

Ephesians 4:11-12

August 3, 2014

- I. Background- Paul writing to Christians in Ephesus, encouraging unity, talking about how the Church will grow- she will grow through her diversity, all the parts working together
- II. Intro- Usually preach exegetically; today, topically- topic is: How the Church does (or should do) ministry. BLUF: Pastors, church staff, and church programs all should equip the saints so that *they* can do the work of ministry.
- III. Two Models
 - a. Church Model
 - i. Church gathers to get encouraged and fed (worship, classes, events, ministries, programs)
 - ii. After meeting (usually at church), members go back to their lives
 - iii. Outside of meetings, programs, worship ministry is expected to be less; what does occur is done by staff and/or dedicated church volunteers
 - iv. Non-Xns are encouraged to come to a time when ministry is being done at or by the church
 - v. If someone has an idea or passion, they bring it to church leadership to begin a ministry/program/meeting
 - vi. Ministry done by pooling congregation's resources- money, manpower, voice, facilities
 - b. Kingdom Model
 - i. Church comes together to get fed, encouraged, trained, and equipped; biggest gathering is for worship
 - ii. After worship/gathering, Church returns to the world equipped, trained, fed, and encouraged to do the work of ministry where they are and as they're led
 - iii. Picture in Worship
 1. Processional- children, choir, clergy, lay readers, all processing behind the Bible or under a cross, singing, coming into the sanctuary to worship, rest from their labors in the world
 2. Recessional- same group, after worship is ended, recesses out the door, back into the world and back into the fight
 - iv. If someone has an idea or a passion, they engage in it where they are, only draw on the church for things they don't have- training, facilities, extra hands, etc
 - v. Examples
 1. New City Church- need for fan for elderly woman; need presented during worship (role of the leadership), worshipper went out during break and bought fan, gave it to her (saints doing work of min)
 2. Bob Roberts, speaker at GA, pastor in DFW, engaged in min in Vietnam; need for loans, startup capital for businesses in Vietnam; so he gathered a few finance/banker types at the church, told them the prob, made

some coffee, left them alone- they decided to create plan for development in Vietnam, fund it themselves, travel themselves- don't wait for church "mission trip" to roll around

IV. Discerning your ministry

- a. Where are you?
 - i. Location- Pgh or NYC? House or apt?
 - ii. Relationships
 - 1. Work
 - 2. Fam
 - 3. Acquaintances- server, barber, park, bank teller
- b. What do you have?
 - i. Skills
 - 1. Talents- what you enjoy, not necessarily your job
 - 2. Job
 - ii. Resources
 - 1. Time- retired/empty nest? Young single? Got lots of time. Growing fam? Prob not much- be realistic. Seasons for everything. But: "To whom much is given much is expected."
 - 2. Money- same as above
- c. What do you need? THIS IS WHERE THE CHURCH COMES IN
 - i. Training
 - ii. Encouragement
 - iii. Wisdom
 - iv. Extra hands
 - v. All provided by the Church- but driven by the saints, not the staff
- d. SHOW CYCLE: WHERE ARE YOU → WHAT DO YOU HAVE → WHAT DO YOU NEED → WHERE ARE YOU...

V. 1 For 1

- a. Ways NPC is equipping you for 1 For 1
 - i. 3 weeks of sermons (+ 2 weeks' prep before)
 - ii. 3 weeks of CG prayer
 - iii. Invitation week Aug 17
 - iv. Festival of Hope Aug 17
 - v. Chili Cook-off
 - vi. Christianity Explored
- b. Saints required for success of 1 For 1- staff can't do it
 - i. Christianity Explored failed in the summer- why?
 - 1. Staff evaluated marketing, presentation, time/location, et al- NO
 - 2. Failed b/c nobody came, nobody invited a friend
 - ii. 1 For 1 will fail if you don't pray about, invite someone
- c. The point:
 - i. NOT to get more people to NPC

ii. So more people will hear the Gospel

VI. Conclusion

- a. Will you be engaged in the work of ministry? Or will you wait on those whose “job” is to do ministry?
- b. What is your ministry? Where does the Lord have you working?