

CALLED AND ACCOUNTABLE FINDING OUR PLACE



What the Bible Says About Ministry!

What is Ministry?

The Greek word for ministry is the word
“diakonos,”

What word do we get from that? Deacon. The
word “deacon” simply means servant.

We Minister in Three Directions

1. To the **(LORD)** *Acts 12:3*
2. To **(OTHER BELIEVERS)** *Hebrews 6:10*
3. To **(UNBELIEVERS)** *Matthew 5:13*

There are three types of ministry. There's ministry to the Lord. There is ministry to other believers. And there's ministry to unbelievers.

We Minister to Three Areas of Need

1. We minister to people's (PHYSICAL) needs.

“I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me drink. I needed clothes and you clothed me, sick and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me. Whenever you have done this to the least person, you did it to me.” Matthew 25:35-36, 40

“If, as my representative, you give even a cup of cold water to a little child, you will surely be rewarded.” Matthew 10:42

We Minister to Three Areas of Need

2. To people's **(EMOTIONAL)** needs.

“Warn the idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with all.” I Thess. 5:14

3. 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 present everyone mature in Christ.” Col. 1:28-29.

WHAT'S THE PURPOSE OF MINISTRY?

- 1 Corinthians, *"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. "*
- What is the purpose of ministry *"Each of us as a means of helping the entire church."*
- God wants to use me to **build** up His body.

The Priority of Ministry

Ten Foundational Truths. These are things the Bible teaches about ministry.

The Priority of Ministry

1. I've been (CREATED) for Ministry.

“For we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Eph. 2:10

2. I've been (SAVED) for Ministry.

“It is He who saved us and chose us for his holy work, not because we deserved it but because that was his plan long before the world began.” 2 Timothy 1:9

The Priority of Ministry

3. I've been (CALLED) into Ministry.

“God, in his grace, chose me even before I was born, and called me to serve him.” Gal. 1:15

“I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.” Ephesians 4:1

“You have been chosen by God himself. You are priests of the King. You are God’s very own. All this so that you may show to others how God called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were less than nothing, now you are God’s own” I Peter 2:9, 10

The Priority of Ministry

4. I've been **(GIFTED)** for Ministry.

“God has given each of you some special abilities be sure to use them to help others, passing on to others God’s many kinds of blessings.” I Peter 4:10

5. I've been **(AUTHORIZED)** for Ministry.

Jesus said, “All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples.” Matthew 28:18-19

“We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors.” 2 Cor. 5:20

The Priority of Ministry

6. I'm (COMMANDED) to Minister.

Jesus said "Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve."

Matthew 20:28

"Take heed to the ministry you've received from the Lord and fulfill it." 2 Cor. 5:20

7. I'm to be (PREPARED) for Ministry. *"God gave pastors and teachers to prepare God's people for works of ministry so that the Body of Christ may be built up."*
Ephesians 4:11-12

The Priority of Ministry

8. The Body of Christ **(NEEDS)** my Ministry. *“All of you together are the one body of Christ and each of you is a separate and necessary part of it. I Cor. 12:27*
9. I am **(ACCOUNTABLE)** for Ministry. *“So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.” Roman 14:12*

“The Parables of the Talents” Matthew 25:14-30

The Priority of Ministry

Ministry is the function of the church family

10. I will be **(REWARDED)** for Ministry. *“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.” Col. 3:23, 24*
“Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your Master’s happiness. Matt. 25:23

The Procedure: How to Discover My Ministry – Romans 12:1-8

Step 1. I Dedicate **(MY BODY)** *“I urge you to offer yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God which is your spiritual worship.” – vs. 1*

Step 2. I Eliminate **(COMPETING DISTRACTIONS)** *“Don’t conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. – vs. 2*

The Procedure: How to Discover My Ministry – Romans 12:1-8

Step 3. I Evaluate **(MY STRENGTHS)** *“Don’t cherish exaggerated ideas of yourself or your importance, but try to have a sane estimate of your capabilities by the light of faith God has given you.” – vs. 3*

Step 4. I 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. – vss. 4-5*

Implications from Paul's Anatomy

Lesson (*also see I 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 all the others.**

The Procedure: How to Discover My Ministry – Romans 12:1-8

Step 5. I Activate (MY GIFTS)

Paul says, “*We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us: prophesy, serving, teaching, encouraging, contributing, leadership, showing mercy.*” vss. 6-7.

Discovering How God Has Shaped Me For Ministry

- **HOW HAS GOD SHAPED ME?**

“Your hands formed me and shaped me.” Job 10:8a

- **GOD HAS BEEN MOLDING AND SHAPING YOU FOR MINISTRY SINCE YOU WERE BORN. IN FACT, GOD STARTED UNIQUELY SHAPING YOU EVEN BEFORE YOU WERE BORN.**

Discovering How God Has Shaped Me For Ministry

- *“Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! It is amazing to think about Your workmanship is marvelous. You were there while I was being formed (circle “formed”). You saw me before I was born and scheduled each day of my life before I began to breathe.” Ps. 139:14-16*

1. I was **(shaped)** for a purpose.
2. I am **(unique)** by God’s design!
3. I am **(wonderfully)** complex.

Discovering How God Has Shaped Me For Ministry

- *“What right do you have, a human being, to cross examine God? The pot has no right to say to the potter: Why did you make me this shape? A potter can do what he likes with the clay.” Romans 9:20-21*

Your ministry will be most effective and fulfilling when you are using your GIFTS and ABILITIES IN THE AREA OF YOUR heart’s desire in a way that best expresses your PERSONALITY and that is based on your EXPERIENCE.

Success is Faithfully Doing What God Created Me to Do!

*NOBODY IS BETTER AT BEING YOU
THAN YOU!*

Ministry is Determined by Several Different Factors

“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to everyone for their service. The Spirit’s presence is shown in some way in each one, for the good of all.”

I Corinthians 12:4-7

Traditional Model

According to the NAG principal:

NEEED, ABILITY, GUILT

My S.H.A.P.E. Will Determine My Ministry

- S – **(SPIRITUAL GIFTS)** *“Each man has his own gift from God, one has this gift, another has that.” I Cor. 7:7*

WHAT AM I GIFTED TO DO?

- H – **(HEART)** *“God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose.” Rev. 17:17*

“For it is God who works in you, both inspiring the will and the deed, for this own chosen purpose.”

WHAT DO I LOVE TO DO?

My S.H.A.P.E. Will Determine My Ministry

A – **(ABILITIES)** *“There are different abilities to perform service.” I Corinthians 12:6*

“I (God). . . Have given him skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts. . .”

WHAT NATURAL TALENTS AND SKILLS DO I HAVE?

P – **(PERSONALITY)** *“No one can really know what anyone else is thinking or what he is really like, except that person himself.” I Corinthians 2:11*

WHERE DOES MY PERSONALITY BEST SUIT ME TO SERVE?

My S.H.A.P.E. Will Determine My Ministry

E- (EXPERIENCES)

1. What (spiritual) experiences have I had? *“There has been enough time for you to be teachers but you still need to be taught . . . You are without any experience in the matter of right and wrong. Hebrews 5:12-13*

My S.H.A.P.E. Will Determine My Ministry

2. What **(PAINFUL)** experiences have I had? *“Sometimes it takes a painful experience to make us change our ways.”*
Proverbs 20:30.

“God helps us in our troubles, so we are able to help others who have all kinds of troubles, using the same help that we ourselves have received from God.” 2 Corinthians 1:4

My S.H.A.P.E. Will Determine My Ministry

3. What **(EDUCATIONAL)** experiences have I had?
“Always remember what you have learned. Your education is your life; guard it well.” Proverbs 4:13
4. What **(MINISTRY)** experiences have I had? *“Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel.” 2 Corinthians 9:13*

**SUCCESS IS DOING WHAT GOD MADE
ME TO DO!**