

Paul, I'm not sure whether to offer congratulations or sympathy, so I'll offer both as you enter a new dispensation in your ministry. I just had to slip that word in!

Thank you for asking me to have this part in your inauguration.

If I were to focus on one piece of advice it would be this-- whatever else you are in this office, please remember you are the shepherd of MBI. You have good helpers, but you are the #1 shepherd. Shepherd is a spiritual gift, it is the ministry of elders, it is the command of our Lord. You have many flocks under your care--students, faculty, staff, alumni, media audiences, publications. All need to be fed by you. When opening or leading a meeting, take the opportunity to give a meaty word from Scripture. With students, guard your chapels as top priority. As you are able, eat with them. Show up, however briefly, at their events. Make it possible for staff, probably in some rotation, to attend your chapels. As to faculty, whatever evaluation is done by others, you need to interview candidates yourself so as to wholeheartedly approve or to veto them. Organizations have eroded by thinking that filling a vacancy is more important than who fills it. And this applies to non-faculty heads of other departments as well. The

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basic part of administer is minister. I hope that will characterize your administration. Along with designations we use today--CEO, COO, CFO I want to add another--CSO--Chief Shepherd officer.

Some misc but not unimportant thoughts.

Fear and flee debt personally and corporately. It makes slaves of debtors even when the net worth is greater than the indebtedness.

Exercise regularly. It clearly profits, however you understand the rest of that verse. Prepare some new sermons, and when you use old ones, refresh and deepen them. So many sermons today are light weight. Entertainment is not exposition.

Keep memorizing Scripture even tho it becomes more difficult as you grow older. Get one or more good nights' sleep before making important decisions.

Filter all thoughts, goals, actions through God's Word.

However God leads you to branch out don't forget the roots of MBI for to ignore the roots will weaken the branches. Distinguish between theological fads and theological fundamentals. ~~Seek not what is good or even better but what is best.~~

Don't climb the Christian social ladder. Trust God to bring the right people across your path at the right time as He did with Philip and the eunuch, Paul and Ananias and Peter and Cornelius (Acts 8,9,10)

In addition to your wife, have another confidant or two with whom you can share openly and who in turn can encourage, challenge, and correct you.

Pray without ceasing. Hacking cough. The person has a cough but ^{is} not always coughing. Likewise one is not always vocalizing or thinking prayers but is always prayerful. Paul said he did this and he had his plate full of flocks he was shepherding by writing, traveling, preaching, counseling, praying. If the apostle Paul could do this, so can President Paul. To do so will remind you how dependent you are in everything, including little things.

Have courage, be just, hold to what is good, honor all people, show kindness, strengthen the faint hearted, support the weak, help the suffering, love one another, proclaim the good news, enjoy your ministry, and 1 Cor 10:31--display our Lord in your life and the lives of the flocks you shepherd.

A black and white portrait of Dr. Paul Nyquist, a middle-aged man with a receding hairline, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and patterned tie. He is looking slightly to the right with a gentle smile. The background is dark and out of focus.

Introducing
Dr. Paul Nyquist

The ninth president of Moody Bible Institute



We are delighted that the Lord has called Dr. Paul Nyquist to be the new president of Moody Bible Institute. He and his family ask for your prayers in the days ahead as they make this significant transition in their lives and ministries. Dr. Nyquist is also looking forward to the prayer support of Moody family members like you.

Please keep this card in your Bible or in another place where it can serve as a prayer reminder for you to bring Dr. Nyquist and his family, and Moody Bible Institute, to the Lord in prayer as we prepare for this exciting journey together!

Endorsement of Our New President

"Congratulations to the trustees of Moody Bible Institute for choosing Dr. Paul Nyquist as its next president. Those of you who do not yet know Dr. Nyquist will soon recognize him as a man who has built his life on the foundation of the Word of God. Formally trained in Bible and theology, he has continued to grow on that foundation to become a biblically mature and godly leader. This biblical perspective on the problems, decisions, and joys of the position will keep his focus clear and sharp to guide and guard his ministry at Moody. He also comes with pastoral experience. Among the many demands on his time and duties he must perform, one of the most important is recognizing that he ministers as an involved pastor to the various flocks that compose Moody Bible Institute. His experience in local churches and missions will bring that significant dimension to his service at Moody. So let us together welcome Dr. Nyquist and support him in every way we can."

Dr. Charles Ryrie

*Past President, Philadelphia Biblical University
Systematic Theology Chair and Dean of Doctoral Studies
and Professor Emeritus, Dallas Theological Seminary*