

EVALUATION

August 24, 2024

Recently we have had some messages on **Leadership** based on the example of God in the creation events in Genesis 1. In case you missed some of them, you can see them on the Blog section of our website: jesusreigns.net. We saw how **team leadership** is important, which involved communication, fellowship, unity, honor and delegation of roles. God is a planner and everything He does is carried out in a purposeful manner. **After each day of creation He took time to evaluate** and saw that it was good. After the creation of man on the sixth day He described all of His work as 'very good.'

EVALUATION: determination of the value, nature, character, or quality of something.

Synonyms: appraisal, judgment, assessment - Merriam- Webster Dictionary

Jesus continued the practice of evaluation in His process of making disciples. Jesus sent them out two by two with their assignments and they later returned - Mark 6:6b-13.

The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to Him all that they had done and taught.

- Mark 6:30 NIV

During my years in England and a year in Belgium, I led numerous evangelism teams to homes etc. When they came back we would have reports on what results and experiences took place. My first and most precious disciple was Raj in West London. We met in December 1986 two days after he had given his life to Jesus. We met together every day for two weeks as he was on holiday from school. Over the first months I gave him assignments such as passing out literature and witnessing to people. I was also careful to guide him on keeping sound doctrine and teaching. He ended up in Bible School and a vibrant Christian. (see [Kingdom Principle Section / Training Principle S.T.A.R.T.](#))

Jesus was not only concerned about the apostle's actions but about the message they taught. We see the continuation of this concern when He gave the apostle John a message for each of the seven churches in Asia Minor (Turkey today). Jesus was already in heaven, but He still knew about every church; what they were doing and why. Jesus gave an evaluation of each of those churches to John. Every church today is like one or more of those seven churches. Here is a snapshot of how Jesus evaluated the churches. As leaders and Christians we can learn some important things about how to evaluate ourselves and also persons and groups under our watch. Jesus first addressed the churches to remind them of who He is. We must remember Him when we deal with situations, for He is watching our attitudes, motives and actions. The Holy Spirit will guide us as we submit to Him.

- **Commendation** - Jesus first addressed each church with some things they were doing well, but the churches at Sardis and Laodicea were the exception. We should **praise** and **honor** others for the good things they are doing well. People need to know that they are appreciated and honored for their faithfulness, fruitfulness and dedication to tasks. Jesus sought to **encourage** the churches and we should bless and encourage others to press on. Military leaders know that the **morale** of soldiers is of utmost importance. We are in a battle of good versus evil, truth versus lies, excellence versus mediocrity, faith versus fear etc.
- **Correction** - Some may consider this as negative thing but it is actually a positive. In companies, sports teams and other groups this is seen as an important way to **improve** in their pursuit of success and victory in worthwhile goals and endeavors. How much more should this be true for the church of Jesus Christ. On our journey of faith and ministry, we must make needed adjustments. Many leaders and churches are not humble enough to admit they may need to make some **changes** and consider the **consequences** of their actions. We must submit to one another on leadership teams. No one person has all the answers. Leaders who become little dictators are more full of themselves than being led by the Spirit of God. Jesus did nothing by Himself but was always in step with the Father in heaven.
- **Crowns /Rewards** - Jesus gives us added incentive to follow His assignments, for there will be great rewards for **overcomers**, as seen at the end of His messages to the seven churches - Revelation chapters 2-3. Let us press on to victory! jesusreigns.net