

## Exodus 4:21 (NLT2)

***And the LORD told Moses, “When you arrive back in Egypt, go to Pharaoh and perform all the miracles I have empowered you to do. But I will harden his heart so he will refuse to let the people go.***

Trying to share the gospel without the Holy Spirit, is like trying to dig a hole with a pitchfork instead of a shovel. Sure, the fork portion does pick up a little dirt, but the rest is full of emptiness and full of holes and frustration.

Before Moses was called by God to release the Children of Israel from their bondage of slavery to the Egyptians, Moses tried to save them by his own strength when he killed an Egyptian, yet he failed miserably, because He was not doing it under God’s direction and strength. Simply. He was being a pitchfork, trying to dig a hole.

† ***Exodus 2:11-12 & 15 Now it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out to his brethren and looked at their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren. So he looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well.***

So we know when Moses tried on his own strength, he failed, and he failed so much that God waited forty years before He would use Moses, because God wanted to turn this pitchfork into a shovel, or in Moses’ case, a backhoe.

Also, when you think about it, with most jobs, there are always some sort of written work instructions that we must follow to do our job correctly. Even teachers have a certain criterion that they must follow when instructing the children or even adults in college. But if those written instructions are incomplete, or not correct, people cannot do their job correctly, and in some cases, it can even harm others.

Think of a job as a bridge builder, there are certain procedures that **MUST** be followed in order for the bridge that is being built to be safe for others to cross over on. But if the instructions are wrong, or the instructions are not followed exactly how they are written, it could mean harm or even death to those who try to cross over on that bridge.

Now this is not a scare tactic trying to discourage you from sharing the gospel, because in sharing the gospel, we are to be a witness, which simply means, we are to tell others what Jesus has done in our lives and has changed us. And it doesn’t take memorizing scripture to do that.

Paul's letter to Timothy encouraged him, and us to, ***“Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching.”*** 2 Timothy 4:2 (NLT2)

If we do not prepare ourselves by being in God's word and by being in prayer as well asking the Holy Spirit to guide us, then we are being a bunch of pitchforks trying to dig deep into the hearts of other with emptiness, or partial truths, as we include the word of God, but we also add our own two cents worth in there as well.

So, let's:

Keep  
It  
Simple  
Servants

As we seek to be directed by the Holy Spirit in sharing the gospel, or in anything that we do for God's Kingdom, because as we are led by the Spirit, then the ministry God has given us happens naturally, and we don't have to be pitchforks anymore trying to dig into the lives of others.

- † **Luke 6:39-40** *And He spoke a parable to them: “Can the blind lead the blind? Will they not both fall into the ditch? A disciple is not above his teacher, but everyone who is perfectly trained will be like his teacher.”*
- † **John 15:26-27** *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. And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning.*
- † **John 16:13-15** *However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.*

