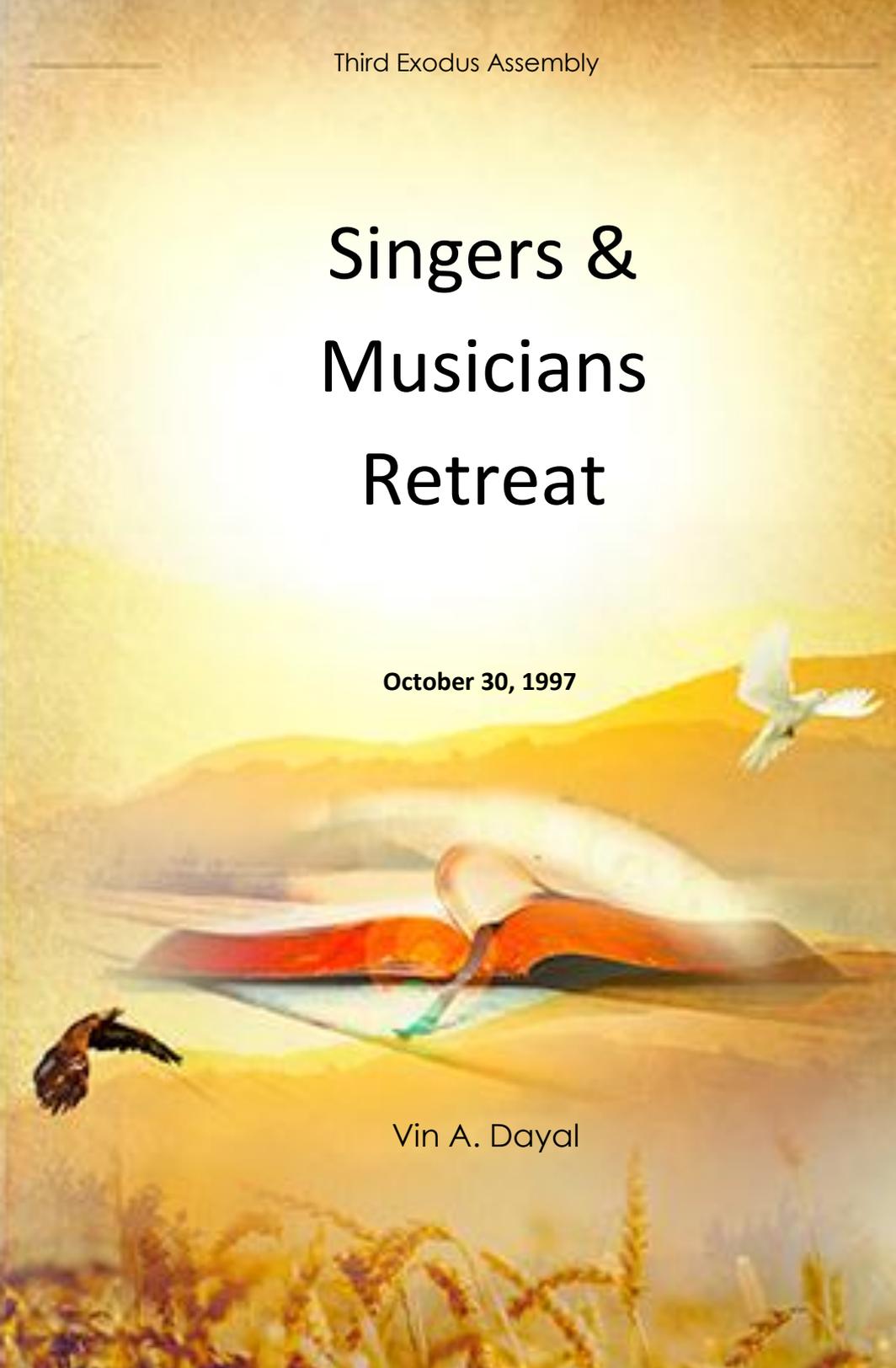

Third Exodus Assembly

Singers & Musicians Retreat

October 30, 1997

Vin A. Dayal

The background of the entire page is a painting. It depicts a landscape with rolling hills in shades of yellow and orange, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. In the foreground, there are some purple and yellow flowers. A white dove is flying in the upper right, and a dark eagle is flying in the lower left. The overall mood is peaceful and spiritual.

Third Exodus Assembly

SINGERS & MUSICIANS RETREAT

Monday 30th October, 1997

LONGDENVILLE, TRINIDAD

Bro. Vin A. Dayal

Excerpt:

So if you are an outlet where God flows through to His people, if Satan could stop you up, then he already has the Body ineffective. And that is why you don't do much good to the Body if you don't understand your place and your ministry; if you don't understand your service. And that is why in fellowship like these, discussions go in certain areas where it could help enlighten you on what a ministry is and the areas you need to look in a ministry, and things you need to understand about a ministry, and in doing that because there is a ministry in your life, it helps you. Because it helps you to understand why at times you are discouraged, why at times you are low, why at times you are moody, why at times you feel indifferent, why at times you get up in the morning and you feel like you are the biggest sinner, though you didn't commit any sin, but you feel so backslidden in your own self and you don't understand that about yourself.

And while that is happening to you, you don't know how to relate to it. But that is happening to you because there is a ministry inside of you. And though you may not understand what you possess, Satan knows what God put in you better than what you know. Because you have to learn about it, but he has had six thousand years where God put the same thing in people in every Age and he knew how to paralyze those things and he knew how to keep people, and then he knew the people who discovered it and know how to develop it and see it expand. (Page 7)

Singers' Retreat

Monday 30th October, 1997

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FOREWORD

This is a sermon preached by Pastor Vin A. Dayal and is published through the freewill offerings of the members of the Third Exodus Assembly.

It is intended to edify the reader and make clear the Bride-Promises of God, which were revealed through the ministry of God's Prophet-Messenger, Bro William Marrion Branham, for the Elect in this Day. It is not meant to promote any special doctrine or person, save, the Lord Jesus Christ and His Divine Word.

The original video and audio recording can be accessed through our website www.thirdexodus.org

We pray the blessing of God upon each reader and may illumination by the Spirit of God be each one's special portion.



SINGERS AND MUSICIANS RETREAT

Monday 30th October, 1997

LONGDEVILLE, TRINIDAD

BRO. VIN A. DAYAL

Well we want to welcome everyone and you just feel free to feel relaxed. You know this is a little time that we have together. Normally we would have liked to have this outside, but because of the weather we have to have it inside. We are trusting the Lord that everything just gets fair and nice so the rest of the saints when they come up a little later, we could have a wonderful time together.

We tried to capitalize upon the holiday today and the availability of everyone to be able to come out, and we certainly appreciate the effort you have made to come out, even though we are starting a little late. We really didn't have this planned like a meeting of such in the sense where we come and you get spoken to because especially now, we are trying to put everything in place to make the transition, a smooth transition of bringing the church into one place, in one mind, in one accord, and this is what we are trying to do. And knowing that we have some of the saints from Princes Town and Cedros [Places in Trinidad -Ed.] here who also actively participate in the ministry of singing and music and these things.

We would like maybe to speak a little bit along some of those lines because some people might even have questions in their minds as to if they had a ministry functioning where they were; how would that operate when you come here. It's going to be the same thing. It is not going to be, you come here to sit down. Everything just has to be expanded and this is where we would have to make whatever readjustments that would be necessary to do these things. And we certainly want everyone to know that once the ministry is used in the house of God for the advancement of the work, it has to continue to be like that.

Being here is just a location where we have the facility to operate in a more effective way. That means buildings,

grounds, equipment, and that type of thing. The church is really the people. So it is not like we come here in this building and then who was in this building before means that they have a first place. Nobody has a first place or second place in this building. It means as a singer, you are placed already in the Body of Christ and wherever the church is gathered together and the Spirit wants to use that ministry, that is where it is going to be used. So it is not like you come up in Abel country, in Abel country church, because Abel country is just a geographic place. So whether it is a Song Leader, whether it is a musician, whether it is a singer, whether it is a Minister, whatever it is, the ministry is to operate by the grace of God and would have its equal space for the service of God.

Because as I said, God put ministries in people and the ministries are for the Body of Christ. Sometimes the ministry might be in a location. You may have somebody in Cedros ministering to ten people and you have seven hundred people up here that the ministry is really for. And so if the ministry came here, then the purpose that God has for the ministry to minister to the Body will not be paralyzed and just keep ministering to seven or ten people when it is supposed to minister to seven hundred people. So even in the music, the music will have to be readjusted. All these things would have to be readjusted. Every one of us, from captain to cook as they say in the army, and from Pastor to janitor has to readjust to accommodate what is happening.

This has to be understood. This is a message we want to communicate. We want to get it over in clear terms. We want everybody to move around in the bed and don't hold on to the cover or keep the cover under your particular pillow or hold on to a particular pillow. This whole thing has to be shared up by the grace of God with respect to the leading of the Holy Spirit and what the Holy Spirit wants done. This has nothing like superiority, and who is older and who is younger, because I believe by the grace of God, it is who God wants to use. This is not even going by chronological age. The time came when God told Moses, "Tell Aaron go up on the mountain and die. Take the clothes off him and put it on Eleazar. His ministry is

finished.” So a lot of even old patriarchs could get extinct even around this bend. We don’t even know what is happening.

So by the grace of God, I didn’t say that to make anybody’s position feel threatened. I know Bro. Glaude was the first one to complain when these situations came around, but my point is just my way of getting over to say, I don’t want the smallest person to be despised, and that is my way of saying, give the space even to the smallest person, and let us don’t get categories now in our minds because I am not seeing that kind of categories.

When you are a builder and you have to do renovations in a house, things that were put down one way for years, has to break down and the room will have to change. And so when this type of renovation is taking place, we realize that certain things that we live with for a season may have to break down only to make the room more suitable for a growing family by the grace of God. And so you know when you have a two room house and then you want to add a next room because the children are growing now, now you have to separate the girls from the boys; you have to do different things. Now some of the bigger ones are working and they want they own space in the house, you have to think and consider needs that you would not have considered when they were smaller.

So we understand that in natural family life, we understand that in spiritual family life, and this is what is happening with us at this stage. Because of the development of the work at this stage, it means to say it is going to bring about certain changes that would not be to make the work weaker, but it is to make the work stronger. It is to allow God the privilege and the opportunity to work more effectively, to work in a greater way, in a more diversified way and to bring a greater blessing to His Church. So this is what is going to happen; it is going to be the result of it. So in the end we see it is going to be something positive. And anything positive, anything to advance the Kingdom, anything to glorify the Name of Jesus Christ, every true born-again believer is happy. Do you believe that? Sure.

We are not like Jonah going and sit down under the tree waiting to get some personal vindication. We are just happy whoever God bless, whoever God use, praise God. That is my vision. I always say I'm glad to even get among the Sunday School children if you give me a chance. I don't have to be up there preaching up a storm or something; anything God wants to do. I want to be like David. God made him the king but he said, "I would rather be a doormat in the house of God." So it means to say he saw and understood the value of where God had him and he knew that wherever God put him, God is his Owner; God is his Maker and Designer and the program is not just to satisfy him. The program is to glorify God and show what a great God, God is.

So if God chose to use us in whatever way to show what a great God He is. And sometimes God wants to reveal humility, like when God came and was born in a manger. God could have been born anywhere else. He had the privilege to choose where He wanted to be born and He chose a manure pile. If it was some of us, we wouldn't have given Him that birth. If it was some of us arranging our own birth, we would have arranged it in a way that when they speak of that fanfare, it would have been a fanfare incomparable with. But He arranged His Own birth and it was such humble, lowly surroundings because He wanted to teach us something about Himself. Then He began by taking the low place. And He Who humbled Himself was exalted because the way up is down. He was the great God but took the form of a servant.

And so we here in the house of God, we desire to be blessed of God; we desire our ministry to shine; we desire to be like stars in His crown; we desire to know that the people are blessed and enjoy what we do in the service of God; we desire that our efforts would be appreciated, but yet all these things have to be ordered by God. And whatever way God choose to do it, we just want to be satisfied because this is what Christianity is all about. Even when God makes you to be in a place where you are considered important, that is when humility and sincerity is demanded of us in a greater way, and that is where it is most easily forgotten. That is where we thrive sometimes

on the attention that we get from people. We thrive on the compliments that are being given to us. We thrive on these things and then sometimes that changes our attitude.

But God wants us to be humble and when we are blessed to realize that He didn't have to bless us. He didn't have to do what He did for us and what people are really being blessed with is not us, it is Him. And so when we realize it is Him, we mustn't behave like that is us and we must be thankful, and that must cause us to want to be more sincere and dedicate our lives more; to realize God doesn't wait until we are most consecrated to bless us. God blesses us with us conscious of our failures and our shortcomings and some of our sins, that we could realize He could bless us that way. You see?

So that would cause us to realize that, "If God could bless me and I have all these shortcomings, then He might bless me a little greater if I desire to be a little more sincere and humble myself a little more lower." So when you see God bless that way, you just want to get a little lower; you want to get a little smaller. You want to get a little more sincere because you realize that "Lord, I am ashamed of myself that You came to bless and You didn't withhold Your blessing. You still blessed and you had to bless even while I am in this condition. Lord, let me get a little lower that the next time when You bless, the blessing could be greater, because if I am in this condition, and I mean to say somehow I hindered some of the blessing because I am not in the shape for You to flow freely, well think of if I could be in the shape where You could flow really free."

Each servant of God, I believe when God bless you, the first thing you look at and you may see yourself and you realize what in the world this is, and then you realize how undeserving you are to even be used. And this time maybe eighty percent of the people can't see the shape that you are in when you could go before God and you show that to Him and you don't behave like that standard is okay because God is blessing anyhow. Because remember if we are not in a certain condition and that blessing is coming, remember the rain falls on the just and the unjust. We could be rejected in the end. We could be false anointed. So if you are a tare, the rain could fall on you still just like it falls on

the wheat. So your satisfaction is not just the rain is falling on you. Your satisfaction is that you are bringing forth the right fruit. So that is why a real believer doesn't want to just rejoice in the blessing and being blessed.

So to be in the service of God is a wonderful thing. It is good. As I always say when we get together like this, we who participate in a public way among the believers and who stand before the church, we enjoy that status many times and sometimes we enjoy it more and we look for the enjoyment of it, then we realize what it costs to stand there and how a person has to walk if we have to continue to stand there. And then again sometimes people who are gifted and blessed of God and being used of God and would participate in front line activities, that is where you get the most arrows. That is where you get wounded. That is where you could die easily in the battle. The person who is in the kitchen doesn't die as quickly as the person who is in the front line. The enemy arrows doesn't find you in the kitchen as the enemy arrows find you when you are in the front line in the battle.

So though it's a great place to be and be blessed and be used, it is a dangerous place. That is why many times we always have to have encouragement for each other, a support for each other because when you do something for the Lord, all hell comes against that. And when all hell comes against that, sometime you see a brother or a sister being used in the service of God being most attacked, is being most persecuted, is being most easily misunderstood, is being most easily criticized and many times we could get discouraged because Satan knows...

If you have a building and you put up certain lights, security lights, and you see somebody coming in, a thief wants to come in that building, those lights are going to expose him. So if he wants to be a successful thief, he will try to eliminate those lights. He would try to put those lights out so what he is coming to do, he can come in unrecognized, un-discerned and he could have a free way to do what he wants done. And that is why you who are lights, you know, your very service for the Lord, your testimony, Satan comes against you because he knows if he could discourage you, if he could eliminate you, then he

eliminates the source of encouragement for the rest of the Body.

Because as a ministry God flows like the river. The river has a fountainhead which might be a big lake or a spring where the water is derived from, but the water goes throughout the entire land, through tributaries because that river has tributaries that comes off of it that take the water all over the land to make the land a watered land. If that river just goes one way and there are no tributaries, then all the volume of water will keep going one way.

But when we have the whole Body of believers and some are drawing off the preaching, and some are drawing off of the singing, some are drawing off of the recitation, some are drawing off of the life here, some are drawing off of somebody's testimony over here then it is one Holy Spirit – one water but many rivers. See? Rivers of water. So you realize then that if Satan could eliminate that, then many people where they draw their encouragement and their strength from, they wouldn't have it coming to them. That is why in the Old Testament they used to dam up the rivers. They used to stop up the wells and when they did that, they starve out the people.

So if you are an outlet where God flows through to His people, if Satan could stop you up, then he already has the Body ineffective. And that is why you don't do much good to the Body if you don't understand your place and your ministry; if you don't understand your service. And that is why in fellowship like these, discussions go in certain areas where it could help enlighten you on what a ministry is and the areas you need to look in a ministry, and things you need to understand about a ministry, and in doing that because there is a ministry in your life, it helps you. Because it helps you to understand why at times you are discouraged, why at times you are low, why at times you are moody, why at times you feel indifferent, why at times you get up in the morning and you feel like you are the biggest sinner, though you didn't commit any sin, but you feel so backslidden in your own self and you don't understand that about yourself.

And while that is happening to you, you don't know how to relate to it. But that is happening to you because there is

a ministry inside of you. And though you may not understand what you possess, Satan knows what God put in you better than what you know. Because you have to learn about it, but he has had six thousand years where God put the same thing in people in every Age and he knew how to paralyze those things and he knew how to keep people, and then he knew the people who discovered it and know how to develop it and see it expand.

Like the man who knew how to take his talent and bring five more. Like the man who knew how to take his two talents and bring two more. But the man who he held who had one talent and made him bury it, in every Age Satan made people bury things that God gave them. But there were some people, he couldn't make them bury it. They went on to double what they had. You see? And that is where you have to realize and learn these things about yourself. And when you learn these things about yourself, because you are gifted for certain things. Some write, some could write poems, some could paint. See all these things come by inspiration. These are talents in people's life. Some could cook, some could sew; some could do different things. Some people have more than one. They could play music, they could sing, they could cook and they could sew. See?

So when you see people have these type of things in them, they have all these things in them, their life is that much more complicated. That is why Elisha could plow with twelve yoke of oxen. To plow with twelve yoke of oxen is not easy you know. To manage all of these things in your own life and keep it straight takes a lot of discipline.

And that is why sometimes you find men like Einstein and they couldn't tie their own shoelace. Their minds were thinking in such a far level it wasn't getting down in those places at all. When you look at them, their tie wasn't matching their shirt. Their shirt wasn't matching their pants. Their hair looked like if it was not combed this morning or they forgot to comb it this morning. Why? They were waking up with mathematical formulas in their mind. Do you think they had time to brush that hair? They had to run in and start to write down those things fast. Before you know it, half the day is done. If you came home and

met them, they looked unkept, but they were coming with a formula to save the world. You see? It is because this is the way people's life are.

And that is why sometimes when you are hearing a part of the Word saying, "Keep yourself looking a certain way," you feel condemned because you say, "But that is not me at all." But then when you come out you are blessing people. Then you feel like a hypocrite: "How come I am blessing them and I can't live this next way?" You see. But the thing is, it's Satan trying to mess you up. You have to know what your major is and what your minor is.

You see the Prophet had a prophetic gift in him, but he had a gift of healing too. So while he's working with the gift of healing, he said, "This is a minor you know. This is a minor you know." But there are men now who doesn't have any gift in them to receive the Word, but they only have a little healing, so they were making that a major; but the Prophet was making that a minor because he was looking for the Word. So you have to know your majors and your minors in your life. So don't mind if your shoe doesn't match your dress sometimes. That is your minor. Once the experience matches the Word that is your major. You see?

So when you get into that kind of atmosphere, it means something for you. What I'm saying is making sense to you? You see it is spiritual life; it is inside life we are talking. It is a make up of people. And do you know why that would mean something to you and it wouldn't mean anything to six hundred people in the Assembly? Because what you are called for. But you see, you have to get convinced you are called for what you are called for.

Because even though you are called for something, when you come among people in the same thing, in the same field, you say "I'm a singer," and we all came here like singers today; not me, I'm preaching. Do you know what happens? It's not sliced bread. Everybody, it is not divided up equally. So even in here there is a battle, because one will sit down and say, "But I can't sing like her. Me, I'm not a singer. I can't sing like him. I'm no singer." See? And then you start to get a next fight again. You see. Because it is not...

God in His program—just like the fingers in the hands. It is a hand and all are fingers, but all are not the same length and all are not used for the same thing; and even the position where God put them on the hand... What if God put the thumb in the middle here? If you see a man with a thumb in the middle, you say “But his hand is deformed.” If a man has a hand with the thumb in the middle, he’s wearing only long sleeves and he’s buying the sleeves longer than what he would normally wear it, because he doesn’t want anybody to see that so much. Do you understand what I mean?

And if somebody notices and says, “Hey, how is your hand like that?” He feels a complex because he knows everybody’s hand isn’t so. But you know he might be able to play a guitar a certain way, but then when he has to do something else and use a tool, he can’t do it and he realizes, “But this is a deformity. This isn’t the regular way, but it could be used for certain things; but the things it is being used for, I don’t enjoy that. It’s a deformity.

And that is why many times spiritual people go through the most mental battles and mental struggles. And do you know what gets them down? They prefer just to be a normal member in the church and live a normal life because it seems like a life with a ministry or a gift is too complicated to live. So they wish sometimes that they didn’t even have that; just live a normal life. They won’t get any pressure. But you see the thing is, it’s not to satisfy you, it is to glorify God.

I notice that I have been stressing that recently because I feel the Spirit wants to help a lot of people who get locked in only thinking about what they should do and how they should do it and then look for a satisfaction after doing it. Well the thing is, when God owns you and God tells you to do something, it may not be intended to bring any personal satisfaction and benefit to you.

God may tell me, “Go out in the rain and help that person there.” Well, I have on my best clothes. I don’t want to go out in no rain and help no person. I mean, it is not that I don’t want to help people. You mean God couldn’t choose a day when I had on old clothes to tell me to go and do that? Well the thing is, it’s not so much to please me. I

belong to Him. He owns me. He purchased me. We are not our own. We were bought with a price. And if He wants to use me in rain and He provided the clothes and He wants those clothes wet on that day, because that is intended to show that person who feels nobody don't care for them, and God could show them I could sent somebody in their best clothes in rain to help you because I so love you. Well then the benefit is for the person, not for me.

So, many times people when they are doing something for God they say, "Well I didn't enjoy that so much. I don't think..." Because there is a time when God wants to bless them and they enjoy that better. They don't look at the value of the need and the achievement of God you know. They look for their personal enjoyment: "Well I enjoy that one better." Well, do you know what that means? They are on personal benefit. They are not on God's service and how God is seeing things.

I'm inspired right now you know. I'm very inspired here right now in what I'm saying. I go to talk about how we're going to have lunch just now. I don't know how I got all here. See it start to flow. Now this is what we are talking about. You see how close we get in God's Presence quickly. That is how God is. You see.

And the thing is, what happens with things like these, many of you can be a better servant of the Lord. Many of you have the potential, but many of you need to grow in your knowledge of the Lord. As you grow in grace and knowledge of Him, you become a better servant. And a real servant, when you come to the perfection of being a servant, you don't do anything to please yourself afterwards, and you don't care what benefit you get. And in the end you say, "Lord, we are your unprofitable servants."

Because after you serve in the field, and after you serve in the house, and after you take care all of the master's needs, then you think about you being satisfied. And while you are serving the master you don't think about "But, He doesn't know I'm hungry? He doesn't know it is all day I'm in the field? He doesn't know it is all day I'm in the house after I came in there. He doesn't know I'm tired." No. The master knows that he appointed a time for you to seek to

get your needs met and he appointed a time for you to be used in his service.

So the servant must first learn his place, must first understand if he is a servant, he has a master and this kind of master, he is not employed for reward. The master is not obligated to give him anything because the master purchased him with his own money. He belongs to the master and the gifts he has is the master's own. He gave his own servant five talents. In other words, the servant is his and the talent is his.

You belong to God and whatever gift you have—if you have a gift to whistle, God gave you that. Do you know why? Because you are going to meet thousands of people in life who can't whistle. All they can do is phew, phew, phew, phew. And you find you could [Bro. Vin imitates whistling -Ed.] and do all kinds of different things. God gave you that.

Listen to the birds. You take a hen and you put her in a cage, brother, she makes more mess in the cage. She smells up your house. She makes it miserable for you. She gets sick in that cage and die. You get a nice picoplat or bullfinch [Trinidad birds -Ed.] or something inside there. You give him a little seed [feed him -Ed.], he will whistle all morning. He would wake you up and sing all day while you are doing your housework. Do you know why? God gave him that to whistle. So that is how it is.

So don't let the devil bombard your mind, discourage you, make you feel you are nothing in the sense that well you are not really called. That is why calling is a mystery in the Word and that is why servants of God who don't get in the Word a certain way, don't understand their ministry and who don't pay attention and learn how to grasp and benefit from talks like these; where certain keys are given to you to open certain locked doors in your own life, and you let these things bypass you, then you would be missing your opportunity. You would be missing your calling. But you see these things are intended to open up certain doors in you, to give you a command in your ministry; that you can learn how to work with the Spirit and become more effective in your ministry and begin to look a little deeper in your life and realize God made you up that way.

And let me tell you, you will see peculiarities in your life from a little child and the more you learn to be yourself, and the more you learn to work with how God made you in your peculiarly, it's the more you'll see the Holy Spirit come in. The more the devil could hold you and paralyze your mind, make you see you have nothing and you wish you had what somebody had, and you are trying now to copy that person or impersonate that person, it is the more the devil is succeeding in stopping up your well and making you dig a cistern. But you have a well. Everybody has a well, an artesian well. But Satan is the one who stopped up that well and dug a cistern. And a cistern only depends on local rains, but the artesian well is connected up. There is a fountain; something pushing it.

So you will find that you will have music. You will have a melody in you. Whether you are in your kitchen, whether you are in your house, whether you are travelling in the car, whether you are in school, whether you are on your job, whether you are in church, whether you are outside the church, you have a melody. And you are going to find that sometimes the way God is going to lead you to discover things is strange ways, because when God lead you to discover things, it's not just to build up the gift, it's to give you the character to use the gift a certain way.

So sometimes the natural man may say, "Well, I am a singer so let me get a few song books and read up on some song books and learn the history of singing and learn..." No. God may say, "Go and clean that room that wasn't cleaned there for so long and get yourself organized in that room." And you start to clear out all those old books and everything else and you come across something; or God brings an incident that makes you sad and makes you feel so hurt and you feel so disappointed; or some mistake you made in your own life and you get in a corner. And then inside of there He comes and puts a song in your heart or He leads you to certain things. And then you begin to realize He is teaching you. He is developing your gift. He is revealing Himself to you. He is teaching you and showing how He can lead you into things, and then He is teaching you how to follow that Leadership.

So then it is a relationship being established between you and the Lord; it is faith in your own anointing coming; it is a knowledge of how God works; it is showing you how He builds character in a person; it is showing you how He supplies you with inspiration to be used in His service that when you come there, it is because somebody in the Body needs that. So when you minister it, it brings strength, it brings healing, it brings encouragement, it brings motivation to the lives of people.

And then when you don't even know it sometimes, afterwards the testimony comes out: "I was so blessed when you sang that song. You know you sang that for me as if I alone was in the building tonight. You know I was going through something that nobody knew, only me and the Lord and when you sang that song God spoke to me right through there." And you begin to see something; and then you realize that remember, God will test you with ministry.

Sometimes Jesus leaves the ninety and nine and goes for one. Jesus greatest meeting and the greatest things He preached was with the two men on the road to Emmaus. And when you get caught up in the big Hollywood productions like what the Pentecostal church tries to project, and the big conventions where the big singers have their big show and their big concert, and they are bringing on certain people, then you are getting pulled there, when the Prophet who could have packed stadiums went to one person in the wilderness, he says, "Who will never get touched." He went to forty people in the desert, he said, "God will give me a better thought here."

And God would see if you like to sing to big crowds or if you like to sing to one. And God would look and see if when you sing they clap for five minutes afterwards and you say "I really sang good tonight." And then nobody wouldn't clap and then one person had some tears running down their face, hurting; because remember it is Jesus in you, can't change His way in the Bible. Because Jesus knows five thousand come for bread and fish, but He crossed land and sea for one – Legion.

So He is teaching you sometimes. Then sometimes when you don't know that and you didn't get that, if you are in the flesh you know what you try to do? You try to work the

crowd. And you try to mash your X [accelerate -Ed.] and go hard to get something because a successful service is when everybody shouts to you; but God is not so. And other people's inspiration, who knows inspiration and knows the Holy Ghost, see that and start to realize what you are working. You want to feed your own ego. You don't want to be a servant in the Master's hand. But the real thing is to be a servant in the Master's hand used in the Master's service.

That little part was a little bruising, but don't mind. That is where it builds the character. That is where it breaks you and molds you to be a better servant. That is where the iron pyrite, the thing that shines, comes out of the gold and the gold glows and reflects the one who is beating it. See. And that is why when we have a time like this, because remember what is going to happen now, you all have to step up to another level. Now that we are moving into a more unified condition for the service of the Lord, God have things in mind for that.

If you understand how they make a vehicle... You may see maybe even a tape recorder and these things. Those parts are made by specialist departments in different places. What you see as a unit inside of that one tape recorder, there are big factories just making heads. Other big factories are just putting up the boards, other big factories are just making the rollers and different things and then other factories are assembling them.

So sometime God takes certain parts before He assembles it. Certain parts need to be in Princes Town, certain parts need to be in Cedros; certain parts need to be here, but when the time comes and God starts to assemble them, it is because now they are going to fit. They had to be machined and honed to a certain place. And when they begin to fit, it means to say when you start to assemble and fit up, you are getting ready for performance; and when you are getting ready for performance, it means to say—because God doesn't do anything just for show. God does something to reveal Himself, to manifest Himself, to serve a purpose; and that is why we are to serve a purpose.

So consider this a pre-talk. We want to have lunch first; sit down and relax and then after lunch we will just

continue afterwards. So by the time, our time would be up and then the other Saints will come for the service. So I am going to put a pause here. You have a little lunch. Everybody stay right here, sit and eat, enjoy each other's company and fellowship, meditate on some of these things. If I keep talking, by the time we finish, the first set would be forgotten by the time we come to the end. So it's good for a little pause here. While I hold your attention here, you kind of digest your natural and digest this spiritual; and then we will pick it up again.

Because Bro. Bishop had something in his heart he felt—this originated with him. He felt that when the holiday was coming up we could have had a meeting with the singers and so on, and then I mentioned as well we were going to have a youth service in the evening and that is how that came about too. He felt certain things was being missed. He felt that in the last season here with the messages and the services, the way it was and the things God was doing, that the songwriters could be catching some of what was happening to keep it alive, because there are certain things happening that is not being kept alive; or even though it has been attempted to be kept alive, it is not being brought in a certain channel to anoint the faith of the people.

So we would like to address maybe a little something on songwriting just on that particular theme; but this first portion covers more the inside life of those who have a calling to say, know yourself a little better. Don't fall into the same trap and get discouraged and get gloomy and feel set back. Remember poets and prophets and these people who were inspired, were neurotics. They were people with highs and lows. It was hard for them to stay in between.

Elijah had a Mount Carmel; called fire and rain out of the sky and then he had a juniper tree. He hardly had an in between. And it's hard for people to live that way because their life is not designed for themselves. Their life is served for the others in the Body. You could back out; you could find a hole and dig it and bury your talent or you could rise up and say, "Lord, give me the strength. Make me tough in the place where I need to be tough, and these things, let me get a hold of it that I can be the kind of servant You want me to be that I can understand my ministry."

If you read about the Prophet when God sent him out, the man was gifted, but how to use the gift and work with it, he didn't know how. He cried. He couldn't handle the meetings. After two visions, they were driving around for hours in a car. People were waiting. People traveled hundreds of miles to come to the meeting, waiting for days to get a prayer card, then here is the man with all the gifts and can't operate the meeting, because to work in the supernatural, it's so difficult. After years he said, "I still didn't handle it right." He said, "People doesn't know what these things take."

When we read the messages, we see Bro. Branham misquoting things back and forth and these things, and then we see people in the natural mind, theological saying, "If you are a prophet, how come you misquoted that? How come you said seven hundred and it was seven thousand? How come you said Enoch lived for five hundred years when the Bible didn't say that?" And they criticized him and all kinds of different things. Because they think you are sitting down in a room and studying theology. They don't know what it takes for a human being to have that ministry.

He said, "Friends think. The Son of God with the fullness of the Holy Ghost, virgin born, without sin, one vision He held His head and said, 'Virtue left Me'." He said, "I am a sinner saved by grace and it is about ten visions already." He said, "The prophet Daniel, he said his head troubled him for twenty one days with one vision." He said, "Look how many I had for the night already." When he tried to leave the field, the Holy Spirit said, "You are called to a different calling than the Old Testament prophets. You even have that plus the apostolic order. You are called to even pray for the sick and these things." Because they lived in a city, they lived in a community but this man's ministry was for the whole planet. Think of it. Because this is the end of civilization. This is the end of man's history.

So that is why we, as I was saying last night in the service, the dirt around us doesn't mean much. Some of us wish we had American dirt or European dirt. Some of us are so complex because of civilization that we wish we had

a different dirt because we evaluate ourselves by our dirt. But you know God evaluated us by the attribute of eternal life inside. That is what He purchased. That is what He couldn't deny. That is part of Him. And may God help you and give you understanding with that. Let us just say a word of prayer and they could get a chance to serve.

Father, we thank You for this few little moments. Dear God, we realize You are so close to us. You said to the Israelites, "Open your mouths and I will fill it with good things." And surely dear God, if maybe I had tried to prepare something to say to them, it would have been something out of my own mind. But when You know what they have need of and You know how You want to use them, and You know you want to climax Your work, and You know You want to make a greater demand and use them in a greater way in this Hour, though the thoughts come in our minds and though we make the decisions, we think we are making them, but it is Your influence and Your direction and leadership governing our lives Lord.

And Lord, we pray that, that faith would be so anchored and these things would be so revealed, and not only revealed for service, but it would bring a love in the hearts of Your children for you. It would bring a knowledge to know You whom to know is life eternal. It would give them an inner strength; will teach them how to possess their vessel in sanctification and honor, and be a real representative of Jesus Christ. May You grant it Lord!

As we are about to take this little pause and have some natural food prepared to make this little occasion a blessing and even as a token of our consideration and expression towards these who labor so many times in Your service and go unrewarded, let these few moments that we spend today in each other's company, would serve to let them know that we recognize that ministry in them. We want them to know that Lord God they are Your servants, and they could conceive this in a real and clear way.

Now may You bless the hands that have labored to prepare this and the sources oh God that contributed to make it possible; and dear God even all those that have worked to bring it about that it can be a blessing and encouragement. May You sanctify it and may it bring

nourishment and strength to us, and may the rest of the session that we are going to have today be a wonderful time and an edifying time, that Lord when we get ready to go into the service this afternoon with the others coming up, Lord it would be a great outpouring of Your Presence among us. It would truly serve a purpose and benefit us; cause us to be stronger Christians Lord; bringing a stronger church to face the challenge of this Hour. May You grant it Lord!

Have Your Own blessed way and bless our fellowship and give us joy and freedom and liberty. Give us love for each other Lord. Take away complexes and things that are sins in our lives; things that we inherit from our parents, where we feel Lord so funny sometimes, and we feel so inhibited Lord, and so retarded to express ourselves. Give us expression Lord. Let us realize oh God, each person is a son and daughter of Yours and we could enjoy each other's company. We could laugh with each other and we could hug each other Lord, God. We could fellowship. We could talk and respect each other Lord, and Lord we could stand for each other rather than be jealous and envious and all kinds of petty things coming among us oh God and make us so spotted with humanism. Lord, may You purge us from these things and may You break down these walls and all kind of cultural barriers, and all these different things Father. Let us be just washed in the Blood and anointed with Your Spirit and knitted together by love Father, to be a beautiful little church here reflecting Your glory in this part of the world. Grant it Lord. We thank You for all these things in Jesus' wonderful and precious Name, amen.

[The meeting continues after the lunch break. -Ed.]

[Sis. Arlene and Saints sing song #594, Songs That Live. -Ed.]

Let us have a word of prayer. That is how we feel, just ready to fight one more time again.

So good to be in Your Presence Lord. So good to be under the influence of Your Holy Spirit to feel the unity of Your Divine love that is knitting our hearts together, Lord to make us one unit Lord, one instrument in Your hands that You Lord can show forth Your glory in this Hour.

Bless us once again as we continue Lord in this little time of fellowship. May the things that You see necessary Lord, the things that You know that it is needful, the things that will help us Lord to be able to truly take that position Lord; to come into it Lord, under Your Divine leadership. The things that we need to observe, the things that we stumble over many times, the areas that is yet to be enlightened and Lord where we need to be taught a little deeper in, Father and the insight that we need to know how to work with Your Spirit even in these realms, Lord, we just pray that You bring it to our hearts. And You said You will write Your laws in our hearts and our minds. You cause us to walk in your commandments Lord.

Father, make these things a reality Lord. We truly can be written epistles read of all men. We truly oh God, can be the expression of Your great Word in this Hour Lord. Your great Light could shine forth out of our lives and Your great purpose could be fulfilled knowing that dear God we just have a few more days to labor and wait here, then the toils of the road will seem as nothing when we come to the end of the way.

And whatever it will cost us Lord, give us the willingness in our hearts to pay that price of self-denial, self-crucifixion. As Paul says, "To die is gain. For us to live is Christ" that we truly can live by the faith of the Son of God, that it would not be us who live Lord, and whatever we are faced with will not be shaken back. We will know that You strengtheneth us. We can do all things through You. "Nothing shall be able to separate us from the love of God." Even though we are counted as sheep for the slaughter all the day long; even though we are delivered up to death for Your sake Lord seeing that we have this ministry as we receive mercy, we faint not. Where we are persecuted, we know we are not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; perplexed, but not in despair, always bearing about in our body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that this Light could be made manifest in our mortal flesh. Grant it Lord.

This is our desire Father – to tabernacle Deity; to see that Deity on display, knowing this is the great mystery – Deity and humanity, God and man becoming one – God's great Mystery of love expressed. You said, "In that day you shall

know I in you and you in Me.” Bring us to this knowledge Lord; such an intimate knowing, but we desire it Father. You said, “We shall know as we were known. We will see face to face.” Oh God, there will be no more fear, no more doubt, no more uncertainty. Every move we make would reflect and represent You. This is Your achievement Lord. Bring it to pass in our lives Father. Teach us how to cooperate with Your Word. Have Your Own blessed way now we ask. Lead us and guide us in Jesus’ Name we pray, amen.

Praise Him. Knowing that if we go to discuss, in our discussion right away, it would just apply maybe to the ones basically who have written songs or who write songs and those who maybe are getting inspiration to write songs, and knowing that not everybody may have written a song or find that they can yield to that kind of anointing, because God called them for something else.

So before we go right into that, it would be good maybe seeing that what we have spoken thus far, and things that you may have had in your hearts hearing about what we are trying to move the church into, and knowing that the people who we consider in the ministry of singing and music and these things in the church, that’s a ministry that will continually be in operation as long as the church is in existence. And there may be areas that you would like to maybe understand a little better. There might be something in your heart, there might be things that you might be seeing that you feel that is being paralyzed or handicapped in some way and you may have a suggestion or something or the other. I don’t know. I mean, this is a good little place because we are here to put our efforts together in this department that we can see a real development, a real strength, that the Body in return that we minister to would be able to really be on the increase as long as our ministry is in operation.

If our ministry is in operation, the ones we are ministering to, it must be an increase for them. If they are stagnated and not moving, then it means to say what we are putting out maybe is not having the effect it should have; but if God is increasing us then we can minister increase to them as well.

So, maybe in your own life, maybe things you want to understand better in the ministry; maybe you see that this service in the Assembly could be even more effective. You know, sometimes to me I am still waiting and looking forward to see a greater participation, which I trust that we'll have as we become more unified in one place. Because seeing that we are in the process of trying to take down some of the old things that were like standard.

You know when I came, when I started to preach in the Message after when God started to open the Word, I came to a place where I told the church, I said, "We are not going to look to any church for any example. We have the Word that the Prophet has given. If God give us Light, let us walk in the Light. If God is showing us something, we don't have to wait until ten churches move and then feel we are getting confidence now, we can move. You walk in the Light God give you because each church has its own purpose that God raised it up for."

And one of the things in the church I battled for years and hopefully I am looking for the day it would be completely eliminated, where we are bound by routine services. Come to church Sunday morning, come to church Wednesday, come to church Friday and we go so from week after week, from month after month, from year after year, and we get stuck in that routine. I feel that if we are the people of God; if we believe that this is the Age of the Rapture; if we are going out; if we know that our time is going to be cut short one of these days; if we have a discernment of the needs among us and we see what God had given us, we need to have inspiration to know how to work best and capitalize on every opportunity that the Body can truly come to the development that it should come to and be in readiness; be prepared to go.

And that is why I was saying last night too you know, whether we will have some services during the day. In other words, we are not looking for total attendance Sunday morning or Sunday evening; or total attendance on Wednesday. Who could come Wednesday, come Wednesday. Who can't come in the night and have a problem, come in the day when you have a day service.

In other words, if you in the Assembly and the Word is going forth, the important thing is that the work is being done. In other words, you say “I can’t move because I can’t come out in the night.” Well I don’t think you can say well four people can’t come out in the night so we have to abandon the thought. No. They could come out in the day if they can’t come out in the night.

The thing is if God is doing something and—then when we have the week free too, then if we have to have a *Men’s Meeting*, we have a *Men’s Meeting*. Right now when you have services Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Sunday, I mean you don’t even have time for your family some of you. You don’t even have time to—if you have to have a men’s service or service with couples, service with young people, you can’t even do it as you ought to do it. You have to wait until a holiday comes up or you have to plan a special meeting to do that. You have to shut off other meetings and that type of thing.

And all these things I want to get away from. It handicaps and retards. And the thing is, wherever the need is in the Body at a certain time, and when you get set in your mind a certain way, it is difficult for people to adjust, because people like to stick to routine; and it kills me because I like to see achievement. I don’t like to be doing something and nothing isn’t coming out of it. If you are putting effort into something, you are putting time into something, if you are making people gather in the place or something, there must be a reason, a benefit, an achievement. It must be to the advancement of the Kingdom; it must be some personal benefit that is going to be derived out of it and it must be some way that God’s purpose is going to be achieved.

We are not just going to come and go through the motion and when we are done we can’t tell what progress we made, what was accomplished, but we kept our tradition. We observed our day. We went through our routine and ritual. I mean that... We are too enlightened a people to be bound and handicapped by those things. And that is one of the things that strangle the church for years. That is the one of the things that have many churches that call themselves Message churches paralyzed and can’t move.

And it's sad to see that people go along week after week hoping to go in the Rapture one day. They are just living for the Rapture and they are living their lives and they can't see they are fulfilling the Word. They can't see they are occupied in God's service. But the Rapture is like an escape that one day finally this horrible life will be over, when the eternal life we have is in us now. Death is only going to change our dwelling place. What we are here, is what we will be on the Next Side; this same thing in a glorified body. And the victory now is to display this life, to show forth the victory, to show forth what Calvary achieved, to show forth the Church. The Church will display its power even before we change in this body. Think of it. So then it shows that how we really can capitalize.

And so if there are things you in your own ministry and something that relates to your function in the house of God—because that is why sometimes you are a singer; you come out maybe once a week and then it is difficult for you. You see people who recognize a calling, feel an anointing in their life for a certain kind of service, they have to be available in service continually. Sure there will be times and circumstances. We are not saying that would be questioned if you can't come every service day. But what I am saying is, you strive for that because you are conscious that is part of the mechanism that cause the mechanics to operate.

I mean the car could do without maybe a bumper. A bumper doesn't have anything to do—that is just to protect the body of the car if you get in an accident so you won't get bad damage. That would not be running the car. Do you understand what I mean? So sometimes there are things in the car that does not necessarily have to do with the engine. But if you take the carburetor out of the car or you take out the distributor or something, you are going to have problems. The car wouldn't really be moving as it should, if it would move at all. You see?

And that is why people with ministry they have to know that. See. And you have to understand, ministry means a greater demand on your life in the service of the Lord. And then sometimes people if they fail to see the need to have some dynamics with your mechanics, and dynamics is the

Holy Spirit. Mechanics is the gift that God put inside of you. But if the Holy Spirit is not there then only now and again when you feel a touch, and you get a little spark, you might kind of kick off a little something. But you have to live in a place where you are linked up with the dynamics, where the Holy Spirit can be operating and that takes a life on the altar. And sometimes to get in these areas it's little keys; it's little things that people need to know how to get into it and that is why it would be good by God's grace.

If you want a question first, maybe one or two people, whatever before we switch over and deal with the songwriting. So just something that relates to the ministry, your ministry in the house of God, and how best maybe you can function or what you see hindering you from functioning: whether you are shy... Now remember there are people who are shy, okay. Now people could be shy to meet a lot of people; to be around a lot of people and sometimes you enjoy being more by yourself because it is part of your make up. That is good too. I can't say try not to be in a place where you don't want to be alone. Some people are loners in that way. But the thing is, when you are called for the service of God you have to be able to give out to other people.

When that lily toils and toils and toils and comes up there, it can't say, "I don't want to be on the top of the pond. I prefer to stay down below the water." How is the bee going to get the nectar to begin with. Because when you are toiling to give out, you have to be in a position where it could serve and others can draw from what God put you there to give out. So, I know this what I am saying it doesn't apply to many of you, but in a way I am trying to tell you there are things that we might be deficient in, but all we need is to know how to cultivate some of these things and that would make you a more effective servant of God.

You have a knife and it doesn't have a edge. It's a good knife; might be the best steel; might be the best balanced knife; might be the best handle, but it can't serve the purpose if you don't sharpen it. And when you sharpen the knife then you find now it could serve a purpose, otherwise you just have to put it in your buffet in a place where people could see it and admire it. But to serve a purpose, it

really can't serve the purpose unless you get it sharp. And if it is not sharp enough then the service you are trying to use it for, that you bought it for, it is not doing the job efficiently. And you realize there are certain things in the knife, you always have to make sure you keep the edge. And you have to know how you sharpen this particular knife to get the best use out of the instrument.

And that is how it is with our lives. God doesn't start us off from the womb in shape. God starts us off in the womb with all the potential, but God brings us through experiences to develop the potential. Sometimes it takes experiences, it takes teaching; it takes a blend of different things. It takes exposure and then when all these things come together you know how to become a more complete servant of Jesus Christ.

Some people could be a good servant in their own church, in their own environment, among their own people. From the time they go out in a next church, among other people, you find like they lose their composure and it just shows, nothing is wrong with the gift. It just shows now how to operate outside an environment you are not too familiar with.

Let us say, we have meetings and we have to go in a next church to have some meetings and we go over there. And when you go over there the people you are accustomed to, maybe drawing your current from or who have a smile, or who have an applause for you, is not there; and then you have some people sit down and watching you so and you are trying to sing your heart out to bless them and they are looking un-blessed. Right away eye contact with people, expression with people's faces, it depends on if it comes in and affects you, it starts to make you shift your focus internally. Your stare and your gaze, facial expression, might look straight still, but the inner man inside there already start to shift and lose direction and is under a certain pressure, and can't function with a liberty, especially in singing.

In preaching, you have a lot of time to recover. In singing, you have three minutes to sing your song. As you are starting it and you can't get it back in the first minute or the second minute, you have problems. Do you

understand what I am saying? You can't stand up and say, "Saints, I didn't sing that one good. I could sing a next one?" Everybody isn't like Glaude who wants two or three on the spot. Do you understand what I mean? And then if you have certain Song Leaders like me who say, "No, we have two more people to sing. Could you leave? Next time." You see? So then that could be a little situation.

So that is why what happens there, you have to catch the thing on the spot. And that is why you have to get a certain amount of... You see a trained spirit person, the world calls that professionalism, but you see professional in the world means you are trained in a specific course for a specific job. Well, in God's service, you have a profession. You have a calling and God trains you for a certain type of service. Now when the world looks at that, because they don't understand spiritual, they will say, "Well, that person is professional, right?" Because they are relating to it like a professional to an amateur in the natural world.

So this is the Age, as a brother said once, this is the Age of the expert. This is the mind Age. This is the Age when things come to its perfection. This is the Age of perfection. And you have to strive to do your best and something in you has to be telling you, "It could be better. It could be better. I think I was in the way somewhere. I think if I yield more to the Lord." And the thing is if you don't have that, you will never be able to see a further development, a greater improvement; a perfecting of what you have. And then you have a person who will always stay mediocre; always substandard.

Say, "Yeah, it is okay you know. Yeah, it is alright. I'm praying for them. I'm trusting that God bless them and..."

Say, "You like that song?"

Said, "That brother is humble, isn't that so?"

If you notice sometimes when you ask people things, you have to listen what the comment is you know. Say "They are humble." They don't want to comment and say "No, the song, there isn't anything in the song." So they want to say the right thing, so they give a compliment to the attitude. Say, "The brother, he has a love for the Lord."

They are trying to say something good about the person, but the thing is remember, if you are doing something, you

want to do your best. Because remember, it is not you doing it for a release of what is pent up in you; you are doing it as a ministry to impart something to others. And remember you can't give out anything that you don't have. You don't get blood in a turnip because a turnip doesn't have blood in it. And you have to have it in you to give it out. And if God made you to do it, He equipped you with it. And sometimes you have it and you don't know how to release it, because you are too tense.

Many people the Prophet said has spiritual gifts. They could yield to spiritual gifts, but do you know what happened? Wrong teaching has their mind too tense and paralyzed and so they can't yield comfortably to it for the Holy Spirit to use them. They don't know how to submit to it. So when you hear some people sing, you say, "That person could really sing. Why they don't sing in church?" But they don't know how to yield to it. They are too tense. If they get the right teaching, it will help relax them; it will help release the thing. See? And then it starts to come forth. Then it starts to build confidence. Then it starts to bless people. Then it starts to affect other lives. Then it starts to inspire others and bring up young ones and open up the way for younger ones.

So feel free if you want to ask a little question; give you a few minutes. They will pass the mic for you. Now in these meetings remember if we are asking for somebody to say something, it's important. We want somebody to speak. Because in other words, the things you're saying you know if you are really here for the purpose you are here for. You can't be here and don't ask a question, especially when we get in these discussions. It would be impossible. Because this is for people who want to grow and become a more efficient servant in that way, or if there is something in church too. The music is not set up properly. When I say the music, I mean maybe the systems, the practices, and this... Some people can't get the things, maybe in the time frames or have a way to input that can be for the benefit of all; not just personal but for the benefit for all to get the church forward. Feel free to express too.

[A brother asks a question –Ed.]

God bless you Saints. I heard the minister said a while ago about "If you have a calling that you should be in service a little more regularly instead of just once a week. But I recognize that about ninety percent of the singers here are dependent upon their parents. And I'm wondering how could we go about—go around this that they will be able to get here regularly or more regularly than they really come at the present time since they, as I say about ninety percent are depending upon their parents. They cannot move unless the parents finance them or something like that.

Well ninety percent of the people here I think who attend a singers meeting many times they might interpret that to mean they want to sing in church or they have sung in a particular song in church. Because on Sundays and on practice days when that is taking place you see the singers turn out. On the meetings like these, you see a big group turn out. So it is whether you are calling the singers who come out and practice or who turn out in meetings like these.

I mean when we speak in a meeting like this, we make everyone feel welcome because you know you have little seeds there that will blossom into a ministry one day, but they don't have a ministry in operation yet because they have to know first they get a calling for the ministry, and the calling is not me calling. I could call a meeting. That calling is when God starts to call them in their heart for that. So the thing is, you are glad when everybody comes out in a meeting like this because you are speaking and you know the ones, who let us say are in the ministry and functioning in the ministry, then their life and their way and their service helps to leave footprints and open up a way for the little ones who feel something but do not yet know if they have a calling.

In other words, you drop from your mother's womb what you are but you don't get called until a certain time. So if you are going to say the singers here, there are some people here that we have to say, "Are you anointed? Have you been anointed for service? Are you in training? Have you been called? Then that's a different thing. This is not salvation we are talking about now. Everybody here is

saved. We are talking about ministry and service. We are not talking about salvation.

[The brother makes a comment. -Ed.]

Good. Now they are going to be serving a little ice-cream while you are there so just eat your ice-cream and talk. Just relax. Don't bring this to a religious meeting. This is a retreat. This is what we call a retreat here. So you just feel relaxed. We treat you before and you are being treated again, so it's a retreat. [Bro. Vin and singers laugh. -Ed.]

[Bro. John -Ed.]

Okay. That is fine. The Song Leaders are here and some of the people who help in arranging music and singing are here, so I guess all these points they will retain them.

[Bro. Obed Johnson -Ed.]

I think some of those statements in addressing that or saying that to the general group that is here may not be directly correct and then when you get the other group now, to defend that will go from a next line and then we may not make much progress. Because if everybody has to come out for a practice, eighty percent will be coming out to support and the ten percent who are practicing because you could only spend so many hours in practicing.

And then with practice, it needs transportation to get back home a certain time. It need the musicians to put in a certain amount of time in practicing; and when we say a general practice we may mean a few songs scheduled to practice with an understanding of how long that may take and how that would be arranged. And then I remember one particular night a sister's father called me at home about 1 o' clock. He was kind of worried that his daughter hadn't reached home as yet. And then I had to call to find out when the practice ended or if the person was still on the premises. So in other words, since that time I knew too, we decided you just can't make practice a free thing where everybody just comes up, because different people are coming from different homes, have different restrictions, and then all of that has to work within.

And then if you're going to bring everybody to a practice, to say bring up the singers to a practice, obviously all the singers can't practice unless it is one song the general

assembly is doing. So to address it that way Obed, maybe it is not that what you mean that everybody comes for a practice or whoever practices, but when you are saying that there, practice doesn't come spontaneously. Practice is Song Leaders arranged practice, notify the people who are to sing a certain song, and sometimes a person who comes up to a practice to do a particular song, people in that song may not come up; but then the thing is, the Song Leader doesn't have to tell each group all who are coming up. He may just tell you, "You all are singing that song; get your group up." But he doesn't have to tell you, "I am having this one, I am having this one, I am having this one; I am having this one."

So when you come and say people didn't come up to practice or the practice isn't structured properly, you are actually saying the Song Leaders are not aware of handling a practice and that is a big statement you are making there in a general audience like this. So sometimes the angle you are coming from, think closely what you are saying or how you are saying it, and what you mean in what you're saying, because in this case it wouldn't be your diction, it would be your thought.

[Brother]

Amen. Praise God. Good, healthy participation. That is nice. You see it is part of your ministry too to be able to express yourself and talk and communicate, always helpful by God's grace. It makes you a better representative of the Lord. Are you coming? Come. The general assembly is coming so we have to phase out here just now. We can't even get the next part. So we will finish up with these questions and try and capitalize here because some of you would want a little breathing space before we get into the meeting. And, you know, you all would be singing and when you get down there to sing this evening all the hoarse voices and thing has to move back you know. So who has to get into the channel, we are going down there for a full service and then you all are the ones who are going to be involved in the singing when we get down there. So you all have to start to get the inner man tuned in all now, because I'm depending on God for my thing too, you know. [Bro. Vin

laughs -Ed.] I thought I would have a little time for myself, but I done have to get into that next gear in the back of my mind already.

[Bro. Ricardo St. Hilaire]

Bro. Vin, maybe as the other people are waiting to think what they have to say, I would just want you to clarify something for us as you spoke of the involvement there. Normally like when you have a prayer line and you invite the Song Leader to the pulpit, at that time if I am the Song Leader there, at that time I kind of depend on the singers in the Assembly to help along with the song. And I think that if you invite us there that means you want us to sing. At least the Song Leader coming to the pulpit to continue the worship and things like that. And sometimes when I am looking for the singers' support, most of them they would have their head bowed or be in prayer or things like that.

I wanted to know if it was just like a misunderstanding that they can't sing at that time or if it is; well some of them might be going through and they might be in the prayer line as well, but those who are there in the congregation.

You see the thing is if the Minister calls a Song Leader to lead songs, then it means he wants him to sing. Then if the Minister just ask the musicians to play softly, then he doesn't want any singing, he just wants music. So I mean the thing is the church has to be sensitive to... Remember the symphony has to be sensitive to the director. You have a director and you have a music sheet.

Well I wanted them to know that this evening because a couple of times well you had called for us. You invited us to the pulpit to continue on the worship and when we are looking for that particular support there in that time you know they kind a unconscious as to...

Maybe they strike on you. Maybe there's a reason. Maybe it's a conspiracy. I don't know. Maybe what you are thinking was the problem was not the problem. There was a reason. [Bro. Vin laughs -Ed.]

Well I hope not because at that time there we really need your support singing out.

Just make sure you all have enough blood in the head. You know it takes some of the blood from the brains to come down to digest, okay. So you have to keep enough to get clear otherwise you will get drowsy in service, okay. Yes! So come on. Let's get...

[Sister]

Yes, but you see the thing is, that is where administration comes in because the Bible says, "Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings God will perfect praise." So there are a lot of things that it will have its category. It will serve its purpose. But then when you are dealing with let us say—because in a church when you have ministry, you have people training. You have people getting exercise in ministry but they are not really placed. Do you understand what I mean? You see a gift in a person. You want to give exercise to the gift because exercise brings development; because they just can't sit down and study it out in their mind without exercise. You see. And the thing is, then inside of there then God brings a certain anointing for service. You see?

If a person to begin with, begins to feel a call—they may not actually feel the call but the thing is, it may be there. Other people, gifted people can see it and recognize it. They can by themselves tell too it is something that they can do. It is within them, but then at the same time the exposure they get around other gifted people is where they learn and they get the concept that this is a gift. God has to call you to a particular type of service. Then you know that type of thing, as Bro. Branham said, "If you want to get the Holy Ghost, get around Holy Ghost people." If you are called to sing, well you can't go around the janitors. You have to get around people who sing. You are going to be more acquainted with how that operates and start to draw the right concept how that is used in the service, what it is used for, and then you are learning through your observation.

So there are some people who are anointed for it. There are some people, they are getting experience. They are being trained. They are getting development. They are getting exposure and they are learning. Like the Ushers, we put Ushers to work with the Deacons because when you want a Deacon, we don't go and look for a Deacon in church, we just pick one from the Ushers because they are already familiar with the whole process and the order of the church and how things go; and then they prove that they are faithful to the work and so on. So you have those around them.

That is why I am saying like a group like this, everybody here is not an anointed singer. Everybody here is not a placed singer, but everybody here has something to sing and they enjoy singing and they want to learn more about the singing in the service of the Lord. Because there is singing in concert, there is singing in talent shows; there are singing in different forms of entertainment, but then singing in the house of the Lord is for a certain purpose and you are coming to that anointing in a certain way, and then your songs have to be in line with what God is doing. It have all that where a person picks that up while they are among other singers.

[Sister]

If I can't sing with the anointing, I won't want to sing.

No. You see what people call anointing, they have a Pentecostal concept of anointing which is like, "Right now I feel anointed. Right now I don't feel anointed." Then there is, God anointed you for something. God didn't have to anoint Moses every stage of journey. He was anointed and commissioned. You see. So that now what you are talking about is getting in the Presence of the Lord, getting in the Spirit of the Lord to operate, for the gift to operate; but you are anointed. See you say, "Well I'm not feeling the Presence of the Lord right now."

Last night I had to preach and I just had to yield, you see. So the thing is, the anointing, but the thing is you want to get in the Presence of the Lord and when you get in the Presence of the Lord then it's finished. You see and

people who are anointed have faith. You see anointing is not just 'I hold the note'. Anointing is faith. You are singing there; you are conscious there is a control, there is a command. See. There is a sensitiveness to the Spirit – how to go; how to handle it. You see. That anointing we are talking about.

Then you have many people again too who are anointed and don't know they are anointed because of wrong teaching. That is why anything that has to operate in the Spirit needs teaching. Teaching is important. Just like how I explained about gifts just now, because the way people are taught they don't know how to yield to the gift. We don't have much time. So be quick about it.

[Bro. Kibwe Dick asks a question. –Ed.]

You said about one being moody and discouraged at times and you said that is because of a ministry. Is it that the singer is so close to the people feelings, also sensitive to the feelings of the congregation, that they feel like that or explain a little more further?

Yes, I'm glad you said that because just how you said it there, I want to turn it around because I don't want people to feel because they are moody and discouraged they have a ministry. [Bro. Vin and saints laugh. –Ed.] I am saying people who have a ministry will find themselves moody and discouraged. [Bro. Vin laughs. –Ed.] But there are a lot of moody and discouraged people who don't have any ministry. So the thing is you have to—that goes with a ministry. In other words, what I am trying to say is like—that is why I gave the illustration with Elijah. They lived on extremes and sometime it's hard to keep in the middle. Like Bro. Branham said, "I am so nervous, but God made me with a weak nervous system because that is how you get into the inspiration."

Now all those things was to take pressure off of us because knowing that, this many-membered Body Bride who was going to come behind, he had to open all these Scriptures to us that we can see that many times what we call a handicap and what we use to disqualify ourselves is really some of our qualifications; is really some of the things

that prove that the thing is of God. Because we don't have the teaching, then Satan makes you feel you are not a believer and you don't want to do anything until you feel strong, powerful faith. And this time God is saying, "No, all of that is a sign and that is part of your make up."

So in coming to these things to minister, you need to be sensitive to the people. If I had gotten into the songwriting, I would have shown that when Josiah died, the Bible says that all the singing men and all the singing women spoke of Josiah in their lamentations until this day. And then when Deborah and Barak had the experience with the war, they sang of it. And when David killed Goliath, the women sang of it.

In other words, the songwriters were catching the significance of what was happening at the time and putting it into song and it was being made alive to the people how God was working on their behalf, and it was keeping them in remembrance of what God did for them knowing that when they would come along different places in their journey, it would be able to be used to motivate the people. So things that are happening among us that we see God doing to help the people, we should be catching these things, and when we catch these things we should be able to know this is to be kept alive because this is an important thing.

So gifted people must be people who are in touch with what is happening. In other words, gifted people in the Body because remember there are gifts out of the Body. You see these people—you listen to Pentecostal singing. They would come and sing about the love of God and different things and that type of way. And here we live in an Hour of judgment. We live in an Hour when the Message has come and the Bride is about to go, but people are not singing about these things. They are looking back and trying to sing about the Cross and what happened there and different things. And then the very achievement of the Cross and the very thing that, *that* was to bring to pass, they can't sing about it because they not aware it is even going on. You see.

And so that is why even the preaching, they will preach about giving, they will preach about this; they will preach

about all these things about life, principles of life: How to budget your finances, how to do *this* here, how to do *this* over here, and bring all this message and little counsel and so on, and the church is thinking they are having a great revival over that, yet the people are not being prepared to see their condition in the Hour of the coming of the Lord; yet they sing and they preach so great.

But real singing for the Body cannot be that kind and that is why many times if we could draw inspiration, and if we are drawing inspiration that is not carrying the Body somewhere or showing the church where it is going, we could be taking people's minds backwards or blinding them from what is happening; what needs to be emphasized. Yet it is still God we are talking about and it is still God we are singing about.

Because remember, we have to work with God in season. There is something about the season. Like different fruits come forth in a certain season. Look how hot the place was recently before the rains came. People were in a heat wave. The children and all were with bottles of water in the streets. People were taking off their clothes, all kinds of different things. Right? The heat. But when the rains came all of that was gone. See.

So the thing is when you are in a certain season, there is something that is happening there and we have to be catching that and it is important for us. So a person in the Body would be a person sensitive. They are hearing the Word. They would be watching the people. They are a part of that. They are feeling certain things too. See? And once they stay in that kind of channel of the Spirit, because He put the gift there to be used for the Body, It would come to it. The Spirit comes to His gifts. Because remember we are like tools in a big tool pan and God knows which tool He wants to use when, and He says, "Okay, it's time to use this tool," and He picks up this tool. "It's time to use this tool," and He picks up this tool. "It's time to use that tool," and He picks up that tool. All of a sudden you find, "I got inspiration. I got something here."

And that is why at the slightest nudge you want to know how to work with that. You don't wait for God to push you and push you and push you and push you. At the slightest

nudge you want to work with that, because you are aware that there is something there. And like Habakkuk says, “I will stand on my watch and see what He will say.” [Habakkuk 2:1 -Ed.] You are waiting: “Lord, if there is anything; if there is nothing, well.”

In the Bible when they had so many, they sang in courses. They even had to get an administration because they had so many that they sang in courses. So even there now Song Leaders knew, “Okay, we need this one. We need this. We need this song. We need this here. We need this here.” You know what you need. We know what are the things we need to keep focused on, what are the areas we need some inspiration, what are the things we need to remember that we have come through and what are the things that we need to motivate us to where we are going. So they kept in touch with those things too.

I’m giving you all five minutes again before we close. If we get down there, we have fifteen or twenty minutes so we could start 4 o’clock or 4:15 for the latest. We want to be done by six at least. Look these girls want the mic there.

[Sis. Elizabeth Bramble -Ed.]

That is fine. You see one of the things is we must keep cultivating and giving exposure to those that would have something. As I said, the only way you could get development is through exercise. And if you don’t create an opportunity even for some to gain experience, to be able to have a space, then you retard your own progress because God add to the church such as should be saved; because He is building a Body and He knows the cells that need to make up that Body. And if He add that cell then the Body is to be fitly joined and compacted by every member.

Because you see coming here, we would have to come on a wider level, okay. When we come here I mean to say, we definitely would have to restructure practice – number one. We would have to restructure the services. Like I say, for instance when we come over here, when this building here is finished, and we come here, this is going to be a ‘seven days a week’ type of thing you know. It’s going to be a ‘seven days a week’ type of thing. It’s not going to be—it would have what you consider your general service in the

week which would be—might be basically two services on a Sunday and a prayer service. That would be considered like your general routine order.

But then we want to start to have back services in the day. I used to have services in the day in Cocoyea. We used to have a lot of people at home who used to come out. Then sometimes when we get a chance, people are at home so we are studying *The Seals*, we are studying the tapes or something. We come up here. We don't have to have a full church. If you get a full church, praise God. But if in the daytime we come we could do *The Seals*, we could do something. We'll have fellowship or we have a *Men's Meeting* schedule or we have a meeting with the ladies in the church; we having meetings with the married couples; we have meetings with the young people; whatever way, those meetings would be appointed meetings as the need arises and as what would be best for those areas.

So it wouldn't be like, let us say, a once a month youth service. Let us say, okay for the next three weeks we are going to have it every week, we have it. Because when we come to two services on Sunday, youths would come up anyhow. Some of the old ones were like: "I can't come up in the night, and it is far, and I don't know how I will go back home, and I can't get a taxi." Well then those who could come in the day, come in the day time too. So each person in Assembly has a chance to come either five services or three services for the least. It is whichever one they want. Do you want three or you want five? How much can fill you up is up to you, but there is more than enough to fill you up. See.

But we are going to have it because the thing is, we are totally trying to get away from Sunday morning, Wednesday night, Friday night; come to church, go home and wait for the Rapture. We are trying to get away from that completely. So the thing is, the whole idea of it means we have singing, we are coming... We used to have meetings on the Holy Spirit, teaching on the Holy Spirit, prayer and so on in the daytime. If we have a meeting like that, then we have a meeting like that. We could have a couple of people come and sing, *Rise and be healed* and get into some healing songs and different things which may not go on in a

normal service, when you are dealing with that type of anointing. See. And then if we have the general service, prayer service, we want people to sing as usual.

I say special singing shouldn't just be for Sundays. Every time we come together we worship the Lord especially when God has people there. So that is the way we want it to be. And if we have it that way, it would truly serve the best purpose. Anybody who wanted to ask and didn't ask yet, let me see because I am going and close. We have passed the time. God bless you, Paula.

[Sis. Paula Salandy asks a question. -Ed.]

I knew when the Lord had called me to sing here I knew before that He was calling me to do that. But the problem I am having is, before I came here I use to sing really good, right? But since being called I notice I am getting a lot of problems with my voice. So I am wondering if maybe I misunderstood or you know. Why is it so problematic now?

Well, I think you disappointed Satan, is what you did. Maybe he had big plans for you out there, because the thing is God has given you a very outstanding gift, a unique gift to sing; no flattery. And I am glad you are here because it make us feel a little richer, and especially not for your singing so much, but for your life. I see that you are attracted to the Word and I think that because Satan knows, you see, the influence of a dedicated life; a gift that is in its right place. See, one of the things about gifts and placing, God's gifts always finds their places.

When the gift was coming to Bethlehem where the Word was, Herod wanted to kill It. You see Herod wasn't too interested in any gift and he didn't get disturbed about any gift before the star came and the Messiah was on the earth you know. It is when they saw the star, which is the messenger of the Age who was bringing them to the Word, then Herod began to rise up until the Holy Spirit had to say, "Don't go back by Herod." See?

So you see the thing is many times what happens God has taken you out of the system, and that is where He is moving the gift from Babylon to Bethlehem. He is bringing the gift to the right place and that will disturb the devil, and

has disturbed the devil. If you are getting a battle, all that I can say is that once you get a revelation of the will of God, be perseverant in spite of all obstacles. Because Bro. Branham had it nice and easy when he was a little Baptist preacher. From the time the Angel said, "Now it is time to bring the gift public," then all hell came against it. You see, so everybody is going to have their battles, but as I say that is why the devil is going to try to bring things to upset, but when you have a revelation of your calling, you stand. Okay. We are closing with this brother here.

[Bro. Anthony Glaude testifies.]

Before we dismiss, is everybody feeling ready to go and sing up the place this evening and worship the Lord with some enthusiasm? Okay. So you all got a little break. Just go, refresh yourself, those who have to go to the toilets whatever and so on. We'll just say a little word of prayer here. You know you all get straight to the toilet, do whatever you want to do, refresh yourself, wash your face and let's get right in. Let's get a nice little—if it is just a couple or ten minutes self in prayer down, when we get down in the building, so we could really have a short, quick, nice service by the grace of God; whatever God wants to do for us this evening. Alright? Let's just have a word of prayer. Bro. Ricardo we just want to maybe ask God's blessing upon all who are here this evening and for the service that is to follow.

[Bro. Ricardo prays. -Ed.]





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