

THE MINISTRY OF HELPS

1. "HELPS" IS A PART OF THE MINISTRY THAT THE FATHER HAS PLACED IN THE LOCAL CHURCH. (1 COR 12:27-31)

HELPS: To render assistance.

- A. **ALL ARE CALLED BY GOD** to the ministry of "helps".
- B. Notice this is a "ministry" just as the apostle, prophet, teacher, miracle worker, etc.
- C. **(v. 28)** — God "appointed" (to set in a certain position) the helps ministries in the church.

2. EVERY MEMBER OF THE BODY IS IMPORTANT. (1 COR 12:12-27)

- A. We are "one body" with many members.
- B. Notice the "whole" body represents Christ, the Anointed One.
- C. **(v. 18)** *God has meticulously put this body together; He placed each part in the exact place to perform the exact function He wanted.*
 - 1) God has set the members in the body where He pleased. This means our leadership will be in agreement with where God wants us serving in the church, for it is God who has established the pastor in each church.
- D. Just as one who is called to the fivefold ministry must be acknowledged by leaders above them to have that calling, so must our pastor acknowledge our rightful place in the body.
- E. **(v. 25)** - The sense here is, that the body might be united, and be one harmonious whole; that there should be no separate interests; and that all the parts should be equally necessary, and truly dependent on each other.
- F. The body of Christ needs to be a supportive strength to one another.

3. THERE ARE THREE BASIC DEGREES OF HELPS MINISTRIES.

- A. Doing those things that the pastor has no ability to do.
- B. Doing those things that the pastor can do, but should not be doing so that he can fulfill his calling to the body.
- C. Doing those things that the pastor is doing, but he needs you to do them with him.

WHY THE MINISTRY OF HELPS IS SO IMPORTANT

4. YOUR PASTOR'S CALLING. (JER 3:14-15)

- A. Your pastor's calling is to feed you with knowledge and understanding of the Word of God.
- B. This is your pastor's primary purpose, and what you therefore want him to be doing.

5. THIS IS WHAT YOUR PASTOR NEEDS TO BE DOING TO FULFILL HIS CALLING TO THE FLOCK. (ACTS 6:1-4)

- A. It is not appropriate nor right for your pastor to be focusing his time and attention on doing the "hands on" work of the ministry.
- B. The more your pastor can give himself to the Word of God and prayer, the more you will benefit as a church, and the more God can fulfill His purpose through that body.
- C. Notice it is the pastor that will "appoint" where people are to serve in the local church body.
- D. When the body is functioning as "one", it will help the body to multiply.

6. GOD'S DESIGN FOR THE LOCAL CHURCH. (EPH 4:1-16)

- A. We should all walk worthy of the calling with which we were called.
- B. We all have grace (God's gifting's and abilities) given to us to help the body fulfill its purpose.
- C. We see both the fivefold ministry, and the body who are equipped to do the "work of ministry" both in the church and outside the church.
- D. Believers should mature so they can become as "one" with each other.
- E. Every part is to do its share.
- F. The "effective working" refers to our God-given gifts and abilities.
- G. When we are fulfilling our part in the body, it brings two things. It brings growth to the body (people added), and it causes individuals to grow spiritually.

FULFILLING OUR ROLE IN HELPS MINISTRY (OUR CALLING)

7. WE ARE TO FIND A PLACE TO SERVE. (ECC 9:10)

- A. We are to find a place we can set our “hand” to do the work of the Lord in our local church.
- B. We are to do this with “all our might”, which means to put forth your very best effort.
- C. Once we are in the grave, there will not be another opportunity to serve the Lord with our lives in reaching people with the gospel. This is the only opportunity we will get. This is not a drill.

8. WE SHOULD BE NO LESS COMMITTED THEN OUR PASTOR. (ACTS 6:2-3)

- A. Notice to “help” in handling the distribution of food to widows they had to be:
 - 1) Of good reputation. They had to have a good testimony among others in their Christian walk.
 - 2) Full of the Holy Spirit. They had to be yielded to the Holy Spirit.
 - 3) Full of wisdom. Wisdom comes from God and is primarily a result of one who lives in and by the Word of God.
- B. Everyone believes the pastor or fivefold ministers should be living a godly life, but the helps ministry is just as important. Why should they not also being living a life now ruled by their new nature.
- C. If we live a life of fellowship with God, staying full of the Holy Spirit, and one with the Word, we will be just as anointed as our pastor in the calling we fulfill.

9. WE ARE NOT WORKING FOR GOD BUT WITH HIM. (2 COR 6:1)

- A. We receive the grace of God in vain by being born again and then not using what God has gifted us to do to work with Him in building the kingdom.

10. WE ARE SERVING GOD NOT MAN, AND WE ARE TO DO IT WILL ALL OUR HEART. (COL 3:23-24)

- A. You will be rewarded for your service unto Him.

**11. OUR LABOR FOR GOD IS NEVER IN VAIN.
(1 COR 15:58)**

- A. We are to be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord.
- B. To do this we must not become offended, nor think more highly of ourselves than we ought to, but simply be grateful to serve our Savior who gave His all for us.

**12. THE LORD “KNOWS OUR WORKS” WE HAVE DONE FOR HIM.
(MATT 16:26-27)**

- A. God does take note of the “works” we do for Him.
- B. He will reward us based on the works He had for us to do, and how well we did them.

13. THE KEYS TO FULFILLING OUR PART IN THE HELPS MINISTRY.

- A. Find a place to serve where you are gifted and your pastor is in agreement.
- B. Serve the Lord with all your heart. Give him your very best every time.
- C. Maintain a close walk with God.
- D. Pray every time for God to anoint you as you yield to be used by Him.