



“Go through, go through the gates; prepare the way of the people; build up, build up the highway, take out the stones. Lift up a banner for the peoples!” Isaiah 62:10

Who will fill the gates first? You see, it is in the gates – the seat of authority – that the battle is won or lost. (Isaiah 28:6). Your thoughts must be taken captive to the mind of Christ. (2 Corinthians 10:3 – 5). It is here where we begin to make strides for the sake of the Kingdom – not to mention our own lives and well being. As we first bring our own thinking and our own doing under the authority of Christ and His Word can we begin to prepare the way for others. “...why do you behold the speck of saw dust in your brother’s eye, but don’t consider the plank that is in your own eye?” (Matthew 7:3).

Allowing the Spirit of God to help us remove the obstacles in our own lives then enables us to help others – not in an arrogant or patronizing manner, but rather in a genuine demonstration of the love of Christ for them. Winning such personal victories gives us soften hearts toward those people still in the midst of their own various bondages and struggles. It also affords us a place from which to stand, which in like manner permits us, given the opportunity, to “remove the stones” from their paths.

Beware of the spirit of criticism in guise of discernment so called. The intercessor’s call and gifting often helps him gain the position of blessing via the prayer closet – and it becomes then unnecessary to confront or even talk to the person in need. However, should it be the Spirit’s leading for you to minister directly to someone – especially when the stones in need of removal are sensitive the prophet Samuel gives us a wonderful example of the spirit and heart with which we should prepare ourselves. “And it grieved Samuel; and he cried unto the LORD all night.” (1 Samuel 15:11). When you are broken over a brother’s trouble or his sin; when you have wept through the night for him... then, if God be willing, can you deliver a personal word!

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