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WELL TRAINED

I knew a lady that had a four-year-old boy that was still in diapers. She had asked me to help clean her house. I never saw anything as filthy as her place, but I consented to it. She weighed nearly 500 pounds and from all outward appearance she was a “mess.” Yet, my heart reached out to her to try to help her. Yes, I cleaned the house, but I couldn’t train a four-year old to use the bathroom instead of a diaper. He would go to kindergarten and have many problems because someone didn’t train him properly. It certainly wasn’t the child’s fault. He was not trained. As for the lady – she is still a mess.

In the body of Christ “training” of the “sheep” or saints comes from the five-fold ministry. The apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher are given as gifts to equip or train the saints. But, so often, those in leadership haven’t been trained themselves. They are products of ministries that elevated people into positions they should never have been put into. They were never disciplined or trained to be leaders. They are often building their own kingdom instead of building God’s kingdom.

The only way to be trained properly is to be mentored or disciplined by someone that has been properly trained. The woman I mentioned had loving parents, but they were also undisciplined in their lives. The pattern did not start with her, it started with those responsible for training her. The same thing happens in the church.

I was not taught anything about the word of God growing up in church until I was in my mid-twenties. It was then that a pastor came that was “spirit filled” and taught from the bible. He wasn’t like his predecessors that only taught what the people wanted to hear. He did not tickle the ears of the “sheep.” Interestingly enough, many of the leaders in that church tried to get rid of this godly man, but the leaders over the denomination above that church said he was not in error. Praise God for those above him. He stayed with that church for many years. I learned a lot from him.

Who is putting teaching into your life? Are you gleaning from seasoned pastors that have paid the price? Are you learning from prophets that do not tickle your ears? Is there an evangelistic spirit in your church that challenges you to win the lost? If not, you will be like that four-year old boy that wasn’t trained. You will always look for a bottle spiritually to suck on to make you feel good. It isn’t the leader’s job to make the sheep feel good. It is the leader’s job to make the sheep strong so they can reproduce more sheep.

So, in saying all this, training is utmost importance for a child and for those that are saved to grow in Jesus. I pray you are getting what you need. If not, then ask God to send you to those that will train you. Then you will mature the way God intended you to by being trained biblically!