



Lecturing from the President Byeong
in the light of
Ministry, Philosophy, and Leadership of Dr. Melvin
(Number 47)



Manipulation or Motivation

Dear students,

This is a rather sensitive issue. But let me think of it as a general approach. We have to be careful about the difference between motivation and manipulation. Both make people move, but manipulation is not good for long-term ministry. We may use it from time to time, but we must be very careful in that case. Sometimes it is too much, but it is easy to cause misunderstanding from the others. We had better avoid such an approach as much as possible. And we also need to learn more about various ways to motivate people. This is because all ministry starts with motivation and requires continuous motivation.

It's a very necessary feeling that "I'm contributing to good things," but when they feel "I am being used" by the other person's words or coercion, they think it's a little weird. Modern people are very sensitive in this respect and feel faster than before. In particular, they want to know if they are motivated or manipulated in the first place.

Sometimes we have to move people. In that case, even though they know that it includes a feeling of manipulation rather than motivation, there is also a temptation to approach. We can take a horse to the water, but it's his own decision whether to drink water or not. It can be seen as 'manipulation' to force people to drink water unpleasantly. If we use this too often, it becomes uncomfortable to continue to socialize. In the meantime, if we seem to do it often, we often feel that we have to quit a little while being hurt. After all, We have to be careful of ourselves, and we also have to pay attention to the people who treat me as well. It seems unwise and wasteful to have to spend time and energy on these unnecessary conflicts while doing good things.

What is the boundary between motivation and manipulation? How do we tell it apart? Motivation is a pure-dimensional approach, while manipulation can be seen as a psychological and technical aspect of artificially moving people. Motivation is what we do for a given goal with the other person, and manipulation is using the other person for our own benefit. Motivation includes care and consideration. Perhaps altruism other-centered is fundamentally underlying. It results in maximizing the other person's potential.

When serving as a team or when two people become involved, there are two necessary factors known. One must be individual development, and the other must be meeting goals. There will have to be care and encouragement in the first, and there will have to be motivation. There is no need for manipulation to go in there. In my case, I have never been in a relationship with Rev. Melvin for more than 30 years and he manipulated me. When I think about it now, there was mainly 'consideration and encouragement for me'. It is remembered that there were various aspects of motivation after all. Nevertheless, I grew up and achieved the given goal.

Professor Jim Collins of Stanford University also said that in order to achieve the group's goals, people who are prepared should be taken on the bus. The words do not mean manipulation. In the end, it means that we should go together with encouragement and consideration. I think people who are prepared mean people who are self-disciplined. In this day and age when everyone is mature, all our leaders need to do is to give direction and motivate.

I think all ministries should start with motivation, proceed with motivation, and be completed with motivation. Of course, there are difficulties in the process, but if the manipulation permeates it, we will regret that we have worked hard and tried so far. This is because everything has been achieved, but it did not end with a pleasant heart.

Weekly Axiom

*When you're surrounded by a world of constant lies, manipulation, and deceit,
that dark energy is bound to seep into you eventually.*

(Jeffrey Bowyer-Chapman)

THIRD, YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE. You Know You are Committed. And your commitment is often tested. You are subject to disillusionment, the no-moon stage of ministry. You savor, doubt, fear and chafe under the burden. At times you are tempted to quit and at other times you are tempted to do only the minimum, just enough to satisfy your conscience. You don't like this side of you. But you are saved from making the unwise choice to quit by drawing renewed commitment and energy from the underlying substance. Your wavering is real, but so is your compelling desire to serve your Lord. To be mature in ministry is to "endure hardship like a good soldier of Jesus Christ" (II Tim. 2:3).

You Know You Are A Climber. You are not a quitter, not even a camper, but you keep pressing for the summit. At times most people's enthusiasm fades, vision dims, convictions waver and commitment weakens. In reading the counsel Paul gave to Timothy, we can assume that this young pastor also had those times: "I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God which is in you....;" "You then, my son, be strong...;" "But as for you, continue in the things you have learned;" "discharge all the duties of your ministry." The words fan, be, continue and discharge are "climbing" words. To be mature in ministry is to resist being either a quitter or camper and to be daily renewed for the climb.

And so, what happens when the honeymoon is over? Rather than quit, you accept the heartbreaks along with the euphoric. You are ever maturing in ministry because the hardships are teaching you new things about yourself, your people and your ministry. You are drawing from the love-giving energy of the substance underlying your ministry. ●