



MINISTRY COLUMN MONTHLY THOUGHT

When the honeymoon is over (metaphorical)

The situation is very similar when the honeymoon is over and after the start of the ministry.

People are excited until they go on their honeymoon. After the wedding, two young couples go on a honeymoon filled with swollen dreams. When they go on a honeymoon, they are captivated by the illusion of the future by promising to do this and that for your future marriage. However, after the honeymoon, the marriage that came to reality is literally ruthless enough to completely forget the fantasy of the honeymoon. The beginning of a marriage is often ideal and not happy. The bride and groom slowly realize that they had expectations that could not be achieved in their relationship with each other. As this life gets longer, marriage becomes difficult. And they have conflicts due to house problems, monthly living expenses, and personality differences.

The ministry also begins to encounter these phenomena and reality. It goes through the same process from the beginning of the ministry. It's so good when laymen are trained. Likewise, it is also fun to learn. Even they think it would be good if this learning lasted for a long time. In fact, some people enjoy learning by themselves very much. And with a swollen dream, they started their own ministry wearing so-called rose-colored glasses. Their motivation is full, and it seems to jump into the fire. However, when they started their ministry, it was not as easy as they thought, and the conflict began. Because they have no experience. This is because they idealized their role, such as praying sincerely for people, taking time to them, keeping in touch regularly, and being an example. They think they know the theory, the technology, everything, but those things don't work out in the actual field.

So they start to think that dreams like a honeymoon in ministry are over. They feel something similar to the cultural shock felt by people visiting other countries. The imagination that people will take their words, their advice, and their care very well is disastrously broken. They find that the good words that

the instructor said during the training are now out of place.

The same was true of our University of Melvin. When I advertised that I was building a school, there were many people who were worried, but there were many people who liked it and wanted to help. It was like wearing rose-colored glasses and reminiscent of the future, or to be exact, Christian universities such as Yonsei University and Ewha Womans University in Korea. I would have been a bit like that, too. However, after the groundbreaking ceremony, as it was being carried out, many people gradually began to leave, and the people had been totally replaced. There are three things in common: difficult marriage, difficult ministry, and continuous university progress. What to do when a dreamy start (honeymoon) is over, and you're asked to be in reality?

In fact, another case of quitting is an example of mountain climbers. There are also people who quit as soon as they started, people who go up a little more and quit again, and finally only a few people go up to the top. People who have practical difficulties quit. Some climb further, enduring difficulties, look around, and are quite satisfied with this. Others are glancing up to the top and going all the way up. This is the case in ministry, and most people do it until the end.

Then how can they go all the way! First, I think it is important to know what they are doing. At the same time, They should know that ministry is not an illusion like a honeymoon. Of course, they don't have to be very negative. Second, it is necessary to reconsider what this ministry means to their life. We feel meaningful when we are doing good things and helping others. What we cannot continue is this aspect, which is a sense of accomplishment. It's important that they also feel happy to start well and see others look happy while making small achievements there. Even a small step forward should be made. The third difference is that we always live with problems and difficulties. Isn't there another problem after one?

At the same time, we learn about obstacles, humanity, and the ministry itself, gain experience in the real field, and struggle with such things, but if we continue to move on, we feel that we are growing. I think life itself means this by continuing to learn. Finally, what is the ultimate commitment? I think "to achieve what is given to us while we are alive." So we're going to have to complete it as well as Jesus, who said, "I did what I had to do." You'll have to keep going until the end.

