



Elevate

April 3, 2017

Juggling Excellence

I. INTRO

A. Pastoring a church is like juggling

Juggling it easy when there's only one ball – but there isn't just one thing

It's the realization that what you want to be, and what you have to do, and what you really are, are not the same.

B. One overriding philosophy has been excellence

- **Excellence** – Surpassing, Extraordinary, of highest quality, exceptionally good
- **From word – Excel** - To be better, surpass, to go beyond average – good enough

C. God is a God of excellence

Psalm 8:9 (NKJV) ⁹ O Lord, our Lord, How excellent *is* Your name in all the earth!

- Our praise is to reflect HIS excellent greatness

Psalm 150:2 (NKJV) ² Praise Him for His mighty acts; Praise Him according to His excellent greatness!

D. Another aspect of excellence

Daniel 6:3 (NKJV) Then this Daniel distinguished himself above the governors and satraps, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king gave thought to setting him over the whole realm.

Daniel 6:3 (CEV) And he did his work so much better than the other governors and officials that the king decided to let him govern the whole kingdom.

- Excellence is the gradual result of always striving to do better
- Excellence is a path not a destination
 - Don't confuse excellence with perfection
- Excellence is trying to do better and perfection is trying to stay the same



II. JUGGLING AND TRANSITIONS

A. We have to learn to transition the gaps

- **Old WAYS of doing things and the requirements of current reality**
 - Excellence bridges that gap by change.
 - When you go from old ways to new ways and make changes you'll be criticized
- **The transition between established ideas and new ways of thinking**
 - Bridging this gap causes us to have to stretch and really the issue is one of learning
 - The transition between the vision that we currently possess and future vision
 - Result is – new standards new ways of doing things bring new responsibilities and the problem is that it challenges the status quo
- The Transition between the vision that we currently possess and future vision
 - Result is new standards and new ways of doing things bring new responsibilities
 - Problem is that it challenges the status quo

III. LEADING AND JUGGLING

A. An excellent spirit started with purpose of heart

Daniel 1:8 (NKJV) But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

- **To keep everything flowing over time remember that ...**
 - There is a Purpose
 - Together we make an Impact
 - The Smallest Details are Important
 - We can't lose focus

1 Corinthians 14:12 (NKJV) Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual *gifts*, let it be for the edification of the church *that* you seek to excel.