PREVENTABLE PATHOLOGIES IN URBAN MINISTRY

POWER OF SELF EXAMINATION



Presenter: Delbert W. Baker, PhD

Adventist University of Africa

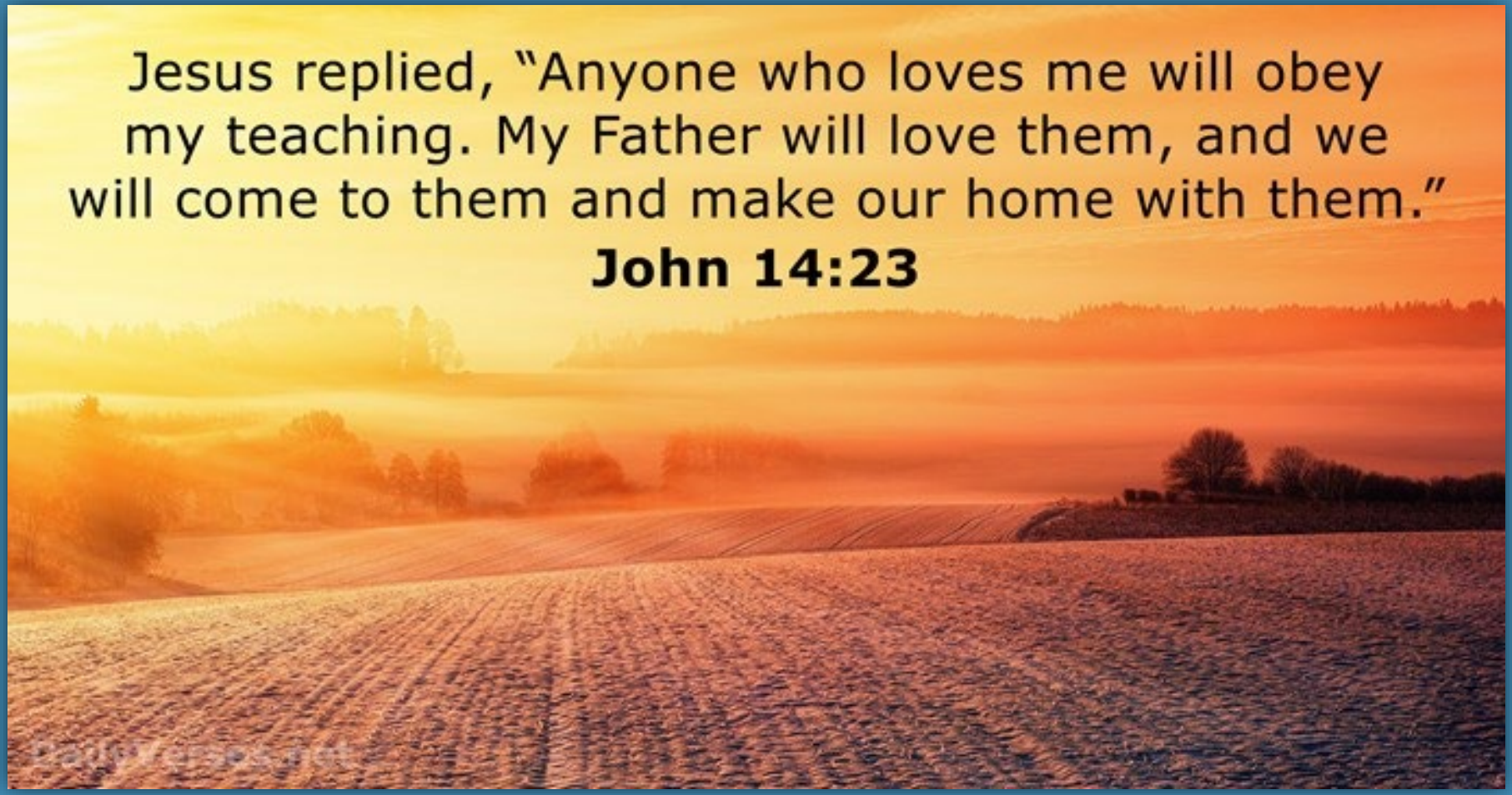
The Church In the City, CHMN 787

Wednesday, August 14, 2019

ESSENTIALNESS OF THE CHURCH IN URBAN CENTERS



Dark City in Need of the Light of the Gospel


Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them.”
John 14:23


THE LORD IS GOOD,
A STRONGHOLD IN
THE DAY
OF TROUBLE;
AND HE KNOWS
THOSE WHO
TRUST IN HIM
NAHUM 1:7

ROLE AND FUNCTION OF THE CHURCH…

"THE CHURCH IS GOD'S APPOINTED AGENCY FOR THE SALVATION OF MEN. IT WAS ORGANIZED FOR SERVICE, AND ITS MISSION IS TO CARRY THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD. FROM THE BEGINNING IT HAS BEEN GOD'S PLAN THAT THROUGH HIS CHURCH SHALL BE REFLECTED TO THE WORLD HIS FULLNESS AND HIS SUFFICIENCY. THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH, THOSE WHOM HE HAS CALLED OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT, ARE TO SHOW FORTH HIS GLORY. THE CHURCH IS THE REPOSITORY OF THE RICHES OF THE GRACE OF CHRIST; AND THROUGH THE CHURCH WILL EVENTUALLY BE MADE MANIFEST, EVEN TO "THE PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS IN HEAVENLY PLACES," THE FINAL AND FULL DISPLAY" OF THE LOVE OF GOD. EPHESIANS 3:10."

ELLEN WHITE, ACTS OF THE APOSTLES, PAGE 9

ROLE AND FUNCTION OF THE CHURCH…

1) "THE CHURCH IS GOD'S APPOINTED AGENCY FOR THE SALVATION OF MEN.

2) "IT WAS ORGANIZED FOR SERVICE, AND

3) "ITS MISSION IS TO CARRY THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD.

4) "FROM THE BEGINNING IT HAS BEEN GOD'S PLAN THAT THROUGH HIS CHURCH SHALL BE REFLECTED TO THE WORLD HIS FULLNESS AND HIS SUFFICIENCY."

ELLEN WHITE, ACTS OF THE APOSTLES, PAGE 9

ROLE AND FUNCTION OF THE CHURCH…

5) "THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH, THOSE WHOM HE HAS CALLED OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS MARVELOUS LIGHT, ARE TO SHOW FORTH HIS GLORY.

6) "THE CHURCH IS THE REPOSITORY OF THE RICHES OF THE GRACE OF CHRIST; AND

7) "THROUGH THE CHURCH WILL EVENTUALLY BE MADE MANIFEST, EVEN TO "THE PRINCIPALITIES AND POWERS IN HEAVENLY PLACES," THE FINAL AND FULL DISPLAY OF THE LOVE OF GOD. EPHESIANS 3:10."

ELLEN WHITE, ACTS OF THE APOSTLES, PAGE 9



City will Light up with Vibrant Gospel Centers

NEED SELF-EXAMINATION IN THE CHURCH AND ITS LEADERS

THE FUNDAMENTAL 4

CORE LEADERSHIP SKILLS

FOR EVERY CAREER



SELF AWARENESS

Understand your behavior's impact on organizational outcomes.



COMMUNICATION

Effectively communicate goals and inspire trust.



INFLUENCE

Be comfortable persuading, promoting, and delegating.



LEARNING AGILITY

Know when to change course, and help others to do so.

Center for Creative Leadership®

IDENTIFYING SPIRITUAL CONDITION (PATHOLOGIES)

1. ***Lam. 3:40*** — "Let us examine our ways and test them, and let us return to the Lord."
2. ***Psalm 119:59-60*** — "I have considered my ways and have turned my steps to your statutes.."
3. ***Matt. 7:3-5*** — "How can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' when all the time there is a plank in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye."
4. ***Romans 12:2*** — "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will."
5. ***1 Cor. 11:28-29*** — "Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup."
6. ***2 Cor. 13:5*** — "Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test?"
7. ***Galatians 5:22-23*** — "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."
8. ***James 1:22-24*** — "Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says."

Examine Yourselves



2 Corinthians 13:5

For the body is not one member but many. If the foot should say, Because I am not a hand, I am not of the body, it is not that because of this it is not of the body....And the eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of you; nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.

1 Cor. 12:14-15, 21

SELF AWARENESS REQUIRES SELF EXAMINATION

- Biblical analogy: "Body of Christ".
- Body need examination—it our job to do it.
- When a part of the Body of Christ, in this case, Urban Church Ministry and Evangelism, it is possible to contracts sickness and disease and starts to decline and experience illness.
- Need for Diagnosis and Prognosis (wisdom says put in preventive measures to avoid illness)…

DIAGNOSIS VS. PROGNOSIS: What You Need to Know

DIAGNOSIS

The process of identifying the illness along with its causes and symptoms.

PROGNOSIS

The process of predicting how soon the illness will progress.



EIGHT PREVENTABLE PATHOLOGIES*

*Please note that these eight words are not in the dictionary and were specifically created for this presentation.

I. BIASTITY

VS

BALANCE

1. **BIASITY:** INSENSITIVE, CALLOUSNESS WITH BIAS TO RACE, ETHNICITY, CULTURE

Diagnosis: partiality, favoring groups

1. Inappropriate words, actions that are racially prejudice and discriminatory.
2. Offensive words, gestures and stares that create discomfort and dis-ease.

Prognosis: impartiality, favoring all groups

1. Objective fairness with others.
2. One blood, no partiality Acts 10:34; 17:26.

Be Diversity Objective



2. CLUELESSE

VS

INFORMATION

2. **CLUELESSE:** NO CLUE ABOUT PEOPLE, PLANS, NEED TO SERVE, HELP AND WIN.

Diagnosis: people are off-focus

1. Attitude-actions born of hubris, pride, sloth cause one to be false assuming.
2. Having no knowledge, understanding, ability to do task yet forges forward.

Prognosis: people are center-focus

1. Before ministry, meaningful research.
2. Leaders does homework, 2Tim 2:14-16.

Be Widely Enlightened


STAY INFORMED!

3. EICOLLISION

VS

LOVING-EI

3. **EICOLLISION:** GROSS MISMANAGEMENT OF EMOTIONS WITH BLINDNESS TO IMPACT.

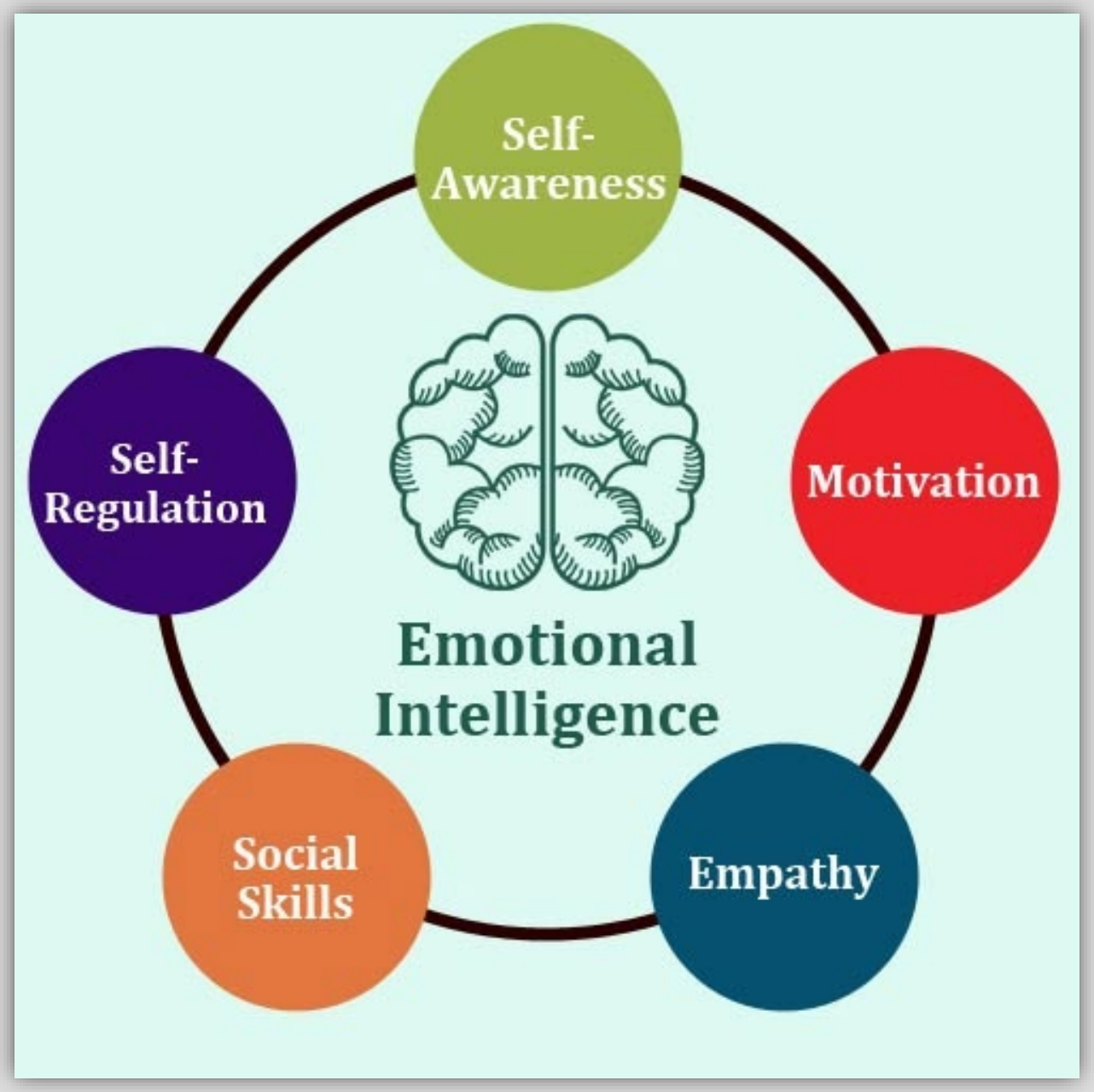
Diagnosis: little/no Emotional Intelligence (EI)

1. Lack of self-awareness and not willing to be patient and listen.
2. Argumentative, antagonistic, emotionally unstable and revengeful.

Prognosis: much EI/SI based in love of Christ

1. Loving God/people test of relationship.
2. Force of love drives life, Matt 22:27-40.

Be Relationally 360-Degree


Self-
Awareness
Motivation
Empathy
Social
Skills
Self-
Regulation
Emotional
Intelligence

4. FACADEOLOGY

VS

AUTHENTIC

4. **FACADEOLOGY:** IN, DOING MINISTRY IN FORM BUT NO POWER OR SUBSTANCE.

Diagnosis: maintaining facade

1. Deliberately using ministry and the church and religion for personal gain.
2. Regularly going though the motions while maintaining a secret life of sin.

Prognosis: seeking authentic ministry

1. Matching action with profession through confession repentance.
2. Seek truth in my inner heart, Ps. 51:6.


Integrity
Building Trust
Ethics
Challenging
AUTHENTICITY
Aligning Values
Self-Awareness
Supporting
Conversation

5. ORGANACIOUS

VS

ORGANIZATION

5. **ORGANACIOUS:** DISORGANIZED, HASTILY IDLY CONTRIVED PROGRAMS

Diagnosis: lack of organization

1. Initiatives and outreach programs have no clearly defined purpose or outcome.
2. Participants don't understand direction and purpose is obscured by chaos.

Prognosis: deliberately plan methodically

1. Make primary goal to plan right.
2. All things decently, in order. 1 Cor 14:40.

Be Organization Astute


BUSINESS
performance
SOLUTIONS
results
TEAMWORK
ORGANIZATION
services
MANAGEMENT
career
sales
STRATEGIES
MARKETING
support
planning
leadership

6. PRESUMTIONISTIC

VS

OBEDIENCE

6. **PRESUMTIONISTIC:** LITTLE PREP. OR HOME WORK YET WISHING POWER.

Diagnosis: Assuming power but no cooperation

1. Assuming God's blessings/success in task undertaken without doing part.
2. Having a false hope that presumes on outcomes when no effort expended.

Prognosis: ministry approached as partnership

1. Promises understood as conditional.
2. Co-workers with God, 1Cor 3:9.

Be Genuinely Faithful


OBEDIENCE
of FAITH

7. RANDOMITIS

VS

TACTICAL

7. **RANDOMITIS:** ON PURPOSE, PRODUCT, PROMOTION RESTS FABLES, FICKLENESS.

Diagnosis: done with randomly

1. Programs/projects aren't based on research/evidence but on whims.
2. Facts about the context are replaced by canned programs/old theories.

Prognosis: study to speak to needs

1. Above and for all—gospel to the world.
2. Christian Commission, Matt 2819-20.

Be Plan Specific

What to study?

WHAT TO RESEARCH?

What to practice?

8. STALAKATY

VS

FRESH

8. **STALAKATY:** PHILOSOPHY, APPROACH, OPERATION IS OUTDATED, INADEQUATE

Diagnosis: no original thought, stale

1. The methods, materials and manner is no longer, fresh and relevant.
2. The content and organization is from another time/age: disconnected, staid.

Prognosis: each event receives focus

1. Ministry involves issues of life/death.
2. Honor to God is priority, 2Tim 2:21.

Be Fresh-Thinking



fresh
thinking

PATHOLOGIES, ANTIDOTES, CHALLENGE

	PATHOLOGY	ANTIDOTE	CHALLENGE
1.	BIASITITY.....	Balanced.....	*Be Diversity Objective*
2.	CLUELESSE	Information.....	*Be Widely Enlightened*
3.	EICOLLISION	Loving EI.....	*Be Relational 360-Degree*
4.	Facadeology	Authentic.....	*Be Truly Confidence*
5.	ORGANACIOUS	Organization.....	*Be Organization Astute*
6.	PRESUMTIONISTIC	Obedient.....	*Be Genuinely Faithful*
7.	RANDOMITIS	Tactical.....	*Be Plan Specific*
8.	STALAKATY.....	Stale/Dry.....	*Be Fresh-Thinking*



God Bless the Cities and Urban Center of the World.



Delbert W. Baker, PhD
Vice Chancellor
Adventist University of Africa
Nairobi, Kenya
www.aua.ac.ke
www.africansdahistory.org