

least trouble & cost the least money too, that's another point. Whew! I'm telling you, an evangelist & people that have got fire, most people can't even stand to live around them very long!

40. There may be some people who want visitation & want somebody to come around to see them & have fellowship, but there'll also be people who don't want you coming around nosing into their business & seeing how they live! We found both kinds of people in churches. The kind of people who really were hungry & wanted help would invite us out to dinner, but the kind who didn't want us to see how they lived & were selfish wouldn't! They didn't want us to pry into their private lives & see what they were really like, & they were usually the ones who needed help the most, but they didn't want it, like the Scribes & Pharisees.

41. Anybody going around visiting their Homes is going to be involved to a certain extent. As I say, it's not up to the visitor to make the decisions, it is up to the visitor, evangelist, preacher, prophet, etc. simply to preach the Word. (Maria: Give'm the MO Letters.) Just like you parents do with your teenagers—give'm the Word! Whether it's Bible or MO Letters, give'm the Word, & then let them make their own decisions; & not start interpreting them for them if they don't know the situation. I mean, give them the Word & the Letters & that's it! Tell them where it is, "Here, here it is!"

42. My Mother used to say, "Never ask the sheep!" Sheep don't know what's good for them. The Shepherd has to make the final decisions. You can sometimes ask the sheep just to see how they feel & maybe to get some reaction on what kind of impression they do have. But when it comes to the decision, it's not a democracy. It's a dictatorship of the Spirit, & leadership has got to know the mind of God & do what's right, even if he's the only voice for it & everybody else is against him! That's one thing that went wrong with some of our common little Homes, the sheep didn't know what was good for them & chose wrong.

43. The leaders ought to know, they ought to know what's best! They shouldn't have to ask the people. A leader is not supposed to hear from the people, he's supposed to hear from God! They should only hear from the people in the matter of deacons—material things, money, facilities, logistics. The people have to

earn the money to foot the bill, so they should have something to say about that!—But when it comes to the Word or leadership or the elders or spiritual guidance, then the people have nothing to say about it. They can either respond or not respond. They can all be wrong.

44. The VSs have got to be spiritual leaders! They're not just going around checking up on their finances & if the Homes have enough to eat & so on. The spiritual leader is going to be concerned about that too, but they are going to be concerned mostly about the spiritual, because if the spiritual is OK everything else will be all right too. The Lord will take care of them.

45. Spiritual leaders are not tending tables, spiritual leaders are ministering the Word of God! (See Acts 6:2-4) They're supposed to be able to tell the people what to do, what the Word says to do, & to guide them spiritually, counsel them spiritually, advise them spiritually. But then they have to make their own decision, they can't expect the VSs to make all their decisions for them & solve all their problems!

46. VSs have got to be leaders!—Proven leaders with fruit!—Some of the best of which is their children, & that's the best fruit you can have, as well as years of service. (Maria: We have so few people that we can use as VSs, that's why we've had to put real restrictions on them now, because you can't have people that are poor samples running around trying to teach other people when they have great personal problems themselves. But yet the VSs are one of the things the Family wants the most & keep asking about! Sometimes I think it's a little like when the people insisted on Saul as their king, even though he was a poor sample to them. He gives them their desires but sends leanness to their souls. On the other hand, we do have some exceptional VS couples.)

47. The VS program can either be the best or the worst, they can either do a lot of good or a lot of damage, depending on the VSs. And VSs can do more damage than good! It's really pitiful. But good VSs really are a help.

48. Thank God for the good leaders we do have! We just need to find'm & give'm a chance to prove it!—Amen?—Are you one? We need you!—Prove it! GBY! WLY! GBAKY leading the flock!