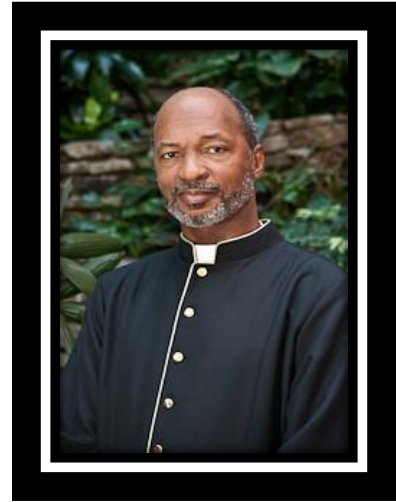


The Bishop's Corner

We must point people to Jesus

Praise the Lord Saints,

“That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life--the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us--that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. And these things we write to you that your joy may be full. This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all” (1 John 1:1-5, NKJV).



Everything we preach is supposed to point people to Christ. We must make sure that our preaching is not to build church organizations. Unless churches bring people to Christ, the people cannot be saved and it is a waste of time for people to come to your church. Ninety percent of our preaching, teaching, and talking in the church should be about Christ Jesus. Apostle Paul tells us, who are preachers, in Romans 12:13-15, that we have been sent to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ so that people can be saved. “For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe on Him in whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things!’”

John the Baptist had no problem pointing people to Jesus because that was reason he was sent to preach. “There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through Him might believe. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, ‘This is He of whom I said, He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.’ The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, ‘Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’” (John 1:6-7, 15, 29, NKJV)

The Holy Spirits will confirm the word of God preached about Jesus if it is preached with the right motive because the Spirit testifies and witnesses of Jesus. Sometimes we can preach the right word but have the wrong motive. “But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me” (John 15:26, NKJV). “He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you” (John 16:14, NKJV).

Jesus tells us that we are the light of the world and the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13-16). Therefore, we must be as Apostle Paul and take every opportunity to remind people of Jesus Christ, who is the foundation of the gospel so they can believe and be saved (2 Timothy 2:8-10, Hebrews 3:1-6).

God bless you,

Bishop Charles D. Smith
Gulf Coast Jurisdiction

For more of Bishop Smith's teachings, go to the Gulf Coast Jurisdiction Website at <http://www.gulfcoastclgi.org> and click on “Encouragement” then “Teachings.”