

Extract from a 1964 *Ministerial Letter* (no date provided)

“Neither Jesus nor the early apostles ever were thrown into jail for entering into and helping settle human controversy. Some of us will be imprisoned for doing as Jesus and the apostles did. But let's let that be enough, without asking for it! Therefore I set it as Church POLICY-confine your ministry to the spiritual realm of preaching, teaching, counseling as to THE BIBLE TEACHING-never even advising a person WHAT TO DO. Merely expound the Scriptures-impart the TRUTH-but let them make their own decisions (as to healing, medicine, hospitals, doctors, also) and let them take their own actions. Don't ask for trouble.

Teach WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS--but do not even advise what action to take-whether to call a doctor or not, or go to a hospital, or take medicine, or divorce a mate. DO NOT TELL THEM WHAT ACTION TO TAKE. Teach what the Bible says. The decision, and the action MUST BE THEIRS. Keep yourselves out of trouble of that kind. Jesus did. Paul did. That is the biblical teaching and example.” (quoted in the *Pastor General's Report*, 30 Dec 1986, p. 7).