

Why Mess With It??

Somebody said to me this week, about halfway through the week, "I've come to the conclusion I'm not CFO material." I said "Oh, why?" "Well, I went to a meditation, and it wasn't a meditation at all. I went to a prayer group and that was a discussion hour." Jesus never was mealy-mouthed. We've got to get so much love that we can speak the truth in love. I said to this person, "It's because you're so involved in CFO that you are hurt when a meditation isn't a meditation, and a prayer group isn't a prayer group. Hang in, stay with it!"

If you want a slogan for your camp, here's one -- that everything in the program be itself. Let the meditation be a meditation, nothing else. Let the song service be a song service, nothing else. Let the talk be a talk. Let everything be itself, and for heaven's sake, I began here at the beginning of the week and when I say for heaven's sake, I'm speaking theologically -- let prayer groups be prayer groups; how many more times do I have to tell myself or you? They are not times to expound anything. We had a beautiful moment in one of our prayer groups I was in when somebody said he was very worried about his grandchildren because his beautiful and very able daughters were going off to work. Well, what a thing to discuss! I said let's pray about it. See, it's a prayer group, not a discussion about the place of women.

Watch it, please watch it. Be loyal. Let's have loyalty, integrity, and discipline to the CFO conception, to what it's all about. If you want something else, then get out of CFO and do it some other place. Not because I want you to go, but because that's being loyal and that's having integrity, and that's having discipline and you can find it in the Bond of Faith. But we don't want any goats. If you want to butt in, butt out!

I say it in love, God might not want you in CFO, he might want you in something else, doing your thing. His thing in something else. But don't let us, after 50 years, have the cheek, the nerve, the impudence to begin to revise it. It's worked for 50 years, I see no reason why it shouldn't work for another 50! I have stayed in CFO and it's not been easy as a working minister. For 32 years I was in charge of churches, that's why you never want to make a minister a chairman or secretary of a camp, they can be on the Ring, by all means, but not too many of them. But I stayed with it because I believe in it and because I always see it works, so I'm not going to mess about with it.



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