

AN OPEN LETTER TO THOSE WHO THINK THEY ARE “CALLED TO MINISTRY”

Dear fellow believer:

Your letter has been written a hundred times, no, even thousands of times by both men and women. It always has the same characteristics--a marriage in turmoil, often children at risk, and a “ministry” you believe you are “called” to.

Sometimes you think that you and your “errant” spouse are called together into this “marvelous, awesome, wonderful ministry” which you often only imply but never clearly identify.

Dear believer, what is wrong with this picture? You spend many words explaining why you want reconciliation and restoration, but it seems not to be to honor God with your mutual Christian walk, in true reconciliation and restoration but rather to enable “the ministry” to take place—“your ministry”.

It often takes a husband and wife to walk in unity in a ministry. This is especially true when it is the woman who is the one called by God. When that unity is broken, the “ministry”, the “minister(s)”, and other Christian brothers and sisters suffer. Moreover, the “Christian witness” of our lives falls lame in the eyes of the unbelievers. What kind of ministry is that?

Dear believer, why is it that we humans think that Satan is the instigator of blocked ministries? Sin is ours to own and to repent of. Bad attitudes are ours to own and to repent of. Never mind your missing, wayward spouse. Until you accept your own sinfulness, your self-will and rebellion, your ambition to be the “right” one and to be “acknowledged”, and repent of these, the missing link will remain a thorn interfering with what you think and suppose God wants from your life.

Read his Handbook. Understand obedience--to Him first and then to those He has placed over you. Learn what humility means. Seek a relationship with God the Father that submits everything to Him, including your desire to “do something for Him”, and yields to His perfect will. Then, dear believer, you will truly know God and His will for you.

In His Service,

Patrick & Penny Hession