

7. Even if VSs don't have everything, they've got to have a few things. They might be ugly as a mud fence, but if they've got wonderful personality, a marvellous sacrificial spirit, a real leadership talent & inspiration & all the rest, well, they can get by with their mud-fence face or homeliness. (Maria: But they have to have some kind of sparkle!) They've got to have something! (Maria: Some kind of radiant exuberance.)

8. You don't have to be beautiful to have personality. Some women are beautiful but that's all. They don't show any kind of push, any drive!

9. In a way that's what Eve & I & the kids were, sort of VSs of the churches. And boy I'll tell you, one thing Eve had was a lot of drive & initiative & sparkle & fight & fire, & she pushed in where Angels feared to tread & she got those kids in wherever she wanted! She didn't have the looks & a lot of other things, but she sure had the managerial ability, let me tell you! She knew how to push around.

10. But let me tell you, when you're in that kind of work you've got to be pushy & nervy or you won't survive! And the little mousey types of people won't like them either. Little mousey types of people will not like people that have got any initiative & any drive—all the things they know they don't have. They'll resent it. It will be offensive to them because they know that they haven't got it. You can't lead without drive!

11. You're on stage & they are the audience & they are watching you & looking at you to see what kind of impression you are going to make, what kind of performance you're going to give, & "well begun is half done". When you are in public work, if you don't hit 'm with a bang & make a good first impression, it's almost impossible to overcome afterwards no matter how well you do.

12. —And that's how they're going to be judged, by that first impression! I'm sorry, but that's just the way people are & that's the way that kind of job is. You can't just be a little goodie mousey who takes care of your own children—you gotta be able to take care of yours & everybody else's too!

13. You've gotta be able to help people with their problems, honestly. The reason we've had trouble is that we had the wrong kind of people. Because the best kind of people would be people

who see the problem & can exert leadership & guidance & counsel & know the Lord & the Letters & have some maturity & godly wisdom. You can't deal with problems in your own strength & wisdom. It'd be better if you didn't get involved at all.

14. VSs, & public spiritual leaders of any kind must have a tremendous knowledge of the Word & be able to give the Word. That's the ministry of people who are shepherds: They have to feed the sheep. They've got to give them answers, lend a listening ear to genuine problems, but at the same time not meddle in people's personal conflicts or get overly involved in them. All my Mother & I could do was quote the Scripture, but we didn't take the responsibility. We passed the buck to the Lord & the Bible. And that's what they have to do. (Maria: Exactly!) Then people have to make their own decisions on the basis of the Word you give them. They have to make their own decision.

15. You can't make it for them, you can't tell them what to do. You just say, "Well, the Bible says so-&-so, now what do you think of that?"—You have to do that with teenagers! This is the way we did with our own kids when they finally got to the point they were responsible to make their own decisions! You have to say, "Well, the Lord says so-&-so" or "The Bible says so-&-so", or "Daddy taught you so-&-so before, now what do you think you ought to do?"

16. You've also got to hit them with a show! We can't have little mousey people as VSs that never do anything—either good or bad. Just because people never cause you any trouble, it doesn't mean they're the best kind of people or leadership! The most outstanding boys in my school classes were the worst! They got in more trouble & did more wrong things, but when they did something right they really did it with a bang! They were the guys that caused the most disturbance & led the class astray most of the time because they had the most drive, the most leadership ability.

17. It just had to be taught & trained & channelled in the right direction. The little blah nobodies who never showed a spark nor nary a sparkle, never let out a peep, never did anything wrong, always got A+ in deportment, got all A's & A+'s in grades, studied all the time, never said a word, quiet, did all the things they were supposed to do & never did anything else either,