

For the Work of the Ministry

Old stuff for some - but hope you will be inspired

New for some - excited about the things the Lord has done

God's Plan for the Ministry

Ephesians 4:7-8 & 11-13 But **to each one of us grace has been given** as Christ apportioned it. 8 This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men." And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, **for the work of the ministry**, for the edifying of the body of Christ: 13 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:

Timeline: Ascension until vs 13 is fulfilled

- He gave gifts (5-fold ministry)
- To EQUIP the SAINTS

To equip is bring something back to a place of usefulness and its intended use

Mt 4:21 to mend a net

The Saints (the holy ones)

Rom 1:7 To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints

2 Cor 1:1 unto the church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia

Eph 1:1 to the saints which are at Ephesus

Col 1:2 To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse

- For the WORK of the MINISTRY
- For the EDIFYING of the body of Christ

UNTIL vs 13

1) unity of the faith (see Ephesians 3: 3 Unity of the Spirit) - Endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit Until we come to the unity of the faith

2) Knowledge of the son of God

Eph 1:17 spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him

Col 1:10 And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and may please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God,

Phil 3:10 that I might know him and the power of his resurrection

3) Unto the measure, stature and fulness

As each part does its work the body of Christ more accurately reflects CHRIST to the world -

There is also the concept of maturity - to be like him

- 1) The role of the 5-fold ministry is to equip the saints
- 2) We are the saints and the saints are to do the work of the ministry

- 3) The church will be edified
- 4) The church as Consumer vs Strategic

Jesus was Moved with Compassion

When Jesus walked the earth He was moved by compassion - He cared about and ministered to the needs of people...and He continues to minister to others through us.

- **He healed the sick** Matthew 14:14 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.
- **He fed the hungry** Matthew 15:32 Jesus called his disciples to him and said, “I have compassion for these people; they have already been with me three days and have nothing to eat. I do not want to send them away hungry, or they may collapse on the way.”
- **He opened blind eyes** Matthew 20:34 Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him.
- **He healed the lepers** Mark 1:40-41 A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, “If you are willing, you can make me clean.” 41 Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. “I am willing,” he said. “Be clean!”
- **He raised the dead** Luke 7:11-15 Soon afterward, Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went along with him. 12 As he approached the town gate, a dead person was being carried out—the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the town was with her. 13 When the Lord saw her, his heart went out to her and he said, “Don’t cry.” 14 Then he went up and touched the coffin, and those carrying it stood still. He said, “Young man, I say to you, get up!” 15 The dead man sat up and began to talk, and Jesus gave him back to his mother.
- **WHEN HE SAW THE CROWDS - He asked for additional workers** Matthew 9:36-38 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

When He Ascended He Gave Us A Lot

The 5-FOLD MINISTRY to equip us
Eph 4:11-13

The Holy Spirit to anoint us and give us gifts
John 16:7, Acts 1:8 1 Cor 12:7;

The Love of God in our Hearts by the Holy Spirit
Rom 5:5

John 16:7 But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

1 Corinthians 12:7 Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

Romans 5:5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom he has given us.

Preparing Your Heart for Ministry

Romans 12:3-8 For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the measure of faith God has given you. 4 Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man’s gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. 7 If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; 8 if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

1 Peter 4:10-11 Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms. 11 If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.

- **Take an honest evaluation of yourself**
- **Accept the responsibilities and privileges of belonging**
- **Be Willing to serve**

1 Corinthians 15:10 But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace to me was not without effect. No, I worked harder than all of them—yet not I, but the grace of God that was with me.