

Preparing Your Laymen to Help in the Ministry

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I. Introduction.

- A. Ministry is modeling the reality of Jesus in the lives of people.
- B. The ministry is the believer's. (Ephesians 4:11)
- C. Laymen are no longer satisfied to be spectators.

II. What to do to prepare a layman for ministry.

- A. You must be willing to pay the price.
- B. You must be willing to turn loose of control.
- C. You must have a real heart for them. (2 Corinthians 12:15; Isaiah 43:4)
- D. You must be honest with them.
- E. You must be vulnerable.
- F. You must be willing to lay your friendship on the line. (Leviticus 19:17; Ephesians 3:20)
- G. You must put aside present pleasure for future gain. (Isaiah 60:22)
- H. You must recognize that vocational ministers cannot accomplish the objective alone.

III. How to work with a man.

- A. Ask yourself where you are going with a man and how to get there.
- B. Help him develop ministry skills.
- C. Help him develop cultural sensitivity and flexibility.
- D. Help him develop Christian character.
- E. Help him develop a vision of God himself, a vision of what God is doing in this world and a vision of his own. (3 John 4)
- F. You are not working on your own. The Spirit is here to help.
- G. Parts to evangelizing (which is God's objective, 1 Timothy 1:15; John 17:18)
 - 1. Proclamation.
 - 2. Interpretation or understanding.
 - 3. Demonstration.

H. We need to hold our ground as Christians, which requires discipline, standing and knowing the enemy. (Ephesians 6:13)

I. Outline.

1. Tell them why.
2. Show them how.
3. Get them started.

J. Always love and never give up on the man.

Application questions:

1. What is the objective of lay ministry?

2. What tips are most helpful for developing an effective lay ministry?

3. What challenges do you see overcoming in developing this kind of ministry?
