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Practicing above the Treetops

Running a Christian Practice
(Part 1 of 5 in a new series)

We all know that every chiropractor in practice should be living and practicing in a way that is professional and exemplifies a lifestyle that encourages people to live well. For any professional, there is a standard of living that is above the norm for all people. The influence that a professional has in their community requires that they live up to a level of ethics and example that people find - well - exemplary. This is true for every chiropractor - Christian or not.

Think of this as the treetop level, the top of a forest viewed from 10,000 feet, at which all professionals should function and live. And if that is the treetop level against which we compare - if that is the bar against which we are measured - then at what level should a Christ follower function? What makes a Christian's life stand out in such a way that makes people see, and desire, a difference? What about a Christian chiropractor is different - better than the average? Sure a professional should provide a good example with his life, but I submit that this should be even truer of any man or woman who purports to follow Christ. A chiropractor who knows Christ should live and practice in such a way that they:

- Shed light in a dark world
- Stimulate hunger for a better life in those who watch
- Live with unimpeachable integrity
- Trade their time for things of eternal value

So how do we do that? Perhaps this is part of the definition of living an *"abundant life"* - and if so, how do we live abundantly? How do we express a life full of Christ and still run a successful business? How do we strive to live above the level of professionalism at which every non-Christian chiropractor should be living?

There is a way. In fact, there are likely many ways. We are all gifted with different personalities, skills, talents, experiences and bents that will drive how we practice. In this vein there are several different categories of which we should be aware, and in which we should live Christ-like within our practices.

Over the next four articles, I will discuss how we can practice above the treetops - living in such a way that patients, as well as other chiropractors, can look on and wonder what we've got that allows us to live in such an appealing way. Ways to let the light shine. Ways to be a *"city on a hill."* Ways to be tasteful salt in a tasteless world.

We will explore four areas in which a chiropractor can go from just being a good chiropractor, to being a good Christian chiropractor, including:

- Atmosphere
- Integrity
- Staffing issues
- Sharing the Gospel

In the meantime, prayerfully consider the issues for yourself. You will find that the Holy Spirit will point you toward areas in which you can live above the level of the treetops. He will show you how unique you can be that light in your office.

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