**20200802 SERVING LIKE JESUS**

**Loving Others Part 4** Ephesians 4:16; John 13:1

16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work. (Ephesians 4:16 NIV)

1 Just before the Passover Feast, Jesus knew that the time had come to leave this world to go to the Father. Having loved his dear companions, he continued to love them right to the end. (John 13:1 MSG)

"(Jesus) has given... pastors and teachers to prepare God's people for works of ministry, so the body of Christ may be built up." Eph. 4: 11-12

\* The Pastors are the \_\_\_ADMINISTRATORS\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\* The People are the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_MINISTERS\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

“Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything He commanded them. (Matthew 28:18-20)

**Our MINISTRY IS DETERMINED BY our \_\_SHAPE\_\_!**

**Two results of discovering the ministry we've been shaped for are:**

\_\_\_**FULFILLMENT**\_\_\_\_ And \_\_\_\_**FRUITFULNESS**\_\_\_

**FIVE TRUTHS ON MINISTRY ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE**

**1. WHAT IS MINISTRY ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE?**

The definition of ministry is: “USING WHATEVER GOD HAS GIVEN ME TO SERVE HIM AND THE NEEDS OF OTHERS”

**2. WE MINISTER IN 3 DIRECTIONS**

**To \_\_\_\_\_THE LORD\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 13:3)**.

3 So after **they had fasted and prayed**, **they placed their hands on them and sent them off**.

**To \_\_\_\_\_BELIEVERS\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Heb. 6:10)**

10 God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him **as you have helped his people and continue to help them**.

**To \_\_\_\_NON-BELIEVERS\_\_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 5:13)**

13 "**You are the salt of the earth**. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled by men.

**3. WHEN WE SERVE OTHERS, WE MINISTER TO 3 AREAS OF NEEDS.**

**To peoples \_\_\_\_\_\_\_PHYSICAL\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ needs.**

"(God says) I was hungry and you fed me, ... thirsty and you gave me a drink... needed clothes and you clothed me... sick and you cared for me... in prison and you visited me... Matt. 25:35-36, 40Whenever you have done this to the least person, you did it to me."

"If, as my representative, you give even a cup of cold water to a little child, you will surely be rewarded." Matt. 10:42 (LB)

**To people's \_\_\_\_\_\_EMOTIONAL\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ needs.**

"... Warn the idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with all." 1 Thess. 5:14 (GN)

**To people's \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_SPIRITUAL\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ needs.**

"... God reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." 2 Cor. 5:18

"We proclaim Christ, counseling and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ." Col 1:28, 29

**4. THE PURPOSE OF MINISTRY**

"There are different kinds of service to God, but it is the same Lord we are serving. The Holy Spirit displays God's power through each of us as a means of helping the entire church. All of you together are the one Body of Christ and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it." 1 Corinthians 12:5, 7, 27

GOD WANTS TO USE ME TO

\_\_\_\_**HELP THE CHURCH GROW**\_\_\_\_\_

**5. THE PROCEDURE HOW TO DISCOVER MY MINISTRY (ROMANS 12:1-8)**

**STEP 1: DEDICATE \_\_\_\_\_\_MY BODY\_\_\_\_\_\_**

"I urge you... to offer yourselves as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God -- which is your spiritual worship." (Romans 12:1)

**STEP 2: ELIMINATE \_\_\_\_\_COMPETING DISTRACTIONS\_\_\_\_**

"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (vs. 2)

**STEP 3: EVALUATE \_\_\_\_\_MY STENGTHS\_\_\_\_\_\_**

"Don't cherish exaggerated ideas of yourself or your importance, but try to have a sane estimate of your capabilities by the light of the faith God has given to you. (vs.3 Ph)

**STEP 4: COOPERATE \_\_\_\_WITH OTHER BELIEVERS\_\_\_\_**

"Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one Body and each member belongs to all the others." (vs. 5)

Implications from Paul's A**na**tomy Lesson: (See also 1 Cor. 12:1-31)

\* Every member is a minister in Christ's body.

\* Every member has a different function.

\* Every member's ministry is important.

\* Every member belongs to the others.

"Each of us is a part of the one Body of Christ... The eye can never say to the hand, `I don't need you.' The head cannot say to the feet. `I don't need you.' And some of the parts that seem weakest and least important are really the most necessary! ... So God put the body together in such a way that extra honor and care are given to those parts that might otherwise seem less important." 1 Cor. 12;13, 21-22, 24b (LB)

**STEP 5: ACTIVATE \_\_\_\_MY GIFTS\_\_\_\_\_**

"We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us.. prophesy... serving... teaching... encouraging... contributing... leadership... showing mercy..." Romans 12:6-8

**Prayer of Dedication**

“Jesus, here I am. I want to serve you by serving others. Would you use me, my time, my talent, my shape for your purpose, please?”