



Lecturing from the President Byeong
in the light of
Ministry, Philosophy, and Leadership of Dr. Melvin
(Number 1)



Things to add on FAITH

Hello students, good to talk with you on this paper. I am going to write about the Ministry and Philosophy of the late Dr. Melvin J Steinbron who was the founder of LPMI USA. He wrote many invaluable resources for us, so I will introduce them to you and to paraphrase with my own words. Today, I will write one of his nineteen Letters to lay pastors, Things to add on Faith.

From the standpoint of the Lay Pastors Ministry, we are also responsible for the ministry at the same time when we are saved. In other words, like both sides of a coin, it is salvation/ministry. We all know that salvation is by [faith]. The question is what the ministry is and how to do it, and first, it is related to gifts. In other words, it is best to follow the gifts we received. It is to make sure that to be given the gifts was to do the ministry. The ministry is for the benefit of the people, the church, and the world, and it can be said that it is unpaid. I don't think it's a ministry to make money. (Difference between ministry and job)

Salvation is a simple thing, but on the other hand, ministry has many aspects to consider, and Rev. Melvin put more emphasis on "being" than "what will you do?" during ministry. In other words, we can say "What we are!" and "What we do!" In other words, in order to be good at ministry and become long-term, it means that both quantitative and qualitative must be equipped. In short, faith alone is not enough to make ministry more effective and long-term. Dr. Melvin seems to have thought about these two things in depth, and I guess this is what he felt while working in the United States for more than 30 years. Some people think that faith alone can do everything, but it also means personal salvation, and it seems to think of ministry too easily, saying, "Is qualitative development so necessary?" Therefore, although he starts his ministry well, it is common for him to live short.

Then what kind of people should we be to be effective and long-term in ministry! Something should be added to and supplemented by faith. One qualitative aspect of ministry does not seem to be a sufficient condition. It is basic to understand and consider others as an easy example, but this alone does not create synergy. It is also very limited in terms of effectiveness. We often believe. Wishes and love, but is that enough? In order to be effective in ministry, there is something that must be added to faith.

The Bible says such things, II Peter 1: 5 to 8 verses. For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, mutual affection; and to mutual affection, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In other words, in order to feel that there is fruit and that there is meaning and value in our lives, the above seven things must be added to faith. It is goodness; knowledge; self-control; perseverance; and godliness; mutual affection; love.

In order to succeed in ministry, these seven elements must be added, which means that if one of them falls out, it will weaken that much in ministry. I would say that we, the ministers, are responsible for training and supplementing ourselves. Of course, it is not something that will be solved overnight. These are things to keep trying and trying. In that case, our ministry becomes effective and productive.

First, you should be a *good person as much as you can*. We sometimes have an evil heart for those who are not good to us. However, it is necessary to continue to maintain goodness and to establish and maintain virtue in human relationships. This should precede the ministry itself. It is difficult to expand externally if you do not benefit internally first. 2) Faith requires *knowledge*. Better say wisdom. I think visible wisdom is needed, and invisible wisdom is also needed. I think everything is a mindset that our Lord rules and manages. 3) There should be *self-control* in faith. Saying everything and expressing everything is considered a fatal mistake that reduces the effect. There are sometimes such people, and hard work is a case where the honor accumulated by hard work is discarded at once. 4) *Patience* must be added to faith. One professional worker said that the success and failure of every ministry depends on whether you persevere. It also appears in the Bible a lot. Endurance, undaunted, unchanging, faithful, reliable, etc. are expressed. 5) You have to be *godly*, not secular. Some people have good faith, but they are so absorbed in trends, pride, etc., that they confuse whether they have faith or not. Let's say that there is a woman who brags about a bracelet worth 40,000 dollars while hesitating 100 dollars in mission funds. People will naturally have doubts about her beliefs. 6) *Brotherhood* is like friendship, and you should have an attitude of loving, understanding, and accepting brothers. 7) Finally, *love* must be added to faith. The word love is said to appear 158 times in the New Testament. Of course, it is Agape's love for everyone in the Greek sense. This is different from brotherly love, and the saints must exchange special love with each other.

As you can see above, [faith] alone cannot be effective or productive in ministry. This is, of course, an essential addition. If you don't work and think, "I'll only maintain my personal faith!" you don't need the above supplementary qualities - but sometimes there are people like this, but if you want to do something meaningful or valuable, you should pay attention to the above supplement. How sad would it be if it ended up with results that were not as effective or productive as expected when we invested a lot of money while working hard and bleeding and sweating! ●