

Weekly Column
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Melvin University
and Me

DWYSYWD

The title of today's article is in English, which means, "What you said you would do." [Do What You Said You Will Do]. Of course, I always remind myself of the seven letters of the title to make it easier to memorize. I still find it very beneficial to me. I saw this word and its concept many years ago, and it is still vivid and trying to apply it to my life. The promise we said is to keep. There are often cases where promises are overstated unconditionally, and group leaders are considered to be careful in small groups in the church.

Of course, this phrase is very inevitable in the pastoral care of laypeople, and what they promised should be kept. I found that there are several characteristics of people's failure to keep their promises. 1) It is a case that some people have become accustomed to not keeping their promises. These people do it more often than others, but they may do it unconsciously. 2) Some people are very busy and don't take appointments seriously. 3) Some people use one excuse or another too often, like lip service.

It is important to keep your word, but it is often easy to neglect. It's a big mistake. If we can't meet them on time, or if we can't keep their promise, we should be informed in advance. For example, if you say, "See you next time," wouldn't the other person wait? That's why Reverend Melvin emphasized this in the P.A.C.E. training manual as well. This is an important factor in the 'qualities' of caregivers, so it is not a problem that can be solved by lip service.

This is actually directly related to reliability. If we don't keep our time commitments, it will hurt our credibility, which is very basic in starting and continuing with each other's relationships, so they may not trust us from the start.

I have an experience myself: I was supposed to meet someone the other day, but he said he would come soon, so I waited on the street for hours at night. I'm sure he knows I'm waiting, but he called me a few hours later and went straight home for one reason or another. It was a calling to me when he went home. Listen, I understand his situation, but I'm very unpleasant and angry. I thought about how much it would be nice if he called me in advance. Of course, it is true from a third party later, it is his habitual. The credibility is flawed.

And the other is that we may often make mistakes, saying "I'll pray for you!" too easily, too often. As believers, we often say this consciously and unconsciously, but how much do they believe that we really pray for them? Of course, we mostly pray for them, but if we don't actually pray for them as we say, it's futile and just ends in 'lip service'. I mean, we should definitely use these even little things consciously.

In conclusion, there is something I realized that although we make promises to people, in fact, we also make promises to God. He knows what we say, what we do, what we don't do. Let's remind that it's also a promise to God.