with what you say or how you acted or how you look at the situation.

Why did I say that?

Peter here was not just a growing Christian who just became born again, who was living on baby milk. Here was an Apostle, in fact as of the time of Galatians Chapter 3, Peter was along with James, they were what we called the pillars in Jerusalem as at the time that this was written. These were "fathers of the faith" if you can use that word. These were "fathers in the land" if you can use that word. These were people that you could look up to as people of faith. People that became an inspiration to young Christians as at that time.

But yet the Apostle Paul said even though you could be a matured Christian, even though you could be somebody who is a leader wherever you are as a Christian. You could be somebody that has so much influence on younger Christians but the fact is there are times you could say things or do things or look at life in such a way that it denies the essence of the gospel and this is what we are talking about.

So the focus of this Bucket Ministry series is to bring we as believers to the point where we begin to live out the implication of the gospel. Can you see that? That we can say well, I acted in line with the gospel in that situation. **That is the focus behind Bucket ministry series.**

If we don't do that, as a body of Christ, if we have bunch of believers or bunch of Christians who claim to believe in the gospel of the Lord Jesus but we are not acting in line with the gospel, it will cause so much confusion. Can you see in this place, the Apostle Paul said the hypocrisy of Peter affected so many other people?

It is humbly to see that the person of Peter is being corrected here. We even know that even the revelation of the church came from Peter. And so is telling us that nobody is greater than scriptures. And we will do well, no matter our status, we need to bring ourselves back to the scriptures. And then we allow the scriptures to correct us, to train us, to equip us. That is the point.

So for every time, I will want to extend this opportunity using this episode again, so that no matter where we are coming from, no matter the high us, or low us, whether

the lonely brother or the highly placed brother in the faith, we should all come down to this place and let the scriptures be able to bring us to who we are. So we can see the scriptures coming out. You see that we are deeply rooted in this.

So we are calling everybody, calling the Peter and the little brother that just joined, that just come to the fold today to come down, the scriptures is still relevant for us and for us to learn from this.

Thank you for that insight.

Now, I think for those who are listening to this and watching this today, you might be wondering what is the motivation? Why are we focusing on this aspect in this Bucket Ministry Series all through this particular transmission? And we don't know how long is going to take us. Am glad you ask the question why we need to focus on things like this.

The fact is you need to understand the default mode of the human heart. The human heart has a default mode. And the default mode works righteousness. What do I mean that it works righteousness?

The human heart has come to a point of trying to justify him or herself by whatever he or she has attained. Can you see that? That is why even by the time you become born again and you are saved and you believe in the gospel of the Lord Jesus. You have to consistently, regularly apply the implication of the gospel to your life. If not, that is why in the book of Hebrews, he said "let us not allow those things to slip away" (Hebrews 2:1). People think anytime we talk about the gospel, there is this kind of wrong notion among believers. Some believers think is for people who are not born again, who need to become Christians that need to hear the gospel.

Well, that cannot be far from the truth. If you think that way, have a rethink again. In Galatians 2:14 the Apostle Paul was pointing the gospel to an Apostle.

So General Overseers need to listen to this.

He was pointing the gospel to an Apostle.

Think about that.

And a day old believer, a few hours believer need to listen to the gospel.

What we are talking about today is not a special kind of package for some level of Christians, whether young or old, whether you've been a believer for one day or for decades, the fact is, the gospel is for every soul, is for every person. If the gospel

could be pointed to an Apostle, it can be pointed to anyone. So that is what we are talking about.

That is why we are here on this transmission, not just to talk about the gospel but to point the gospel, to beam the gospel in our life so that we can always act in line with the gospel. This is the vision behind the Bucket Ministry Series.

Having said that, we want to get to the gospel of the Bucket Ministry.

Good!

So let's get on straight to the book of John. This is going to be our working scriptures.

John Chapter 4 as we introduced the Bucket Ministry Series.

Do you want to tell us why you get the name or maybe it will learn itself out?

Well, I think at this stage... that is not unusual anyway.

At this stage I might want to say even if I give an explanation of how I came about this title for this particular series that we are on at the moment, am not even too confident that is going to justify the name unless people can see it. And I think by when we go through the series we will be able to show that title rather than talk about the title.

So you don't tell us, you show us.

We want to show the title. And that is it.

Now, we are using this John Chapter 4 as a platform again. **Please don't forget the fact that the goal and the purpose is not just to do an exegesis on John Chapter 4. We are merely using this John Chapter 4 as a tool, as a platform to bring the implication of the gospel.** So we are going to use any other verse of the Bible, use any other Chapter in the Bible, but we think by the grace of God, this is a very good Chapter in the Bible to use as a platform to present something deeper than what you see in John Chapter 4.

Let's go straight. You might want to read John Chapter 4 from verse 1.

John 4

- 1. When therefore the Lord knew how the Pharisees had heard that Jesus made and baptized more disciples than John,**
- 2. (Though Jesus himself baptized not, but his disciples,)**
- 3. He left Judea, and departed again into Galilee.**

So that tells us the geographical plans of Jesus to go from Judea and then to go straight to... the itinerary of Jesus trying to go from Judea to go on to Galilee. And this is talking about some of the moves in the earthly ministry of Jesus.

And you see there is something that he did say there. The Pharisee actually thought Jesus was baptizing more disciples than John. But Jesus wasn't concern about the numbers or the statistics. He wasn't concern. And he thought the way to actually make people stop talking about the statistics was to get away from the area.

I think it was the Message translation that was actually saying they were counting the numbers and posting the score. Oh, Jesus is this. John is this.

And so I want to think we have Pharisees today that is recording the numerical growth and bringing all these contentions and say this one is doing this more even among ministry. So some people are already taking the ministry of the Pharisees in which they are pitching numbers against each other and boasting and say this is this, inciting people even to envy, inciting people to do fruitless work, comparing I want to beat records and so something like that.

Thank you for that.

But you see how Jesus responded. You know they always say one thing about life that is not about what happens that matter is about how you respond to what happens. Of course if the Lord is using you mightily and the Lord is blessing the works of your hands and your ministry is fruitful spirit, soul and body to your generation, there is going to be result anyway. There is nothing you could do about that.

Is not bad in itself.

We are not saying that there should be no result to justify the fact that you are doing something great for God. Result do not either justify or disqualify whether you are doing the right thing. Once you are in the center of God's Will for your life, or you are blessing life, there is going to be result. But Jesus had result. Don't forget the fact that the Bible says in this case, it wasn't even Jesus that was doing the baptizing, it was his disciples. It means he knew how to delegate responsibility but the fact is, how did he respond?

But the fact is you can't probably stop people from praising what you are doing. You might not stop people from pitching you against somebody else in terms of result. But the question is what did you do with the information? How you responded is what you can control? And we saw Jesus, what He did was, he deliberately decided to move away from the area.

So is not a bad thing to have result, is not a bad thing to have numbers. Though if you don't want to talk about it, we see that even other people, even if you are so humble about it and you just don't want to pull yourself out, even there are some works that will speak for itself. So the people will talk about it. People want to pitch you and do things for you. Is about your response. How do you respond to it which is very important?

And so we must be prepared for the response even as the work become bigger in our hands.

Exactly!

Even if we are not putting ourselves out, we must have the appropriate response in the Holy Ghost, according to Jesus here for things like that. If we ever get to that point. And is good to get to that point.

And there is one thing I want you to notice there, the scriptures says it's actually wasn't Jesus who was doing that, it was his disciples.

Now, this is quite interesting. This not just mirror the earthly ministry of Jesus, it actually mirrors the eternal ministry of Jesus, the everlasting ministry of the Lord. That Jesus, his purpose and his goal was not just about himself. The Bible talks about his aim was to bring many sons into glory. Can you see that? That Christ will be revealed to our generation through us. We are the temple of Christ. We are the body of Christ. We are the habitation of Christ. It means that the focus of Christ is not him. He didn't come for himself. He came for us. So that when people see us, glory will go to the Lord Jesus for our lives.

You can see, that sounds a bit contrast to what we see today in some cases, where we have a super man or a super hero man who actually look up and say well, that is all about the man, is a great man, is a mighty man. He does the all thing. Bible says even Jesus wasn't the one that did the baptism. It was the disciples who did it. Can you see that?

Even though the disciples did it, the glory was still going to Jesus because they said Jesus baptized more and they put it in parenthesis. It wasn't Jesus who actually physically did it. It was his disciples. And this is not just about the earthly ministry of Christ. This is what the whole of point of the gospel is all about. That you and I, we are the hands that feeds the mouth, the legs of Jesus on the face of the earth.

In other words what you find out today is that we only find a particular person, set man that can only baptized, everybody watch around, is the only one that can do the

baptism here and everybody around, even no matter how numbers of years or how they applied themselves as sons in the ministry, they will never get to... So everybody comes around, be it seasonal or they have a season ticket to come there to get baptized.

But we see Jesus, his disciples are the one even doing it. He wants them to do greater works even than him. They were empower to do this. Its not that is resting only on one person, until one person goes to the glory that they get the mantle transferred.

You see as you began to speak, something began to come to me and I began to wonder, what kind of grace or what kind of life did the disciples lived in such a way that even though they did the baptism (the disciples) but yet when people make the conclusion, they said Jesus did it? The credit still went to Jesus.

You see, you know when people do something they always try to say well, even though am a disciple of Jesus and I have done this, I need to make sure that people can put my name (recognize me for what I did). But the disciples baptized in such a way that when the credit for the baptism was going to come, is still went back to Jesus and it never went to them.

You see, this kind of connection that we have with Christ, this is the way is meant to operate, that in such a way that when you go out there and declare the gospel, when you go out there and stand in the name of Jesus or you live your life in the name of Jesus or you do anything in the name of Jesus, when people will conclude they will simply have to still put the credit on Jesus and not even you. This is that connection that we are supposed to have in our Christian life.

If you are doing something for the Lord, if you are actually engage in anything for the Lord and people are talking more about you as a person and the credit is still not going to the Lord Jesus, something is not right somewhere. If everything is right, even though you are the one doing what you are doing for the Lord, the glory and the honour should still go to the Lord.

That is why when we are doing this Knock Out series on Thanksgiving and all that, it says that many will give thanks to the Lord on your behalf. That thanks will go to the Lord. People says thanks be to God for you. Can you see that? For what you are doing. And that is what should be.

And then it doesn't matter what we do, whether we baptized or we do not baptized people, whether is something that has spiritual connotation or not, it lends itself to this scriptures that says "whatever we do, whether we eat or drink, do all to the glory of the Lord"

Even in just spiritual activity of baptizing people, discipline people or even ministering or even evangelism, the glory must still go to the Lord.

Now, see! I don't know why is hard for me to leave this particular aspect before we go to the next verse. But I just want to say one thing, the way the Lord expects us to treat his people, the way the Lord expect us to treat other Christians or how we relate with other people is by the time you are done with people in the ministry, if people are going to say let's look for somebody to thank for what has happened. They don't even think about you anymore. Can you see? That is how it should be. (You are not in the picture any more). When people want to give the credit, you are not in the picture. You did it but you are not in the picture of the credit. This is so serious.

Like you are just a medium, they can't find...

People want to give thanks and say no, this can only be God, and they don't even think about you because when they conclude in John Chapter 4 verse 1, 2 they said Jesus was the one baptizing. This is what we are talking about.

This is what we are talking about.

And that reminds me of something when I was meditating one time about the Eunuch. You know Jesus did say some people made themselves Eunuch for the sake of the gospel. And then that understanding came to me and I began to think about it, why do some Kings back then, you know I don't know whether is still in operation in some parts of the world at the moment. But you know back then many years ago, century ago, some of the Kings used to have Eunuch, who actually take care of their wives and the palaces.

Now, the reason or one of the reasons why they do have Eunuch like men coming to the palace is because history has it that, some of those Kings believed that if they don't get a Eunuch and they get somebody who is potent to take care of things in the palace, is very possible that, that man could actually impregnate some of the Queens or some of the women in the palace.

So what the Kings prefer is to have somebody who could minister in the palace but yet the person must not live an imprint of his person in the palace simultaneously. Somebody who will minister in the palace, somebody who will be so closed, because most of the activity will be close and intimate but yet we don't want anything left in the palace, any foot print of your presence in the palace. Just your ministry... don't leave any footprint in the palace, even though you minister in the palace.

And this is why Jesus says some people have made themselves Eunuch for the sake of the kingdom. It means for you as a believer in the New Covenant, you are meant to be

a New Covenant Eunuch for the Lord. It means you minister to God's people, you come close up to God's people, you baptized them like he says in this place, you get them result but you have left no imprint of yourself.

People says oh! Jesus baptized these people. No trace. No DNA trace. They couldn't trace you and people are saying who did this? They say Jesus did it.

Now, there is something about the presentation of the disciples that made this to happen. And we don't think about these in our days, in our time, is about how we present the gospel in such a way that this particular dynamics can happen when we present the gospel to people.

So this is a responsibility, is a burden everybody must have.

We must be kingdom Eunuch... he said for the sake of the kingdom, some people became it.

We just have to be... we must do it in such a way that we are going to do vernalization, to lose their ability to reproduce and leave our imprint.

But we will still minister. But yet we leave no imprint.

We must do intimate service. We must come into that close connection and everything, the King might be able to trust us fully with it. Because we need to be able to trust us fully with those assignments. And so we must come in such a way and we go to the point of vernalization in which we have nothing to leave, to shed out, leave imprints and so everything goes to him.

So we have kingdom intact. You know He's not threaten by our persons, and that is it.

And for the kingdom we just have to be. For the sake of the kingdom, we just have to be.

If you think about kingdom, you have to be.

You have to be Eunuch for the kingdom.

So anybody that is not trying to be like that is just like is not thinking kingdom. That is the best way to think kingdom. To apply yourself for kingdom service, this is like the prerequisite for the kingdom service.

So if you are thinking of kingdom, you want to do anything about kingdom, you really have to badge yourself. Just like Paul was saying "I pummel myself" and make sure you kill off every cells of you. Everything that want to rear his head and say am here

too, this is me, this is my signature, that will make you leave your signature on people and leave my style on people.

Some people leave it, and they even do it so well that people are copying them. Some people are even teaching about their style. It becomes a theory that people are learning from. They are so good with it. And the King is not getting anything out of it.

Is like they are increasing and the King is decreasing just like John said let me decrease so that he will increase and that is our position here.

Now, before we move on to the next verse, let's say this we are not simply that when people listen or you are in a particular set up or in a place of worship. Is natural for people to pick up gesticulation or attitudes or mannerism of whoever is there as a leader. It's natural for that to happen. We are not even majorly zeroing on that.

But what we are simply saying here is if people get to the point where they think those mannerism, those way of life or outlook of life is Christ. Can you see? when people think that is Christ. They think that is Christ. They think for me to be like Christ and is to pick up that particular trait in that person. It means whoever the leader is, whoever the person is, what we have done is, we have not actually play at the dynamics that we see in John Chapter 4 verse 1-2.

This simply says the disciples were baptizing but yet all credit was still going to Jesus. And that is why the prayer of Apostle Paul to the Thessalonians come to heart. And what is the prayer?

He said 'the Word of God may have free course among you.' That means when you present the Word, the Word of God is having free course as it is in the heart of the Father is getting to the people. There is no imprint of man left on the Word.

It's going unchanged as it goes passing you to the people.

You know it didn't say that the word might have a course, because of course you know when we say course like a river course. You know he didn't say I pray that the Word of God will have a course. That is good enough that the Word of God will flow. He says I know it will flow anyway, it will always flow. If you are a believer and you are presenting the gospel, the Word of God will always have a course.

But he said am more concern that it will have a free course. Am more concern not just that it flows, but am more concern that as it is flowing, is not leaving the imprint of man on it, is not leaving ideology of man with the Word at the time. Is not been colour. And that is why so that by the time you baptized men like they did in John

Chapter 4 verse 1, 2. If you baptized men into Christ, the glory will still be going to Christ.

We didn't see a situation where the disciples went around telling people and say make sure when you give glory, you give it to Christ. Make sure you give the glory to Christ. There was something on how they presented this baptism that naturally even the Pharisees could accuse Jesus instead of the disciples. Even the Pharisees could do it. There was something about the presentation.

Do you remember that sometimes, some people think that for something to give glory to God, it must really be very small. Is not the thing that is strengthen or get the press talking. They fell like as much the press is still talking and is strengthen then actually the glory is to man.

We saw in this place, it got people talking, strengthen, the Pharisee were talking too. People thought the more the number, the less the spiritual implication of it, that is worldly, it has nothing to do about God. And they feel the smaller it is, the more glory it gives to God and people have actually use numbers to know what gives glory to God or not.

But we could see here that there were result, we saw the press were talking. We see the Pharisee, it draw the attention of the public, but yet in the midst of the thing, the glory can still go to God in that greater vast numbers, in that result, in the magnitude the glory can go to God.

And in the same way, I want to believe you can do something so small and so little and the glory might not go to God and people give it to themselves and glorifying themselves in the little, glorifying themselves because they are in the village, glorifying themselves in the small number that they can still take glory. So is not about size or the numbers.

Thank you for that. That is a very great insight.

Is not about the numbers right?

In fact, you know atimes I check the scriptures and I see a lot of places especially in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John where the earthly ministry of Jesus was documented. I see lots of places where the Bible says the multitude gather, the crowd gathered. If anybody ever pulls crowd, it was Jesus.

So I don't see any reason why people will take pride in little numbers or few people and you are saying the reason why that is happening because those people have great numbers are not doing it the way God wants us to do it. That is nothing father from

the truth. If you want to take that kind of mentality, you have to accuse Jesus himself because there was always multitude following Jesus.

In fact, in most cases Jesus had to against having the multitude. He had to do a lot of things to make sure the multitude go away. So we couldn't use numbers, whether big numbers or small numbers to justify whether we are in the center of God's will for our lives. We can't use that. We have to use our spirit man, our heart for the Word of God to know if we are doing the right thing or not.

But the point we are trying to make is this, the gospel must be presented in such a way that even though we are the one blessing lives, the glory and the credit still goes completely to the Lord Jesus. And that is what we see in this introduction.

Don't forget today we've not actually began to look into this Bucket Ministry. Actually we just began to do the introduction. We've shared the vision with you. We've shared the purpose with you and we trust that you will actually stay with us and stick around us as we go verse by verse through this particular meaty aspect of the book of John Chapter 4 where we begin to look at the Bucket Ministry.

And again in this matter, I saw here in this verse, the verses that we read that Jesus has an itinerary ministry. He had a plan. Some people feel like they just need to sit down in a place with what they carry, people need to come, Judea, Samaria need to come to them. There is nothing bad in it. But we saw Jesus, He had the grace and anointing, he is going to Judea. He is connecting these all along. So what do you have to say about that?

The fact is Jesus specifically have this focus to make sure that the ministry and what He had actually was something that actually affected the whole world. In fact there was a time where he said he had to go to other places as well. It was something that was conscious about the way He did ministry.

Don't forget the covenant that was upon Abraham. And Jesus carried that same Covenant, where the Bible says God spoke to Abraham and said "through you and your seed the whole nations of the earth will be blessed." So Jesus knew that the gospel, the forgiveness of sins must be preached as a witness to all men.

So he had that consciousness to go from place to place, from people to people, from race to race. So that is why you can see that he was not conscious in this place and say well, he had to go from Judea to Galilee.

In other words, this gospel we are talking about, the true gospel as we see it depicted here is not a localized gospel. Is a gospel that goes to every tribe. If you go further, you will see it goes to every class of humanity.

So we cannot have a specialized gospel that addresses our locality alone, that address a kind of colour of some people. That address a kind of social status of some people. Is not the true gospel. Is a gospel that goes, that travels far. It's a gospel that applies to everybody from different cities, people from different background, even people from different gender. So we are able to see is not the gospel that is only for this particular gender, that cut across.

So whatever gospel we think we are sharing now that does not go round, that cannot go from many place, that it only take a particular set of people to understand it, is not really...

Let me chip in on that...

In the book of Mathew Chapter 28 where the scriptures says "go ye into all the world and preach the gospel unto all nations." The Greek word for that word nations was the word **ethnos**. You know when we say all nations, I used to think it was talking about going to every single country. Well, that is right. But specifically, if we are going to look at that Greek word, the word **ethnos** is where you get the word ethnic from, which means is talking about all races, all cultural ethnic people.

So it means even if you are in particular country, there are different races and ethnic minority or majority. He said I want you to penetrate every single type of race. So he says all nations, all **ethnos**. That is what he said. So that is the gospel.

And that is why when Jesus was promising them the coming of the Holy Ghost in Acts Chapter 1 when he was going up to heaven, He said you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. He was telling them about the coming of the Holy Spirit. He said you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you shall be my witness in Judea, in Jerusalem, in Samaria, then he says to the ends of the earth.

So he says whatever am going to release to you by the Holy Ghost, is something that should get to the ends of the earth. So we as a people, we must be global minded. The gospel has a global perspective. It has a global outlook. That is what the gospel is because it's for all nations of the earth. Is not for some few nations. Is not for some kind of particular culture.

Don't listen to the lie of the devil.

People talk about the fact that you see, the gospel is well suited or fitted for poor people or is well suited or fitted for some particular ethnic or group of people or is more suited for some kind of skin colour. That is not the truth.

The truth is, the scriptures says the gospel must be preached as a witness unto all nations and then the end will come. Is for all nations.

So I can induce perfectly from this that if we find a place where we find out that some people where they are spreading the gospel, the way they spread the gospel is only particular kind of people, class of people, particular language or dialect that can congregate, that can understand and so there ministry is only about some set of people that can understand. That shows that the Word of God is not having free course. There is something about it that is not having free course, is having some kind of coloration. Is having some kind of package whether they know it or not. Somebody has chosen not to be an Eunuch in which the way they can attract and only draw themselves, particular kind of class or reproducing themselves.

So that is an aberration, because that is not what the purpose of the gospel is. Because the purpose of God as rightly said in Acts Chapter 1 must go from this unto the ends of the earth.

So we find some people, even in some country they have the ends of the earth all around them in multicultural, cities.

That is why I said the word nations is ethnos.

And you still see its only a particular kind of people that they can minister to.

So we need to know the integrity of the gospel, is the gospel that is... and the purpose is to all nations. So whatever we are doing that is not getting across to all nations or all classes is not actually how it should be.

You said one thing as we round of up off, there is one thing you just talked about. This seem to go all the way back to where we started back today where we looked at Galatians Chapter 2 verse 14 that we actually saw that Peter had panelbeated the gospel to be relevant to the Jews. Because when some Jews came with James, Peter withdrew from eating with the gentiles making it look like the gospel of the Lord Jesus was going to be only relevant for the Jews. And what did Paul said? The reason why you have such an outlook Peter, is because you are not acting in line with the truth of the gospel.

See! if you are not acting in line with the truth of the gospel. It will become obvious in your life very soon. It's not something you can hide forever. What you say, how you

think, your belief system, how you relate to other people, it will show if you actually are acting in line with the gospel you claim to believe.

And that's why we are here on this Bucket ministry Series to actually open up the implication of the gospel, not just for unbelievers but for believers as well. So that we can act in line with what we believe and that is why we are here.

But for time, we will not be able to go because this is an interesting spot and am very sure there are so many examples in the scriptures to show about how this gospel has been modified, and then why we need this kind of message today and this kind of series so that we can call out every Peter, just like Paul was doing in Galatians Chapter 2 verse 14 to call out that this is not the gospel, where we have allow our own imprint, where we have allowed our own colouration, our own packaging, knowingly or unknowingly has come and wrap on it. And so we are not allowing the integrity of the gospel to shine forth as a vessel. So this is why we need to listen to this kind of, you need to come with us as we divulge...

You are saying what is the gospel? stick with us as we explore this Bucket Ministry. You can see that we've not even started.

We wanted to start with Chapter 4.

So I believe you are going to join us next time as we continue in Chapter 4 to even understand what this Bucket Ministry is all about. And what is the gospel is all about?

I will like him to think about what we shared. We want you to go back and do the studies on your own and be the Berean Christian here.

Should you have any question, do you have any comments, anything that needs clarification, anything you want to talk about, more about this. You know where to go, our page. We are welcoming all questions and comments as regarding this message.

So till we see you next time, we want to say as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him.

God bless you.

Bye!!!