

FROM THE CROWD TO DISCIPLES TO MINISTRY

(Eph 4:11 KJV) And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; (Eph 4:12 KJV) For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

(Eph 4:11 NRSV) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, (Eph 4:12 NRSV) to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

(Eph 4:11 NIV) It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, (Eph 4:12 NIV) to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

1. SUMMARY OF PAST COUPLE OF WEEKS.

1. ***Targets of ministry.***
 1. World.
 2. Crowd.
 3. Congregation.
 4. Committed.
 5. Core.
2. ***Purposes of the church.***
 1. Worship.
 2. Evangelism.
 3. Fellowship.
 4. Discipleship.
 5. Ministry.
3. ***Levels of commitment.***

2. INCREASED RESPONSIBILITY WITH INCREASED AGE.

1. To whom much is given, much is required.
2. Expect more out of children than babies.
3. Expect more out of adults than children.
4. Discipleship and ministry should be focus of all believers.

3. GOD HAS CALLED US TO DISCIPLESHIP.

1. ***Lord, we have left all to follow you.*** (Mark 10:28 KJV) Then Peter began to say unto him, Lo, we have left all, and have followed thee.
 1. (Mark 10:29 KJV) And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, (Mark 10:30 KJV) But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.

2. Mat 16:24. If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.
2. ***This is a hard saying.***
 1. (John 6:54 KJV) Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal life; and I will raise him up at the last day.
 2. (John 6:60 KJV) Many therefore of his disciples, when they had heard this, said, This is an hard saying; who can hear it?
 3. (John 6:65 KJV) And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.
 4. (John 6:66 KJV) From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him.
 5. (John 6:67 KJV) Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?
 6. (John 6:68 KJV) Then Simon Peter answered him, Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.
4. THE WORK OF GOD.
 1. ***I have meat to eat that you know not of.***
 1. My meat is to do the will of Him that sent me.
 2. And to finish his work.
 2. ***Doing the works of God while it is day.*** (John 9:4 KJV) I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.
 3. ***I must be busy about my Father= \Rightarrow business.***
 4. ***Lo it is written in the volume of the book, I have come to do thy will O God.***
5. LABORERS FOR THE FIELD.
 1. ***Fields white unto harvest; laborers needed.***
 2. ***Laborers are few.*** (Luke 10:2 KJV) Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest.
 3. ***Time of reaping.***
 1. He that reapeth receiveth wages and gathered fruit unto life eternal.
 2. One soweth, and another reapeth.
 3. Paul soweth, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.
6. WE ALL HAVE DISTINCTIVE AND UNIQUE MINISTRIES.
 1. ***Make your calling and election sure.***
 2. ***Not everyone called into pulpit ministry.***
 3. ***All called to be ministers--to be servants.***
 4. ***All called to be witnesses.***
 1. To Paul. AI have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee...@
 2. Ye shall be witnesses.

3. Let your light so shine before men (not in a corner) that men may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
5. ***All called to be soul-winners.***
 1. Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.
 2. He that winneth souls (catches fish) is wise.
 1. Launch out into the deep.
 2. We have toiled all night and have taken nothing.
 3. Cast the net on the right side and ye shall find.
 - (1) should go where fish are.
 - (2) know the ways of the fish.
 - (3) use proper bait.
 4. Go into highways and hedges and compel them to come in.
7. **GOD'S LOVE FOR THE WORLD.**
 1. ***For God so loved...***He gave His only begotten son.
 2. ***While we were yet sinners,*** Christ died for the ungodly.
 3. ***God's command.***
 1. Go into all the world and preach the gospel...making disciples of all men.
 2. Go into the highways and hedges...compel them to come in.
 3. Is. 43:5-6 - "*Fear not: for I am with thee: I will bring thy seed from the east, and gather thee from the west; I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth...*"