

THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY: TEAMWORK

(Eph 4:7 KJV) But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. (Eph 4:8 KJV) Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Eph 4:9 KJV) (Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? (Eph 4:10 KJV) He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.) (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 4:13 KJV) Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: (Eph 4:14 KJV) That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; (Eph 4:15 KJV) But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: (Eph 4:16 KJV) From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.

1. THE MINISTRY GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.

1. *Apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers.*
2. *Purpose of the ministry gifts.*
 1. For the perfecting of the saints (equipping).
 2. Work of the ministry.
 3. Edifying of the body of Christ.
3. *Until.*
 1. We come into the unity of the faith.
 2. We come into the knowledge of the Son of God.
 3. We come unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.

2. PURPOSE OF THE CHURCH.

1. *The extension of Christ in the earth.*
2. *Winning the lost.*
3. *Discipling the saints.*

4. *Helping people to grow into maturity.*
 1. Helping people to walk in unity and love.
 2. Helping to develop fruit of the spirit.
 5. *Ministering to hurting people.*
3. A MINISTERING CHURCH.
1. *Loving church.*
 2. *Forgiving church.*
 3. *Accepting church.*
 4. *A place of refuge and refreshing.*
 1. Place of uplifting and refreshing.
 2. Place of renewal.
 3. Place of new beginnings.
4. BELIEVERS HAVE RESPONSIBILITY TO BETTER THE MINISTRY BY GIVING OF THEMSELVES TO IT.
1. *By faithful attendance to all meetings possible.*
 2. *By showing warmth and love to visitors and members.*
 1. Hugs. Touching each other in love (with proper discretion).
 2. Exhorting in love.
 3. Speaking appropriate words.
 3. *By becoming involved in some area of ministry in the church.*
 1. A greatest need of ministry is to the children.
 1. Nursery.
 2. Pre-school.
 3. Elementary levels of Sunday School.
 4. Children's Church.
 2. Youth ministries.
 3. Singles.
 4. Adults.

5. Elderly.
6. Intercession.
7. Maintenance.
8. Outreaches.
9. Ushers and Greeters.
10. Phone calling.
11. Any other areas of need.

4. *All believers have a responsibility to pray regularly for their leaders*

5. SERVING: BASIS FOR THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY.

1. *Nobody ever becomes a leader without first becoming, and remaining, a server.*

2. *A person with a true servant's heart ministers out of love, not obligation or bondage.*

1. A true server ministers without complaint.
2. A true server always goes the extra mile, doing more than what is required. God, in return, will always reward him.
3. A server will improve his effectiveness in ministry if he will become dependable.
 1. If he says, Let's meet for lunch at 12:00 today, he will be there at 12:00 or earlier.
 2. If he has made commitments, he sticks to them!
 3. If he cannot meet someone or do something as expected and planned, he will be sure to call and notify the proper people, so that they can make new plans.
4. A server will improve his effectiveness if he views his position of ministry as a privilege, and not a stepping stone to bigger and greater things. Although those who are faithful in less responsible positions are promoted, the attitude must be humble and not glory-seeking in order for the Lord to bless it.

1. Otherwise, he will be open to the attacks of Satan,
especially if his promotion is slow in coming.
 2. He should not view his ministry as inferior in any way--
God set him there.
 3. He should rest in the Lord, and be faithful where he is,
unconcerned about possible future promotions.
3. *A server will improve his effectiveness if he maintains a balance
between being fed the Word and ministering to the needs of
the people.*
1. Balance will be maintained if he comes to at least two
services a week.
 1. One service where he can be fed himself.
 2. Another service where he can minister to others.
 2. Giving out ensures freshness of own soul.
4. *Some common excuses for refusing to serve in the local church:*
1. "It's not my calling."
 2. "I need to rest from my job."
 3. "I need to rest from my housework and kids."
 4. "I need to hear the Word preached every service."
 5. "I don't have time."
 6. "I'll give extra offering to the church instead of helping
personally."
 7. "I don't agree with the way my church operates."
 8. "Nobody really cares about me and what I do in the church."
 9. "I don't have anything to offer."