Six Ways to Grow the Church as a Pastor

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I want to especially say thank you to Mother Moon, who has made this possible and given me this invitation. And we are just so thankful for the tremendous work that she has done in the entire world on peace.

How do we get more people in our congregations?

How do we increase our membership? And there are many, many Christian books on this subject. You have methods and programs, but I will try to make six brief points this morning. The first one I'm going to always say is we're going to deal with the issue of church growth, and it's simply this. The most important thing is always, always, always, over any method over any program that you've heard. When God tells you to do something, do it.

There is nothing greater than simply obeying God when He tells you to do a thing. When God tells you to do something, that should never be up for debate. That should never be for any kind of counsel. You simply obey.

Point number two. Any local church is built on the personality of the leader. Reverend Moon, he had personality, he had charisma, but more importantly than that, he had anointing. So, every local church, whether you like this or not, every local church is built on a personality. Mark that down. And so that's not something that the board can control. That is something that God has established.

Number three. That personality, that one person has got to have a vision from God at all times. And the vision can change depending on the seasons that you're going into. But without a vision, the people run around aimlessly. They're going to perish. Without vision, you cannot move forward. Without vision, there can be no growth.

All right, number four. I love this one, like it or not. God is a seasonal God. Meaning that within every local church, God is going to take you through different corporate seasons. And if you do not understand the season that you are in, then when he is ready to transition you into a new season, and you don't understand that you have gone into a new season and are still trying to operate by what you understood in the old season. You can destroy a church; you can get messed up major, big time. Let me just, let me illustrate the vast difference between the season of the church in the Old Testament being in the wilderness under Moses, and then the church going into the promised land under Joshua, you talk about different.

Five. A shepherd is someone who takes care of the sheep personally. He knows them by name. He tends to their every need; he shepherds them, they follow him. A rancher is a person who has thousands of cattle or sheep or whatever kind of ranch he has, and he has to learn how to delegate. I have seen churches that will never grow because the leader cannot delegate responsibilities that would allow for growth. It's just that simple. And you have to know, are you a shepherd wanting to become a rancher? Because that will demand a total different way of thinking, a total different way of acting. It requires change; change is not an option in God.

I've got one more; it's the hardest. There is always in every local church a new specific group of people that is going to determine whether you will go into the next season or you will not go into the next season.

They will literally determine whether you will move to God's Destiny forward or if you will be stagnant and stay where you're at. They're the key. They're the group. We refuse to have any disunity and moving into our next season, even though after we've gained possession of the land, we will have to come back and live in the rest and in the inheritance that we have on this side of Jordan. But here's the key. Here's what I love about this group. If I had a group like this in my church, I will never have any disunity. I will never have any problems. I will never fail to make it to the next level unless I'm in sin as the leader.