



**THE PLATFORM  
INTERNATIONAL**

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# NEW ERA

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2026

WHO IS THE  
**PASTOR**  
WHEN NOBODY IS  
WATCHING?

*Character Beyond  
the Pulpit*



**BISHOP VICTORY  
GODSPOWER**  
International President

There is a version of every pastor that the congregation knows.

They know the preacher.

They know the worshipper.

They know the leader.

They know the voice that encourages them when they are discouraged, the hands that pray for them when they are sick, and the person who stands before them every Sunday with a Bible in one hand and a message in the other.

But there is another version of the pastor that very few people see.

The pastor when the church is empty.

The pastor after the applause has stopped.

The pastor when nobody is calling.

The pastor when there is no microphone, no camera, no congregation and no platform.

### **Who is that pastor?**

That is where character speaks.

### **THE MINISTRY WE SEE AND THE LIFE GOD SEES**

A pastor can preach about holiness while privately struggling to live holy.

A leader can teach forgiveness while secretly carrying bitterness.

Someone can teach faith while privately living in fear.

A pastor can counsel others to trust God while personally questioning whether God can be trusted.

This does not mean that leaders must be perfect.

It means that leaders must be **honest before God**.

The greatest danger in ministry is not that people discover that we are human.

The greater danger is becoming so accustomed to the public version of ourselves that we stop dealing with the private version.

Because the congregation sees the sermon.

### **God sees the life behind the sermon.**

People hear our words.

God hears our thoughts.

People see our ministry.

God sees our motives.

People may celebrate our gifts.

God examines our character.

### **THE EMPTY CHURCH IS ALSO A TEST**

Sometimes the greatest test of a pastor is not standing before thousands.

It is sitting alone in an empty room.

It is having the opportunity to compromise and choosing not to.

It is being offended and refusing to retaliate.

It is being overlooked and refusing to become bitter.

It is having access to something that nobody would know you took—and choosing integrity.

It is receiving praise without allowing praise to become an addiction.

It is having power and still knowing how to kneel.

**Character is what remains when there is nothing left to perform.**

### **WHO ARE YOU WHEN NOBODY NEEDS YOU?**

This is one of the difficult questions every leader must eventually ask.

Who are you when nobody needs your sermon?

Who are you when nobody asks you to pray?

Who are you when nobody introduces you as "Pastor"?

Who are you when another preacher is invited instead of you?

Who are you when someone else receives the recognition you thought belonged to you?

Who are you when your ministry is growing slowly?

Who are you when you are tired?

Who are you when you are disappointed with people?

Who are you when God seems silent?

Because ministry can sometimes teach us how to **look strong while we are becoming weak inside.**

And if we are not careful, we can become very good at helping everybody else while quietly neglecting our own souls.

### **THE SECRET PLACE REVEALS THE REAL LEADER**

Before David stood before Goliath, he had already learned to be faithful with sheep.

Nobody was watching.

There was no crowd.

There was no stage.

There was no applause.

Yet David was developing the character that would eventually carry the crown.

The secret place is not wasted time.

The hidden seasons are not meaningless.

The moments when nobody notices your obedience may be the very moments God is preparing you for what everybody will eventually see.

**Public greatness is often built in private obedience.**

### **WHEN THE PLATFORM BECOMES MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE PRESENCE**

One of the quiet dangers of modern ministry is becoming more conscious of the platform than the Presence.

We can become concerned about how many people attended.

How many people watched.

How many people shared.

How many people responded.

How many people know our name.

But heaven is asking another question:

**"Do you still know Mine?"**

A pastor can have a growing ministry and a shrinking prayer life.

A leader can have thousands of followers and lose intimacy with God.

A church can become larger while the leader's soul becomes emptier.

Growth is not always evidence of health.  
Numbers can measure attendance.  
They cannot measure intimacy with God.

## **THE PEOPLE WE LEAD DESERVE THE REAL US**

Our churches do not need perfect pastors.  
They need authentic shepherds.  
They need leaders who can say:

*"I don't know."*

*"I was wrong."*

*"Please forgive me."*

*"I need help."*

*"Let's pray."*

*"I am still growing."*

There is tremendous strength in humility.  
The pastor who admits weakness is not necessarily weak.

Sometimes the strongest leader in the room is the one humble enough to say,

**"I need God too."**

## **CHARACTER IS BUILT IN SMALL DECISIONS**

Character rarely collapses in one dramatic moment.

It is often weakened through small compromises.

One secret.

One lie.

One inappropriate relationship.

One dishonest transaction.

One unchecked attitude.

One hidden resentment.

One moment of pride.

One decision to ignore accountability.

One private habit that nobody knows about.

Eventually, small cracks can become major fractures.

That is why leaders must guard the little things.

Because the things we repeatedly do in secret eventually shape who we become in public.

## **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE DOORS CLOSE?**

Imagine the church doors have closed.

The congregation has gone home.

The music has stopped.

The lights are off.

The phone is quiet.

The title cannot help you.

The position cannot comfort you.

The crowd is gone.

And you are alone with God.

**Can you still recognize the person you have become?**

Can you sit quietly with your own heart?

Can you pray without needing to preach?

Can you worship without anyone watching?

Can you repent without defending yourself?

Can you rejoice when another person's ministry succeeds?

Can you serve when nobody will know you served?

Can you remain faithful when there is nothing immediate to gain?

That is character.

## **GOD IS MORE INTERESTED IN WHO WE ARE BECOMING**

Perhaps one of the greatest questions a pastor can ask is not:

**"How big is my ministry?"**

But:

**"What kind of person is my ministry making me?"**

Has ministry made you kinder?

More patient?

More humble?

More forgiving?

More dependent on God?

More compassionate toward broken people?

More willing to listen?

More willing to serve?

Or has ministry quietly made you suspicious, proud, controlling, competitive and emotionally distant?

Because it is possible to build a ministry while losing yourself.

And it is possible to win crowds while losing your soul.

## **YOUR FAMILY KNOWS THE PASTOR BEHIND THE PULPIT**

There is another congregation that every pastor must never forget.

The people at home.

Your spouse sees the pastor after the sermon.

Your children see the pastor after the conference.

They see how you behave when you are tired.

They hear how you speak when you are frustrated.

They know whether the person on the platform is the same person who walks through the front door.

**Our greatest sermon may not be what we preach to the church, but what our family experiences from us every day.**

A ministry that impresses strangers but destroys the home is not the success heaven is looking for.

## **THE QUIET QUESTION OF HEAVEN**

One day, every title will become irrelevant.

The Pastor.

The Bishop.

The Apostle.

The Prophet.

The Reverend.

The President.

The Founder.

The General Overseer.

All of these are temporary.

And when everything else is stripped away, one question will matter:

**Were you faithful?**

Not famous.

Not celebrated.

Not admired.

Not followed.

**Faithful.**

Faithful when nobody watched.

Faithful when nobody applauded.

Faithful when people misunderstood you.

Faithful when the harvest was small.

Faithful when the journey was long.

Faithful when you had nothing to prove.

**A FINAL WORD TO THE PASTOR**

Dear pastor,

Do not become so busy building God's house that you forget to allow God to build you.

Do not spend your entire life healing everybody else while refusing to let God heal you.

Do not become so concerned about protecting your reputation that you stop protecting your character.

Do not confuse being needed with being called.

Do not confuse popularity with fruitfulness.

Do not confuse a platform with purpose.

And never forget that before God called you to **lead people**, He called you to **walk**

**with Him.**

The world may remember your sermons.

People may remember your conferences.

Your church may remember your achievements.

But heaven is watching something deeper.

**Who are you becoming when nobody is watching?**

Because eventually, the lights will go out.

The microphone will be put away.

The crowd will go home.

The photographs will fade.

The titles will disappear.

And there will only be you and the God who called you.

May He find us faithful.

May He find us humble.

May He find us clean in heart.

May He find us still in love with Jesus.

And may the person we are in secret be worthy of the person people see in public.

**Because the greatest ministry is not what we do before people. It is who we become before God.**

**Welcome To October 2026.**

Have A Blessed Month.

Yours in His Vineyard



**Bishop Victory Godspower**



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