

Understanding your: anointing, spiritual gifts, and ministry in relation to The Local Church

I. Every Born Again, Spirit Filled believer has been given:

A. An Anointing, Spiritual Gifts, and a ministry:

1. **Anointing:**

- a. 1 John 2:20 But **you have** an **anointing** from the Holy one, and you know all things.
- b. 1 John 2:27 But the **anointing** which **you have received** from Him abides in you,

2. **Gifts of The Holy Spirit:**

a. 1 Cor 12:7 But the **manifestation of the Spirit**

(1) The “manifestation of the Spirit” is speaking of the Gifts of the Holy Spirit in operation

b. “**is given to each one**”

(1) The manifestation of the Gifts of The Holy Spirit have been given to every Born Again, Spirit Filled believer

(2) Just because you have spiritual gifts does not mean:

(A) that you are called to the Five Fold Ministry of Eph 4:11

(B) does not mean you are called to a pulpit ministry

(C) does not mean that you are suppose to start a church

c. “for the **profit** of all:” Amp “for the good and the profit”....”common good”

(1) The Gifts of The Spirit are not meant to place believers in super star status

(2) The Gifts of the Spirit are not about the person being used by The Lord

(3) The purpose of the Gifts of the Spirit is for the common good, the profit, of people
By ministering to their needs

d. 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,

9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,

10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues

3. **Ministry:**

a. Eph 4:12 for the equipping of the **saints** for the **work of ministry**,

II. The purpose of your anointing, spiritual gifts, and ministry is to **help build the only thing Jesus said He would build:**

A. Matt 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock **I will build My church**, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

1. Jesus is not building my ministry

2. Jesus is not building your bible study, prayer meetings, singing ministry

3. Jesus is not building Sunday School, nor Teen Ministry

a. If every ministry (those that I mentioned, and hundreds more that I have not mentioned)

Do not contribute to building the church: the bible teaches us that our labor is in vain

(1) Ps 127:1 Except **the LORD build the house**, they **labour in vain** that build it:

B. Jesus is only building one thing, Jesus is only building one **HOUSE: THE CHURCH**

1. Heb 3: 6 but **Christ as a Son over His own house**, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope firm to the end.
 - a. Jesus is only faithful to one house / Jesus is only building one thing: His Church
 - (1) Father God, The Holy Spirit, and Jesus has given us an anointing, Gift of The Spirit, and a ministry that are to be devoted to building the one house / the one thing Jesus is building: The Church

C. Defining the Church: EKKLESIA / a calling out, an assembly

1. **“An calling out”**:

- a. 1 Peter 2:9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:
 - (1) When Born Again, we called out of the darkness of the world, and into the marvelous light of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God
- b. Col 1:13 Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:

2. **“An assembly”**:

- a. one believer does not make an assembly, one believer does not make a church
- b. The word **“CHURCH”** is actually a political term
 - (1) The word church actually refers to a group of citizens who have gathered together to govern
 - (2) This is what Jesus was referring to when He said “I will build My Church”
 - (A) Jesus was speaking of those who have become the **citizens of heavens (Phil 3:20)** thru the new birth and who are gathered together in the expression of the Local Church to govern this present world:
 - (1) or carry out The Will of God / Word of God & leading of the Holy Spirit
 - (3) The Born Again, Spirit filled Church has been given **“spiritual authority”**, so it may
 - (A) **Govern in the spirit realm**
 - (1) Eph 3:10 to the intent that now the manifold wisdom of God might be made known by the church to the principalities and powers in the heavenly places, Eph 3:10 [The purpose is] that through the church the complicated, many-sided wisdom of God in all its infinite variety and innumerable aspects might now be made known to the angelic rulers and authorities (principalities and powers) in the heavenly sphere. AMP
 - (B) **Govern in Society and the affairs of men**
 - (1) Matt 5:13 Ye are the salt of the earth
 - (2) Matt 5:14 14 "You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.
 - 15 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.
 - 16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

- D. This governing Body described by Jesus as The Church manifests itself in two ways on the earth:

1. **The Universal / World Wide Church**: which includes every Born Again believer in the world
2. **The Local Church**: which is a local assembly of Born Again believers gathered together, Of which every Christian is to be a part of:
 - a. Ps 68:6 God sets the solitary in families;
 - b. Heb 10:25 not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

III. **UNDERSTANDING OUR BIBLICAL ROLES IN BUILDING THE CHURCH**

A. Jesus gave the Five Fold Ministry Gifts to assist in the Building of The Church:

1. Eph 4:8 Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men."

Eph 4:11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,

12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,

13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;

14 that **we should no longer be children**, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,

 - a. vs 14 **“that we should no longer be children”**
 - (1) Part of the purpose of the Five Fold Ministry is to aide in the maturing of the saints
 - (A) Thru the ministry of the Five Fold Ministry Gifts the Born Again believer is challenged to grow and mature spiritually and not remain:
 - (1) a spiritual babe
 - (2) carnal minded
 - (3) uninvolved in the work of the ministry
 2. The purpose of the Five Fold Ministry is for the **“EQUIPPING / PERFECTING OF THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY”**
 - a The Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor & Teacher have been given to the Church which Jesus is building to equip you:
 - (1) **Def Equipping / perfecting:**
 - (A) to complete throughly, repair, adjust, mend, restore, prepare
 - (1) After the person has been born Again & plugs into the local church and experience their Life being, repaired, mended, restored by the:
 - (A) power of The Holy Spirit, the ministry of the Word of God & church family life
 - (B) you are then EQUIPPED: so you can begin to be a blessing to others thru your Anointing, spiritual gifts and ministry
- B. Note: **EQUIPPING** the **saints** for the **WORK OF THE MINISTRY”**
1. The **“traditions of men”** (Mk 7:8) have built a spiritual stronghold in the minds of believers (2 Cor 10:4-5)

a. **they mistakenly think that it is the job of the Pastor to do the majority of the work of the ministry:**

2. **Biblical Job description of the Pastor:** (Five Fold Ministry Gifts)

a. Eph 4:12 equipping the saints for the work of the ministry

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

c. Heb 13:17 to rule (lead), provide spiritual oversight

d. Ex 39:42: **Instruction:** According to all that the LORD commanded Moses, so the children of Israel made all the work.

Ex 39:43 **Inspection:** And Moses did look upon all the work,

Ex 39: 43 **Blessing:** and, behold, they have done it as the LORD had commanded, even so had they done it: and Moses blessed them.

e. Ex 18:19-23

19 Harken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God shall be with thee: Be thou for the people to Godward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God:

20 And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.

21 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:

22 And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee.

23 If thou shalt do this thing, and God command thee so, then thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go to their place in peace.

(1) **Prayer & intercession for God' people,** whom they lead

Vs 19 “be thou for the people to God-ward. That thou mayest bring the causes unto God”

(2) **Preaching and Teaching the Word of God**

Vs 20 “and thou shalt teach them the ordinances and the law”

(3) **Receiving and communicating the direction and vision of the local church**

Vs 20 “and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk”

(4) **Showing and equipping the saints for the work of the ministry**

Vs 20 “and the work they must do”

(5) **Raising up and selecting leadership**

Vs 21 “Moreover you shall select from all the people able men”

C. **Biblical Job description of the Born Again believer:**

1. Eph 4:12 : “the **work of the ministry**”

a. It would be impossible to list all that the “work of the ministry” that the saints are to do.

But, the work of the ministry the saints are to do is to contribute to the BUILDING OF THE CHURCH especially in the expression of the LOCAL CHURCH

2. There is another spiritual stronghold in the minds of believers that also must be pulled down

a. Many believers think that a Pastor is to lay down their life and build a local church so the saint (saints) can then have a platform for their ministry to perform on.

b. And, they fail to catch the vision that God gives the Pastor for the local church, not understanding that as they catch the vision God has given the Pastor three things take place

as they give of their anointing, spiritual gifts and ministry

(1) they are used of The Lord

(2) They are personally fulfilled

(3) They contribute in building what Jesus said He would build: The Church

3. **Let me give you an example:**

a. Lets say you are a Sunday School teacher (or simply put your ministry position in this slot) and in your mind you think: “as the Pastor builds the church, he / she will then provide me with a large Sunday School class for people (adults / teens / children) to sit under my anointed ministry.

b. That is not what the bible teaches. Rather the scriptures teach that thru your anointing, spiritual gifts, ministry operating outside of the church (as well as within the church): you will minister to the needs of people, and then bring the fruit of your labor / the fruit of your ministry into the local church.

4. Jesus never intended that the only way His church grows is thru what we call FRONT DOOR MINISTRY or PULPIT MINISTRY / the ministry of the Pastor:

5. **THE SAINTS HAVE ABANDONED THEIR PULPIT!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

a. Your Pulpit is not the one found in the building where the saints gather together on Sunday and midweek.

b. **YOUR PULPIT IS THE WORLD!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

(1) Hag 2:19 Is the seed still in the barn?

(A) We have been attempting to reap a harvest by planting all of our seed in the barn (local church)

(B) we have limited all of our ministry, especially the ministry of the saints to the assembly of the saints on Sunday and mid-week

(2) Matt 13:37 "He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man

38 **The field is the world,**

D. Have you ever stopped to think about how many individuals have come into the local church, walked up to the Pastor and told him / her I am called to preach. Then fully expect the pastor to give them a “turn in the pulpit” to minister the word:

1. Just because you are called to preach, does not mean that you are called to stand in a pulpit ministry within the local church

a. Because of a unbiblical mind set this person never thinks of fulfilling their ministry to preach (or whatever ministry a person may have) by fulfilling what Jesus said to do:

(1) Mark 16:15 "**Go into all the world** and preach the gospel to every creature.

16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.

17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues;

18 they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

- (A) **Jesus did not limit these verses to Sunday morning in the local assembly**
- (B) **Jesus did not limit these verses to the Apostles and believers during His or their days on earth, He was speaking to every Born Again, Spirit filled believer**
- (2) Luke 14:21 So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind.
 - 22 And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room.
 - 23 And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, **compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.**

and

- (A) **“Compel”**: is a word of passion
 - (1) Luke 14:23 and urge and constrain [them] to yield and come in, (AMP)
- (B) But if the believer has **lost their first love** (Rev 2:4), if the believer has **lost their “zeal” for Their Heavenly Father’s House** (Ps 69:6 & Jn 2:17), and **lost their passion....no compelling takes place, the work of the ministry the saints are to do is abandoned**
- (3) Matt 25:35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:
 - 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.
 - 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?
 - 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?
 - 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?
 - 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.
- (A) Jesus is describing some of the work of the ministry the saints are to be doing, as a tool to building The Church:
- (B) Somehow the saints have come to think that:
 - (1) **Unless the Pastor organizes** a: food ministry, clothing ministry, jail ministry and is also there working within these ministries these ministry..these type of ministries do not take place
 - (2) **Jesus is not talking to the Pastor in these verses,** He is talking to every Born Again Believer
 - (A) It is the Christian’s ministry to do these things personally toward people in need
 - (B) then witness to them & bring them to the local church
 - (C) and even if these ministries do function in and thru a local church, these are not the ministries Pastors are to be functioning in: rather these are ministries for the saints
 - (1) In fact the Word of God that the Deacons not the Pastor were to be involved in the oversight of such ministries, as the Believer helped serve within such ministries: See Acts 6:1-6

E. Many Born Again, Spirit Filled believers have come to believe the lies of the devil in

regards to ministry:

1. They believe that ministry is only performed when it is convenient
2. They believe there is no personal sacrifice required of them in fulfilling their ministry
 - a. be it the sacrifice of their: time, entertainment -pleasures, finances, etc.
3. They believe that ministry only takes place on Sunday & midweek during the services of the local church
4. They believe their ministry is only to take place in the limelight, before a congregation of A local church

F. This is what Jesus teaches about ministry

1. Valid ministry contributes to building The Church

2. We are all to humble ourselves by putting on the towel of a servant and serve in ministry:

- a. John 13:4 He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself.

5 After that he poureth water into a bason, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded.

3. There is sacrifice involved:

- a. Matt 16:24 Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

25 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

- b. Luke 17:7 But which of you, having a servant plowing or feeding cattle, will say unto him by and by, when he is come from the field, Go and sit down to meat?

8 And will not rather say unto him, Make ready wherewith I may sup, and gird thyself, and serve me, till I have eaten and drunken; and afterward thou shalt eat and drink?

9 Doth he thank that servant because he did the things that were commanded him? I trow not.

10 So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do.

IV. Where do we start?

- A. 1 Chron 12:22 For at that time they came to David day by day to **help him**, until it was a **great army, like the army of God.**

1. This is a prophetic picture of the Church, that reveals how The Church / Local Church can become a great army:

- a. "They came to David"

(1) **You must connect with your David / Pastor**

- b. "To help him"

(1) **they came to contribute, not spectate, and analyze with a critical spirit**

- c. "1 Chron 12:17 "If you have come peaceably to me to help me, my heart will be united with you;

(1) **they came in peace to David & flowed in unity / united in purpose**

(2) 1 Chron 12:31 “and make David king;”

1 Chron 12:38 “All these men of war, who could keep ranks, came to Hebron with a loyal heart, to make David king over all Israel; and all the rest of Israel were of one mind to make David king.

(A) Or in other words: **they bought into the vision** that God had given David, their leader (pastor) to make him king

(1) **You must know and receive your Pastor’s vision**

d. 1 Chron 12:18 “We are yours, O David;

(1) **They gave of themselves to their leader (pastor)**

(2) we also find this principle in the lives of believers who labored under Paul’s ministry:

(A) 2 Cor 8:5 “but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God”.