11 WAYS TO KILL YOUR MINISTRY

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you!

Topic:
11 WAYS TO KILL YOUR MINISTRY
Text: John 15:4-6

Prayer

Dear Father we bless You for another time like this, we come humbly before, speak to us and transform us through Your word, help us to reign with You at the end, in Jesus Christ's name

You are welcome in Jesus Christ's name. Let's go straight to our study.

Bible Text: John 15:4-6

4 Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast them into the fire, and they are burned.

Study

One might wonder that what kind of topic is this? And how does it relate to our Bible texts? Before we conclude, can we sit down and listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit? Today, many of us want our ministry to prosper but we are the ones killing it by ourselves. It is believed that no one wants the ministry God committed into their hands to die. But the truth remains that a lot of people are killing their ministries already. This teaching is meant to highlight some of the things that kill ministry very fast. And not only ministry but also the spiritual life of ministers of

the gospel. Do you want your ministry to die within a short time? Then don't avoid all these things and you will see how quickly it will die. Or do you want your ministry to grow rapidly and survive? Then avoid all these things and see the positive result that will come from it. So I don't think you should be concerned about the angle this teaching is coming from. But be more concerned about the scriptural lessons you would learn which will affect your ministry positively.

One of the most powerful statements the Lord Jesus Christ ever made is contained in our Bible texts. But many are unable to see it or understand the gravity of those words. If people who are not called by God are ignorant of it, ministers cannot choose to be ignorant because everything about their lives and purpose would be at stake. The reason many miss it in life and ministry is because they fail to truly understand these words. Jesus Christ said, **John 15:5 (KJV)** "I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."

As simple as these statements are, they are loaded with meanings and are eternal truths no man of God should joke with. The truth is that man would not reckon with you when they cannot see something spectacular in your life. If you run your ministry like the way others do, I mean the majority, it would be difficult for you to make impact. Do you want to be extraordinary in your ministry? If this is your wish, then you must avoid the things that can kill your ministry. Just as a pastor friend of mine would always say, "I don't want to be an ordinary pastor." An ordinary minister is a minister that does things by routine. People can't see the power of God and the move of God in their ministry. They only repeat rituals every time.

These are ordinary ministers, this is not God's will for His servants. These ministers can't pray for the sick, can't even win a soul. They preach dry messages. They are just there. They are sometimes called figurehead ministers. Most times, they are the ones that make themselves so by killing their ministries with their own hands..Man and woman of God, no matter the ministry God has committed into your hands, if you want to kill it, just follow all I will be mentioning now and watch the obituary of that ministry declared by the heavens. It will so die that even men will know it. But I pray for you that you will not destroy what God has committed into your hands by your own hands.

There is no one that can succeed easily in killing what God has committed into your hands like you. Yes, read it again. Even Satan cannot. You are the one that can do so. Which is why you must be very careful. You must understand the statement the Lord Jesus Christ made, well, without me ye can do nothing. What does nothing mean? It simply means by "no means, in no degree." It can also refer to something that does not exist. It is the absence of all magnitude or quality. It is nothingness, nonexistence. Now look at it this way. Without Jesus, your life, your ministry cannot exist.

Which means everything you must always seek after is to abide in Him and by no means be detached from Him. I will go on to mention the things that can kill your ministry very fast as a minister of God. I know that from this, many people will know why they have remained ordinary ministers for many years.

Are you ready?

1. Laziness: This is when you are disinclined to spiritual activities or exertion. When you choose to be indolent. As a man of God, you sleep and wake up anytime you like. You are still on

your bed by 7 am. You claim it is good to sleep 8 hours daily. So you sleep without thinking you need to have fellowship with God. You will not only be weakening your spiritual life, you will be weakening your ministry. Because of laziness, you cannot pray for more than 15 minutes. You always see reasons not to do spiritual things. When it is time to pray or study God's word, you begin to turn from one point of your bed to the other, not wanting to stand up. It is a sure way to kill your ministry. "Go to the ant, you sluggard; consider her ways and be wise!" **- Proverbs 6:6 (NKJV)**

2. Reducing or stopping praying: Just reduce your prayer life. If you used to pray for 30 minutes before, reduce it to 5 minutes or don't pray anymore. You can even assign people to be praying for you while you yourself should stop praying. Then you will see that your ministry will die right before your eyes. There are those who believe their parents, spouses, friends are praying for them and they have stopped praying. What a pity! How can you abide in Christ when you do not have a prayer life? **1 Thessalonians 5:17 (KJV)** "Pray without ceasing."

You should not stop praying if you do not want your ministry to die. Because Satan is always available to stop what God is doing through you. Prayer connects your spirit to the Spirit of God. As such, remain in Him. But if you want your ministry to die, reduce your prayer tempo or stop praying.

3. Disobedience: This is another fast way to kill your ministry, when you always disobey God's instruction. This was also what king Saul did that killed his ministry. Many are like him today, whom God will tell to do something but they will choose their own way. If you are the type that loves disobeying the Lord's instruction, you have started killing your ministry.

This is because it will get to a point when the Lord will keep silent and will not instruct you. By then, you will enter a serious problem. Obedience is better than sacrifice. **1 Samuel 15:22 (KJV) "**...Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams." If you do not want to kill your ministry, then be obedient to the Lord full time. No matter how small His instruction may look to you, obey them.

4. Not controlling your appetite: Having appetite is not a sin anyway. You have freedom to do as you want. You have freedom to eat as you like. You have freedom to have sexual intercourse as frequently as you want. After all, you are married. You can eat anywhere you like. You can visit even your enemies and eat in their houses. Even at parties you are not invited to. You can buy things and consume them without praying on them. This will really help in killing your ministry. No days for fasting? and you love drinking any kind of thing. In fact, you say you do not drink beer, but you drink wine that has 5% alcohol. These things will assist you in killing your ministry fast.

Man of God, control your appetite. If you don't want your ministry to die, self-control is a fruit of the Spirit and it is very necessary. Put your body under subjection. This does not only mean sinful things, but things that are not sinful but can control you. **1 Corinthians 6:12 (KJV) "**All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient... I will not be brought under the power of any." Sex is good under the confinement of marriage. But don't let your life depend on it. There are times you deny yourself of that pleasure. I am not saying you should deny your spouse, but when you are the one always craving for it and that has become three square meals for you, there is a problem. You want to kill your ministry that way. Control your appetites don't

let them control you. Don't be like Esau who could not control his appetite.

5. Not studying the Word of God: This is another fast way to kill your ministry. Just run away from the Word of God and wherever the Word of God is being taught. There are those who hardly have time to sit with the Lord and study the Scriptures. They give different excuses as to why they cannot study God's Word. They are those who are killing their spiritual lives and ministry..Since there is no way you can abide in Christ and have His Word in you when you don't dedicate a quality time to the study of His Word, leaving your Bible always closed will kill your ministry fast. Man of God, always take time for God's Word. It is true that there are many things struggling for your time. Prioritize the Word.

Begin to adjust your schedule so that you can spend quality time with God's Word. Every ministry is built on God's Word. This is why you should not joke with it. No ministry can survive without His Word. Not studying God's Word will kill your ministry. **2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)** "Study to shew thyself approved unto God..." You must study God's Word. It is unnegotiable. Don't be the one to kill your own ministry with your own hand. There are instructions which the Lord would have to communicate to you directly through His Word and not through another means or person. But if your Bible is always closed, you will not get it and gradually your ministry starts dying.

6. Not evangelizing: You know that that is the commandment the Lord gave to everyone regardless of the ministry one is called into. Every ministry is meant to win souls for God. So when you stop winning souls, your ministry starts dying. When you lose the zeal for soul winning, you now sit relaxed, not caring about perishing souls and only concerned about yourself, then you are killing your ministry gradually. If you are here and you have not

preached to one single soul this year, note that you are already using your hands to kill your ministry. You need to arise and do the work of an evangelist. **2 Timothy 4:5 (KJV)** "...do the work of an evangelist..." Today, the work of evangelism has become more easy. You can do it anywhere. You can even do it on social media, in a bus, on the street, in homes, outreaches, villages, etc. Don't kill your ministry, win souls through what God has committed into your hands. You cannot tell if all you need to do is just to speak to that person about Christ. Do the work of an evangelist so that you will not kill your ministry because this is another way to remain in Christ. The more you witness about Christ, the more you know Him and draw closer to Him.

7. Starting to live in sin: In fact, this is the fastest way to kill your spiritual life and even your ministry, especially the sin of sexual immorality. Do you want your ministry to die tragically? Then start to commit all forms of sin. This is because you cannot work with God in sin. God is far away from those who commit sin. I believe some can see why their ministry has been limited. Now it is because of sin. Fornicating, adultery, masturbation, pornography, telling lies, accommodating lust in the heart, among many others, kills one's ministry rapidly. Those who sleep with church members and non-members will discover that they will not be able to have an extraordinary ministry.

You must stop all forms of sin by all means, most especially the sins of immorality, because sins will shut the voice of your ministry. Those who commit sin are of the devil. **1 John 3:8 (KJV)** "He that committeth sin is of the devil..." And because this is so, God won't work with them. They cannot abide in Him with their sins. At the moment a man cannot and does not abide in Christ, he is incapacitated. God hates sin so much. If you want His full presence in your ministry, do not condone sin, no matter how small it is. Sin in your camp will bring disaster. It is death in the

pot. Satan is the custodian of sin. As such, God won't have part in it.

8. Starting to use Artificial Intelligence to prepare your messages: You want to preach in church? Let AI do it for you. Just type the topic and let it write out the message. Then you will see how lifeless your message will be. Many do not know that what AI would give will be good to the ears, but it won't carry life that can transform. Going online to copy messages too can kill your ministry. I'm not saying you can't use materials that can help you in preparing your messages, but using technology all through without seeking divine inspiration will kill your ministry. I remember some time ago when someone accused me of copying my teachings online. I smiled. And wondered why he thought I would do so, he did not know that I do know the negative implications of doing such.

Don't be caught in a trap. Truly, it seems easy, but it has great implications. It will limit your relationship with God. I'm not saying it is bad to use AI or make researches when studying, but there should be a limit and caution. By God's grace, we would talk about how to use AI as ministers of God, if God will permit us. But don't kill your ministry by relying on AI. Don't let Satan take advantage of you. **2 Corinthians 2:11 (KJV)** "Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices."

I hope this is clear please?

9. Not having constant retreat: Run away from retreat if you want to kill your spiritual life and ministry. The reason the ministry of many is dying and has died is because they are carried away by activities and do not have time for personal reflection. Some do not have retreat in a whole year, yet they

keep ministering. This is why their messages are dry and do not carry life. At least in a year, you should have not less than three personal retreats. These are days you'd be alone with God, to get your spirit refreshed and let God give you a new template for your life and ministry. It is not every time you'd be on the mission field or on the altar. Withdraw and have a personal time with God. We learnt this in the life of Jesus. Before He started His ministry, the Holy Spirit sent Him on a 40 days retreat in the wilderness. And then during His ministry, He began to withdraw once in a while.

In the same way, don't let activities take the place of spirituality from you. **Mark 1:35 (KJV) "**And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out... and there prayed." This is also a secret place of personal encounter with God, but it is more intense than the usual one. Constant ministerial activities without retreats can reduce God's power in you. You must always charge yourself. Don't kill your ministry by always attending to people when your spiritual life is suffering. Face your spiritual life first, then you will be strengthened to help others.

10. Seeking for men's validation: In fact, this is another fastest way to kill your ministry. If God instructs you to minister in a kind of way, you can choose to start seeking for men's validation, that ministry will expire so fast. That was what happened to Saul. He listened to the voices of the people and neglected the voice of God because he wanted their validation. To hell with what man would say or think when God sends you on an errand, if you don't want people to be offended, you will kill your ministry. The Lord Jesus Christ did not seek for men's validation in ministry. He allowed those who chose to leave, leave, when they were offended by His word. If you want to keep everyone in your ministry, you will offend God, and that ministry will die. **John 6:60-61 AMP** When many of His disciples heard this, they

said, “This is a difficult and harsh and offensive statement. Who can [be expected to] listen to it?” [61] But Jesus, aware that His disciples were complaining about it, asked them, “Does this cause you to stumble and take offense?

John 6:66-68 AMP
As a result of this many of His disciples abandoned Him, and no longer walked with Him. [67] So Jesus said to the twelve [disciples], “You do not want to leave too, do you?” [68] Simon Peter answered, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You [alone] have the words of eternal life [you are our only hope].

Don't seek for men's praise nor validation. Focus on God. But if you want to kill your ministry, do away with this advice. But I will be glad if you take this advice. Let everyone who wants to leave because of what you preach leave. The only One that should not leave is Jesus Christ. If He leaves because you want to please men, that is the end of your ministry.

11. Losing sight of God's kingdom: The moment you no longer have heaven as your focus, your ministry begins to die. You must guide this seriously. Don't let anything shift your focus from the kingdom of God. **Colossians 3:1–3 (KJV) “**If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above... For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.” The moment you focus on earthly things, you will begin to do things in an earthly way, and by this your ministry will begin to die. Don't stop looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of your faith. **Hebrews 12:2 (KJV) “**Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith...” The moment you take your eyes away from Him, you no longer mind what God's way is, and you then begin to do things your own way, which will kill your ministry. If you want your ministry to stand, take the matters of the kingdom of God seriously. Live your life with heaven in view every day. By this, your ministry

will stand. If we look carefully into all the points mentioned, we will discover that they are all things that will not make a man and a ministry abide in Christ, which will then in turn render them inactive and reduce them to nothing. This is why wisdom says, avoid all as much as possible. Avoid them like plagues. If you avoid them by all means and you are faithful, you will certainly see difference very soon. You don't have to run an empty ministry. You don't have to be an ordinary minister. Jesus Christ wants you to bear fruit, but you cannot as a branch if you do not abide in Him. He is the one that supplies the nutrients to you, which is why you must do all it will take you not to get disconnected from Him.

I tell you that no matter who you are and no matter how far you have gone in ministry, the moment you cease to abide in Him, you will wither and die. Even that ministry too will die. It is only a matter of time. You know that when a branch is cut from a tree, it does not get dried immediately. It will take a while. At first, it will look like it is still surviving and fresh, that people may not be able to tell if it has been cut off from its source. But as time goes on, it will begin to show forth and it will become glaring.

John 15:4 NKJV Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. Your ministry will not bear fruit except it continues to abide in Christ. Remember that without Him, you can do nothing. **John 15:5 NKJV** "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing. If you are already disjointed from the vine, who is Jesus Christ, quickly get connected back before you die off totally. He is the only sustaining power. It is not too late. Think deeply and avoid all these ministry killers.

Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp **+2347067511039** and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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