

Spiritual Triage: Every Believer's Call to Ministry ***'Know well the condition of your flocks...' (Prov. 27:23)***

The Lord encourages (even calls) each believer to walk with Him in such a manner that others perceive His presence in our lives. This dynamic lifestyle is not only our inheritance, but our opportunity to engage with those who are hurting and confused in the world around us. The 'Great Commission' found in Matthew 28:19-20 is to actively 'disciple' others in the ways of Jesus.

Believers are encouraged to conduct themselves in a manner that displays the life of the Lord Jesus in all their activities and relationships (1 Peter 3:15). Do you know how to connect the hurting and confused people around you to God? Do you have a framework through which you can assess who is 'ripe fruit' and ready for ministry into their life? Do you have a procedure for determining the procedure to get started in helping them?

This can sometimes feel like an overwhelming task, one for which we may not feel adequately prepared or qualified. However, the Lord's ways are as simple as examining and sharing with others the simple observations of the very things in nature that He designed! Romans 1:20 says that all of God's attributes are clearly seen and understood by what He has made.

Let's put this into practical perspective when encountering the mass of humanity that may be flowing past our lives, but that we may be feeling too intimidated to engage with. (These same feelings are common to 'first responders' when trying to care for those in extreme emergency situations.) Let's see how God's design of practical 'emergency management' is illustrated with the simple act of triage...

As early as the Napoleonic wars, this battlefield medical protocol was used to categorize the injured and wounded prior to any medical treatment being administered. Before this technique existed, overwhelmed aid workers were so inundated with the injured that many of the wounded would die before reaching a doctor. With that understanding, let's compare both the physical and spiritual parallels of triage...

Consider the practical steps of physical triage:

- 1.) Check for a pulse (are they alive?).
- 2.) Check for respiration (are they effectively inhaling and exhaling?)
- 3.) Determine where the injuries are (where are they bleeding?)

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From a ministry stand point, we have the same issues:

- 1.) Are they alive (are they born spiritually)?
- 2.) Are they effectively inhaling and exhaling (exchanging the Old Man for the New Creation)?
- 3.) Where are they bleeding (are they resolving their issues in all 7 Areas of Life)?

Let's look closer at each of these 3 steps.

I. Are they alive?

Each individual that comes to you for help needs to immediately understand the foundation from which they are living their life. The 'Self Evaluation' used in the preface of the [VCL Conference Manual](#) provides a clear and concise process for showing someone whether they're living from themselves and their own resources, or from God and His resources.

As your initial encounter takes place with the hurting or needy person, you need to make sure they have *the most important transaction of their life* in place. That is to know Christ as one's own personal savior from sin, with the opportunity to begin to enjoy Him as their Lord. (see 'How to Commit Your Life to Christ' in the front of the VCL Conference Manual).

If the one you are ministering to already knows Christ as Savior (or you have just led them to Christ), it is now time to begin the process of [discipleship](#). The most powerful tool we've seen to start a new (or old) believer in understanding how Christ becomes their practical Lord and King is called the Victorious Christian Living Conference.

II. Are they exchanging the Old Man for the New Creation?

Inhaling...

- 1.) Going through the VCL Conference (learning the problems and solutions of living the Christian life).
- 2.) Going through 'First Steps' (learning the basic disciplines of life in Christ).

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Exhaling...

- 3.) Fellowshiping with believers (participating in a home church or fellowship)
- 4.) Being discipled (personal ministry with a mature believer)

III. Where are they bleeding?

- 1.) [Spiritually](#)
- 2.) [Psychologically](#)
- 3.) [Physically](#)
- 4.) [Financially](#)
- 5.) [Socially](#)
- 6.) [Maritally](#)
- 7.) [Parentally](#)

In order to get the maximum results, there needs to be practical and specific application into the believer's life. This will require walking with a mature believer that knows how to integrate the Word of God into your life experience.