

Christian Ministry

Introduction

Who

Christian ministry is intended for both lay and clergy persons.

- One concept is that Christian ministry is
 - A partnership between lay and clergy,
 - With the clergy being responsible for training the laity.

Ephesians 4:11-12 (NIV)

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

Why

God calls all persons into a covenant relationship.

- A call to salvation,
 - An offer of a redemptive relationship with God,
 - A call to a life dedicated to following Jesus Christ.

Now What

Once we enter a relationship with God through Jesus the Christ...

- We can expect there may be other calls to various kinds of service;
 - Or to say the least:
 - We have made ourselves open to them.
- Yes, as astonishing as it may seem in this secular world,
 - God does call everyone to...
 - **Salvation and Service**

Careful

Christian ministry is a humble, and humbling, work.

- We should not do it with an attitude of superiority,
 - as if we have all the answers or
 - can solve all the problems.
- Rather, it *calls us* to engage others as equals,
 - with the hope that together

- We may learn to serve.
- Our attitude should be:
 - We are in this together...
 - ***For the Glory of God!***

Biblical List of Ministries

There are at least six listings of offices, gifts, titles and functions of Ministry in the New Testament.

1. Romans 12:6-8;
2. 1 Corinthians 12:8-10;
3. 1 Corinthians 12:28;
4. Acts 13:1;
5. 1 Peter 4:11;
6. Ephesians 4:7, 11, 12

1. *Romans 12:6-8 (NIV)*

⁶We 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. ⁷If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; ⁸if 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.

2. *1 Corinthians 12:8-10 (NIV)*

⁸To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, ¹⁰to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues.

3. *1 Corinthians 12:28 (NIV)*

²⁸And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues.

4. *Acts 13:1 (NIV)*

¹In the church at Antioch there were prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen (who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch) and Saul.

5. *1 Peter 4:11 (NIV)*

¹¹If 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.

6. *Ephesians 4:7, 11, 12 (NIV)*

⁷But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.

¹¹It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,

¹²to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

List Summary

- Prophets or Prophecy
- Apostles
- Serving, such as healing, miracles, helpers
- Teaching, knowledge, teachers, distinguishing between spirits, interpretation, interpreters
- Pastors
- Administrators
- Evangelists
- Contributors
- Exhortations
- Tongues

Help is Available

The preachers and elders of this church are **ALWAYS** here to help.

- They can encourage
- They can advise
- They can pray