

Mouth Problems:

Testimonies and Prayer Requests Magnifying Self

People can get real emotional and dramatic when they turn in a prayer request or give a testimony. These are two areas people can get into the flesh over real quick. In giving a prayer request, they want to tell you every detail, and even worse, they expect you to listen to it all! They want to tell you *everything* their doctor said about their condition, and proudly inform you they're the worst case their doctor's ever seen! They want to tell you all about their surgery and all the medications they have to take.

When you attempt to interrupt them to give them the Word, they quickly cut you off and go back to glorifying and magnifying their condition and what their doctor said about them, amplifying it to the max. They seem to get intoxicated hearing themselves talk as they suck all the oxygen out of the room.

When some people give a testimony, all you hear is "I ... I... I..." and "me, me, me." When it seems like the theatrics are more in play than Jesus, God's Word and God's power are, you've got a crisis creator on your hands. These people kill your whole service by quenching the anointing of the Holy Spirit with their drama, talking about themselves, and magnifying the problem. Sometimes, I think the church has more drama, emotions and theatrics in it than we do in New York City in the theater district! The more these dramatic Christians exacerbate the problem with their drama, the more it kills faith and the anointing of God.

Let me bring this up now: There's nothing that quenches the anointing more than when self is exalted. People are so used to going to a church that has little or no anointing. They are not accustomed to being around the anointing to the point that they don't even know what it is. Any minister, deacon, deaconess, elder or worship leader who doesn't stay prayed up and relies more on their ability and talent than the anointing of God is going to hinder the flow of God. It's sad, but true... There is too much man in church and not enough God, so much so that the programs, rituals and traditions have grieved the Spirit of God.

Prayer requests and testimonies have the same effect if they're done in the flesh. You ought to be able to tell, when you're talking, if it's too much of you and not enough of God. You may have recognized it at one time or another in someone else when you just wanted the person to shut up and sit down. Some people and even some preachers can seemingly go on forever, because they love to hear themselves talk and enjoy having others listening to them.

Lifting up Jesus, the Word of God

It's an imperative necessity that a believer always lifts up Jesus Christ: **And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:** John 3:14

When all you can talk about is what your pastor said, what your church taught and what your church believes, you're not any different than you were before you were born again, when you were a Protestant or Catholic church attendee, and you went to church out of moral obligation. If you are still talking about your church, and your pastor, you are not talking the Word and you don't know you're not talking the Word.

Normally, people don't want to hear about your church or your pastor. You're going to get their attention by giving them solutions to their problems, and by getting results with the Word yourself. When you get to the place that you can do that, they're going to want to know how you knew this, and where you learned it. Then you can let them know what church you go to and what minister you have. Don't become self-absorbed or keep babbling on about your church and what it's doing. ***Brag about Jesus. Tell everybody what God is doing!***

Remember, God wishes above all things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers (3 John 2).

Your Word of faith pastor,

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