Monday
Seeing What Others Cannot See

"And Elisha prayed, 'O Lord, open his eyes so he may see.' Then the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha." 2 Kings 6:17

Several years ago, a man had a vision that it would be possible to capture on cable TV happenings in any part of the world. He went from one bank to the other, but none believed it was possible. He remained focused and tenacious. He refused to allow that dream to die. I believe you know about this story too. That man is the founder and owner of the CNN. He saw what other couldn’t see at that time.

God demands obedience from His people. Once we are obedient, God will allow us to see what others cannot see. It is the rite of passage for those who are willing to risk all for God's purposes. God increases the spiritual senses to levels we never knew before. Those around us will observe this. Do you want to see what others cannot see? If so, it will require a level of obedience that will go beyond human reason and what others can offer God. It may require risk and ridicule from others. But you will see what others cannot see.

Tuesday
Workplace Minister

"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (Col 3:17).

At least about 70 percent of our time is spent in the workplace, yet our training and teaching in local churches focuses on areas where we spend much less time. The workplace is the greatest mission field of our day and represents the greatest opportunity for societal transformation, yet Churches do not train workplace believers how to effectively integrate their faith life into their work life. The wall between Sunday and Monday still exists and most workplace believers do not understand that all of life is spiritual, not just life on Sunday.
Our studies show an alarming 90 percent of Christians do not feel they’ve been adequately trained to apply biblical faith in their work life. We have focused on the fringes rather than the centre where most people spend most of their time. We are changing the 80/20 rule in the 9 to 5 window from 20% of the people doing ministry to 80%. Are you one of the men and (women) God is raising up for this task?

Wednesday
Your Gifts Are for Other People

“God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.” (1 Peter 4:10 NLT)

God wired you to make a contribution. God did not give you your talents and abilities for your benefit only. They are for the benefit of other people, and their talents are for the benefit of you too. Everybody has different talents. God has given me some talents too. One of my talents is taking the Word of God and making it clear for other people to understand. When I use that ability, you get blessed. My talent is for you. It’s to help you.

But here’s the point: You’ve got talent, too. When are you going to start blessing others? When are you going to start helping others? If you don’t use your talent that God gave you, other people get cheated. The way you bring glory to God is by using your talent. “Use your gifts well to serve one another.” God is glorified when you and I use our abilities to serve others. Don’t let it die. Use it to glorify God.

Thursday
Speak Words of Life and Health

'Gentle words cause life and health...' Proverbs 15:4

James wrote in the Epistles - 'If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless' (James 1:26 NIV). So how can you and I control our tongue's negative propensity? Engage it positively.

How? 1) Be an encourager! 'Gentle words cause life and health.' Your words can help a hopeless person keep on living and motivate a sick loved one to fight illness and become whole. 2) Speak the truth in love. Saying what needs to be heard is often hard, but being a friend requires saying difficult things. 'Wounds from a sincere friend are better than many kisses from an enemy' (Proverbs 27:6 NLT). 3) Ask God for the right words. 'The lips of the righteous bring forth what is acceptable...' (Proverbs 10:32 NAS). How do you know what words the hearer will accept? Let God be your guide. 4) Make your words life-giving. 'The teaching of the wise is a fountain of life, turn-
ing a man from the snares of death’ (Proverbs 13:14 NIV). The people you meet need words that turn them from spiritual death to eternal life. So today, speak words of life and health.

Friday
Acceptance Does Not Require Approval

“Accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.” (Romans 15:7 NLT)

Did you know that every time you show love, it gives glory to God? Because God is love, and glory is revealing what God is really like. Every time you do that, it shows God’s glory. Of course, one of the ways you love others is just by accepting them. Just because you don’t like what people do doesn’t mean you can’t accept them.

Do you understand the difference between acceptance and approval? You can accept someone without approving everything they do. There is a big difference! We are to accept everybody; we are not to approve everything everybody does. So no matter what people do, or who they do it with, or how they do it, or how long they do it - it doesn’t matter. You are to love them. You are to accept them. It does not mean that you approve of what they do. God loves you, but it doesn’t mean he approves of everything you do.

Saturday
The Time To Isolate Yourself

"Be still and know that I am God....” Psalm 46:10

There is a time and place in our walk with God in which He sets us in a place of waiting. It is a place in which all past experiences are of no value. It is a time of such stillness that it can disturb the most faithful if we do not understand that He is the one who has brought us to this place for only a season. During these times, God is calling us aside to fashion something new in us. It is an isolation chamber designed to call us to deeper roots of prayer and faith.

It is usually not a comfortable place, especially for a task-driven workplace believer. Our nature cries out, "You must do something," while God is saying, "Be still and know that I am God." You know the signs that you have been brought into this chamber when He has removed many things from your life and you can’t seem to change anything. Perhaps you are unemployed. Perhaps you are laid up with an illness. Has God brought you to a place of being still? Be still and know that He really is God. When this happens, the chamber will open soon after.
"It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers..." (Eph 4:11-12).

Malcolm Gladwell authored a marketing book entitled Tipping Point. A tipping point is when an idea, product or movement becomes accepted by the masses. Gladwell says "It is the best way to understand the emergence of fashion trends, crime waves, or unknown books becoming bestsellers." He says ideas, products, messages and behaviours spread just like viruses do but he has discovered there are usually three types of people involved in the marketing process for this to happen. He calls them connectors, mavens, and salesmen.

Connectors are people with a special gift for bringing the world together. They know lots of people who have an ability to make impact. Mavens are people who accumulate knowledge about a particular area. They are information brokers who like to get information and share it with others to help solve their problems. Salesmen have an ability to persuade when we are unconvinced of what we are hearing. They are critical to the tipping point for word-of-mouth epidemics. Mavens, Connectors and Salesmen make an idea contagious by working together to spread the message.