

ANAHEIM YP PURSUIT

FAITHFUL IN SERVICE

Session Five-Ministry Reading

PREACHING THE GOSPEL

Verses for Pray-Reading:

Matthew 25: 21 His master said to him, Well *done*, good and faithful slave. You were faithful over a few things; I will set you over many things. Enter into the joy of your master.

Ministry Reading:

PREACHING THE GOSPEL

BEING A GREAT PRIVILEGE AND A GREAT JOY

We need to see that Preaching the gospel is a great privilege and a great joy. When a sinner is saved, the angels rejoice, praise, and sing in the heavens. In the Gospel of Luke it is mentioned twice that the angels rejoiced. In Luke 2 when the Lord Jesus was born, there was a multitude of the heavenly army, praising God and saying, "Glory in the highest places to God, and on earth peace among men of His good pleasure" (vv. 13-14). Then in chapter 15, when a sinner repents, the angels rejoice (vv. 7, 10). Christianity thinks that angels only sing Christmas carols on December 25, but the Gospel of Luke says that a sinner repenting can be compared to the Savior being born. On the day we were saved the Lord Jesus was born into our being, and the angels rejoiced and sang.

If we go on strike and do not preach the gospel, the angels

become unemployed. The angels might say, "We would like to sing, but there is nothing to sing about." We have seen many people being saved and have become accustomed to it. Hence, it seems that we are not interested, and we do not have energy for it. As a result, many saints take a leave of absence from Preaching the gospel. They even go into hibernation. However, in the matter of Preaching the gospel, we have been on leave long enough. We cannot hibernate any longer. Now is the time to wake up. We must all awake from our hibernation. Regardless of whether we are young or old, we should rise up, preach the gospel, and rescue souls.

LEADING AT LEAST ONE PERSON TO SALVATION EVERY YEAR

This is the time that we should devote ourselves to Preaching the gospel. We should consider the Lord's heart as well as the feeling of the angels. The angels look forward to the salvation of sinners. We are promoting every saint and every

home to preach the gospel, especially to preach the gospel in the community and even to go to the countryside. Our desire is for many more people to be led to salvation. In all of Taiwan there are at least nine to ten thousand saints who meet regularly. It should not be difficult for every one of these saints to lead one person to salvation each year. We all have relatives and friends, but are they all saved? These are not harsh words. One day the Lord will come to us and ask, "Where are the ones that you led to salvation?"

Luke 19 shows that the salvation given to us by the Lord is our capital. The Lord has given each one of us one mina. The Lord said that we could give the money to "the bank," and when He returns, He will collect the principle plus the interest (v. 23). Who is the bank? The bank consists of those whom we have led to salvation. We deposit salvation into those whom we lead to salvation, and these ones become our bank. We can continually distribute this one mina to people, and it will not be exhausted. Eventually, the one mina will gain ten minas. When we read Luke 19, we must pay attention not only to the story of Zaccheus's salvation but also to the story after Zaccheus obtained salvation; that is, we should distribute salvation to others. In this way, we can gain ten minas. Ten minas might not represent ten; it might be a thousand. The number ten signifies completion. When the Lord returns, He will settle accounts with His slaves. He will ask us whether we utilized His salvation to save others. Our answer will determine whether we can reign with Him when He

gains His kingdom and returns to establish it on the earth. This is not our imagination but a prophecy that will be fulfilled.

(Crucial Words of Leading in the Lord's Recovery, Book 5: Concerning Various Aspects of Church Service, Chapter 12, Sec.1)