

Bottom Line: Your Ministry

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I. Introduction.

A. The name of the game in ministry is people. People should be recruited to Jesus. (Ezekiel 34; James 1:27)

B. True ministry is true service. (Mark 10:45)

II. How we become ministers.

A. Ministry is not just another job.

B. Ministers are called of God. (Hebrews 5:4; Acts 26:15)

III. Where we get our ability to minister: God. (1 Timothy 1:12; 1 Peter 4:11; 1 Corinthians 12:11)

IV. Where we get the ministry: the mercy of God. (2 Corinthians 4:1; Acts 20:24; 1 Corinthians 12:18)

V. To whom we minister.

A. Unbelievers: salvation. (1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9; Mark 16:15; Proverbs 11:30; John 4:36; Ecclesiastes 3:11)

B. Believers: becoming more like Jesus. (Romans 8:29; Ephesians 4:13; 4:11-12; Ezekiel 34:1ff)

C. The poor and needy. (Proverbs 19:11)

VI. How to do the ministry.

A. The hallmark of ministry is love. (Proverbs 12:25)

B. Help people develop their gifts and abilities to fit into the body of Christ. (Matthew 19)

C. We are called to work ourselves out of a job.

VII. Possible steps in ministry.

A. Have a fishing pond. (Proverbs 16:33)

B. Form a group or a team.

C. Care about your people and honestly share.

D. Always love and never give up. Give up on people at the place Jesus gives up on you.

E. Spend time with them. (Acts 20:4; 20:1; Mark 3:14-15)

F. Get something going.

G. Make sure your ministry is willing to confront.

VIII. Hindrances to ministry.

A. Religiosity.

B. Rigid methodology.

C. Organization that is too demanding of time.

D. Discouragement. (Luke 10)

IX. Ministry is costly but it is worth it.

Application questions:

1. What is ministry?

2. What do you need to do to become a more qualified minister?

3. What are some misconceptions about ministry that keep people from fulfilling God's will for them?
