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NEW ERA

SEPTEMBER 2026

WHEN MINISTRY RELATIONSHIPS BECOME MINISTRY WOUNDS



Mistakes You Must Never Make
Against Fellow Pastors—and How
Their Consequences Return to You



Welcome to the September 2026 Edition

The ministry is one of the few callings where success is never meant to be achieved alone. God designed His Kingdom to function through relationships, partnerships, and mutual support among His servants. Yet some of the deepest wounds in ministry are not inflicted by unbelievers, critics, or secular opposition. They often come from fellow pastors, church leaders, and ministry colleagues.

Throughout history, churches have been weakened, ministries have collapsed, and spiritual influence has been lost because leaders failed to understand a fundamental truth: how you treat fellow servants of God directly affects your own ministry.

Many pastors diligently pray, fast, and preach, yet unknowingly sabotage their future through poor relationships with other leaders. What they sow into the lives of fellow ministers eventually returns to them. Ministry operates under divine principles, and one of those principles is the law of sowing and reaping.

The question every leader must ask is this: "What seeds am I planting in the lives of those who serve alongside me?"

Bishop Victory L. Godspower
President, TPI International



THE DANGER OF FIGHTING WHAT GOD IS BUILDING

One of the most damaging mistakes a pastor can make is viewing another ministry as competition.

The Kingdom of God is not a marketplace where churches fight for customers. It is a spiritual family working toward a common purpose. Unfortunately, some leaders become threatened when another church grows, another pastor gains influence, or another ministry receives recognition.

Instead of celebrating what God is doing elsewhere, they begin criticizing, resisting, or undermining fellow servants.

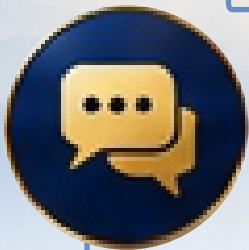
Such actions reveal insecurity rather than maturity.

When pastors attack ministries that God has established, they may unknowingly oppose God's own work. What begins as jealousy often develops into division, bitterness, and spiritual decline.

A ministry built on competition eventually loses its focus on Christ and becomes consumed with comparison.

The Consequence

Leaders who spend their energy fighting other pastors often find themselves constantly battling opposition in their own ministries. The atmosphere they create eventually becomes the atmosphere they experience.



THE SILENT DESTRUCTION OF MINISTERIAL GOSSIP

Words have the power to build ministries or destroy them.

Few things damage the Body of Christ more than pastors speaking negatively about fellow ministers. Sometimes it happens from the pulpit. Sometimes in private conversations. Sometimes through social media posts disguised as "discernment" or "concern."

The reality is that criticism travels faster than truth.

When leaders participate in gossip, they damage trust, weaken unity, and create confusion among

believers. Members begin questioning leadership, doubting spiritual authority, and becoming skeptical of the church as a whole.

The greatest tragedy is that many leaders who criticize others eventually find themselves becoming the subject of the very criticism they once released.

The Consequence

The seeds of dishonor rarely die. They often return multiplied, creating an environment where respect for leadership gradually disappears.





STEALING SHEEP INSTEAD OF WINNING SOULS

Church growth is a blessing when it is the result of evangelism, discipleship, and genuine spiritual transformation.

However, unhealthy growth occurs when leaders intentionally attract members from other churches through manipulation, promises, or criticism of another pastor.

Some leaders spend more effort recruiting church members than reaching the lost.

This practice creates unhealthy ministry foundations. Members who leave one church because of persuasion can easily leave another church through the same process.

Kingdom growth should never be built on the weakening of another ministry.

The Consequence

A church built by transfer often struggles with loyalty. The same spirit that brought people in may eventually take them away.



CELEBRATING THE FAILURE OF ANOTHER PASTOR

Perhaps one of the saddest realities in ministry is the secret celebration that sometimes occurs when a fellow leader falls.

- A moral failure.
- A financial struggle.
- A declining congregation.
- A public controversy.

Instead of mourning and praying, some leaders quietly rejoice because they believe a competitor has been removed.

This attitude reveals a dangerous misunderstanding of ministry.

Every pastor is vulnerable. Every leader faces battles. Every servant of God depends on grace.

The fall of another minister should remind us to pray for ourselves, not congratulate ourselves.

The Consequence

A lack of compassion often produces spiritual pride, and pride has historically preceded destruction.



BETRAYAL: THE MINISTRY KILLER

Trust is one of the most valuable currencies in ministry.

Pastors frequently share private burdens, leadership struggles, financial pressures, family concerns, and ministry challenges with trusted colleagues.

When confidential information is exposed, relationships are shattered.

Many ministerial friendships

have ended because a trusted conversation became public information.

Trust may take years to build but only moments to destroy.

The Consequence

Leaders who betray confidence often discover that future relationships become shallow because trust has been lost.



THE TRAP OF COMPARISON

Modern ministry has created unprecedented opportunities for comparison.

- Church attendance figures.
- Social media followers.
- Conference invitations.
- Building projects.

Financial reports.

Many leaders spend more time measuring themselves against others than measuring themselves against God's

assignment.

Comparison produces frustration because someone will always appear to be doing better.

God never called pastors to imitate every successful ministry. He called them to fulfill their own unique assignment.

The Consequence

Comparison eventually creates exhaustion, discouragement, and a loss of identity.



PUBLIC HUMILIATION IS NOT BIBLICAL CORRECTION

Correction is necessary in leadership, but humiliation is destructive.

Some pastors publicly expose fellow leaders, embarrass colleagues, or use public platforms to settle personal disagreements.

While correction seeks restoration, humiliation seeks punishment.

Great leaders understand the difference.

A mature leader restores privately whenever possible and protects dignity even while addressing mistakes.

The Consequence

Those who publicly dishonor others often discover that when they make mistakes, mercy becomes difficult to find.



THE PRINCIPLE EVERY PASTOR MUST UNDERSTAND

Ministry operates under spiritual laws.

Just as farmers harvest what they plant, leaders reap what they sow into relationships.

When you sow honor, honor returns.

When you sow encouragement, encouragement returns.

When you sow loyalty, loyalty returns.

When you sow division, division returns.

When you sow criticism, criticism returns.

The future atmosphere of your ministry is often determined by the seeds you are planting today.



BUILDING A CULTURE OF MINISTERIAL HONOR

The strongest ministries are rarely built by isolated leaders. They are built by pastors who understand the power of unity.

- ✓ Healthy leaders celebrate one another.
- ✓ They pray for one another.
- ✓ They support one another.
- ✓ They protect one another's reputations.

They recognize that the success of another church is not their loss but a victory for the Kingdom of God.

Ministry was never intended to be a battlefield between pastors. It was intended to be a partnership among servants pursuing the same mission.



FINAL THOUGHTS

Every pastor leaves footprints that others will follow. The way you treat fellow ministers today becomes a lesson for the leaders who follow you tomorrow.

The ministry world is smaller than many people realize. Relationships matter. Honor matters. Character matters.

Long after sermons are forgotten and church statistics are replaced, people will remember how leaders treated one another.

The pastors who leave the greatest legacy are not necessarily those who built the largest churches. They are those who built bridges instead of

walls, encouraged rather than discouraged, restored rather than destroyed, and honored rather than dishonored.

In the end, ministry is not only about serving God well—it is also about serving God's servants well.

Welcome to September 2026

Have A Blessed Month.
Yours in His Vineyard

Dr. Victory Godspower



FOR MORE ENQUIRIES:

**45, Georgia Street, Horizon
Rooderpoort. 1724, Johannesburg,
South Africa.**

 **+27 102 134 388**

 **info@theplatforminternational.org**

 **www.theplatforminternational.org**

 **the platform international**

 **@theplatformint1**

 **@theplatforminternational**

 **theplatforminternational**

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