REPRODUCING YOUR MINISTRY IN OTHERS

What is "ministry"?

**OT**: to attend as a menial; to contribute to; to serve; to wait on

**OT** examples:

At that time the LORD separated the tribe of Levi to bear the ark of the covenant of the LORD, to stand before the LORD to minister to Him and to bless in His name, to this day - Deut 18:8

...and Aaron was set apart, he and his sons forever, that he should sanctify the most holy things, to burn incense before the LORD, to minister to Him, and to give the blessing in His name forever. -1 Chron 23:13

And the priests attended to their services; the Levites also with instruments of the music of the LORD, which King David had made to praise the LORD, saying, "For His mercy endures forever," whenever David offered praise by their ministry. The priests sounded trumpets opposite them, while all Israel stood. 2 Chron 7:6

I am the Lord your God...I have also spoken by the prophets, and I have multiplied visions, and used similitudes (given examples), by the ministry of the prophets. Hos 12:9-10

**NT**: from an obsolete word meaning to run on errands; an attendant that is generally a waiter (at the table or other menial duties) such as one who teaches or pastors. (Does not mean unimportant but rather humble service)

NT examples:

but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word. Acts 6:4

1

But none of these things move me; nor do I count my life dear to myself, so that I may finish my race with joy, and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God. - Acts 20:24

Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or **ministry**, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Rom 12:6-7

And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of **ministry**, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Eph 4:11-12

## Who or what is all ministry directed towards?

God

In OT times ministering to the Lord was assigned to one family

"At that time the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the ark of the covenant of the LORD to stand before the Lord to minister to Him" Deut 10:8

In NT times ministering to the Lord was extended to all followers of Christ.

But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light. 1 Pet 2:9

Therefore, what ministry are we called to reproduce in others? What is YOUR ministry? Simply, ministering to God, the focus of all ministry

By thanksgiving, by praise, by worship

By serving His body, who are His people (this is also ministering to God)

How do we reproduce our ministry in others?

First, by example - demonstrating by your own life

If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine which you have carefully followed... These things command and teach. Take heed to Your Ministry. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. 1 Tim 4:6, 11-12

The elders who are among you I exhort, I who am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that will be revealed: Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. 1 Pet 5:1-3

The things which you learned and received and heard and seen in me, **these do**, and the God of peace will be with you. Phil 4:9

This is how a man should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful. 1 Cor 4:1-2

You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let

your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. Matt 5:13-16

## Second, by teaching others

## First, your children:

Train up a **child** in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Prov 22:6

Only take heed to yourself, and diligently keep yourself, lest you forget the things your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. And teach them to your children and your grandchildren, especially concerning the day you stood before the LORD your God in Horeb, when the LORD said to me, 'Gather the people to Me, and I will let them hear My words, that they may learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and that they may teach their children. Deut 4:9-10

You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your **children**, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. Deut 6:5-7

## Second, everyone else:

Now when Abram heard that his brother was taken captive, he armed his three hundred and eighteen <u>trained servants</u> who were born in his own house, and went in pursuit as far as Dan. Gen 14:14

1st and 2nd Timothy and Titus exhort this concept.

And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. 2 Tim 2:2

But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will. 2 Tim 2:23-26

But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Tim 3:14-17

Speak these things, exhort, and rebuke with all authority. Let no one despise you. Titus 2:15

Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the rain, as the latter and former rain unto the earth. Hosea 6:3

Ministry is simply then "following Christ." In following Him, we will learn, and we will serve where and how He directs us to.

Reproducing our ministry is accomplished by living it and teaching others what we **know** of God.

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life— the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us— that which we have

seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ. -1 John 1:1-3