

LESSON VII MEMBERSHIP

I. MEMBERSHIP

We, as believers, are members of the body of Christ.

1. Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. **(I Cor. 12:27)**
2. For as we have many members in one body, but all members do not have the same function, so we, being many are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another. **(Rom. 12:4-21)**
3. For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones. **(Eph. 5:30)**

II. THE MINISTRY OF HELPS

- A. And God hath appointed these in the church:** first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, **HELPS**, administrations, varieties of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? Do all have gifts of? healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? **(I Cor. 12:28-30)**
1. Helps literally means one who gives aid and assistance.
 2. Helps is a supernatural ministry. It is listed among miracles and healings. **(I Cor. 12:28)**
 3. God set the ministry of helps in the church like concrete pillars to hold things up. Helps is not one of the gifts that is limited in **I Cor. 12:29-30**. Anyone in the body can operate in the ministry of helps.
- B. God set the five fold ministry in the church for the equipping of the saints** for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ. **(Eph. 4:11-16)**
1. People who are growing in Christ will exhibit these qualities:
 - a. They will build up and add to the welfare of God's family, the church.
 - b. They will learn to minister (to help or serve) others.
 - c. They will help the pastor, not hinder him.
 2. People in the ministry of helps will receive supernatural anointing to do the things that will benefit the pastor. Pray and ask God for this anointing and He will give it to you.

3. The vision God gave the pastor will be yours and you will help him fulfill it. Pray and ask God to show you the vision and what your part in it is.
- C. Not everyone can be in the five fold ministry.**
1. God has set the members, each one of them, in the body just as He pleased. **(I Cor. 12:18)**
 2. And God has appointed these in the church... **(I Cor. 12:28-30)**
 3. When everyone is doing his job there is no division in the body. From whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love. **(Eph. 4:16)**
 4. **God gave you gifts. You must use them.**
 - a. Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them... **(Rom. 12:4-18)**
 - b. As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another as good stewards (servants) of the manifold grace of God. **(I Peter 4:10)** The gifts and callings of God are without repentance. **(Romans 11:29)**
- D. The helps ministry is like an apprentice program.** When you prove yourself on one job God will promote you. Promotion comes from God, not man.
1. Humble yourself under the mighty hand of God that in due time He may exalt you. **(I Peter 5:6)**
 2. For exaltation comes neither from the east nor from the west nor from the south. But God is the Judge: He puts one down, and exalts another. **(Ps. 75:6-7)**
- E. Jesus had a ministry of helps.** Disciples were used as helpers to spread the gospel.
1. These twelve Jesus sent out and commanded them, saying...'The kingdom of heaven is at hand. Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, and raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.' **(Matt. 10:5-8)**
 2. The disciples helped Jesus feed the five thousand. **(Matt. 14:15-21)**
 3. Jesus sent out two of His disciples and said to them... **(Mark 14:13)**
- F. Moses had a minister (servant) to help him.**
1. And Moses rose up and his minister Joshua and went up into the Mount of God. **(Ex. 24:13)**

- a. Minister here means servant. Joshua was to wait on and serve Moses.
- b. Joshua was serving and waiting on Moses so he could keep his mind on God's work.
- 2. The anointing of God comes down through the five fold ministry or from the head. **(Ps. 133)**
 - a. Moses was placed by God to oversee and care for His people. ...You have laid the burden of all these people on me. **(Num. 11:11)**
 - b. God said...I will take of the Spirit that is upon you and will put the same upon them, and they will bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it yourself alone. **(Num. 11:16-17)**

G. Leaders get tired and need help.

- 1. Jesus was asleep in the boat and was physically tired. **(Matt. 8:23-27)**
- 2. Aaron and Hur held up Moses' hands when he was tired. **(Ex. 17:8-13)**

III. SERVING GOD'S CHOSEN MAN

- A. **Faithfulness is required.** Faithfulness is God's crowbar. Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful. **(I Cor. 4:2)**
- B. Elisha was the man God chose to carry on the work of Elijah the prophet. The Lord said...and Elisha...you shall anoint as prophet in your place. **(I Kings 19:15-16)**
 - 1. There are three important things we know about Elisha: First, he served Elijah, the man with the vision, for 27 years with little or NO recognition.
 - 2. Second, Elisha was a faithful servant to the man of God. You must prove yourself to be faithful to God and man by your works of service.
 - 3. Third, the faithful servant, Elisha, was promoted. He received a double portion of Elijah's anointing and he did twice as many miracles as Elijah. God will promote you when He is ready. You be faithful and serve God, not man.

IV. THE FRUITS OF A FAITHFUL SERVANT

- You must decide to be faithful. God will not make you be faithful.
- A. **A quality decision is one from which there is no change.** **Ps. 15:4c** says, he who swears to his own hurt and does not change.
 - 1. A faithful man will abound with blessings. **(Prov. 28:20)**

2. Moreover it is required in stewards that one be found faithful.
3. Like the cold of snow, in time of harvest is a faithful messenger to those who send him, for he refreshes the soul of his masters. (**Prov. 25:13**)

B. Faithfulness can put you in a place of honor in the eyes of God and your pastor. So the governors and satraps sought to find some charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, **because he was faithful**; nor was there any error found in him. (**Dan. 6:4**)

V. THE PROCESS OF MEMBERSHIP

- A. After you have completed **ALL** the "What We Believe" Classes, you will be eligible to become a working member.
- B. You will fill out the membership application and sign the Statement of Faith.
- C. Upon acceptance of your application, you will be received into the church body by the hand of fellowship and receive a certificate of membership. You now have the opportunity and privilege of working in the church body. (Note: In order to work on a volunteer team, other requirements pertinent to that team may need to be met.)
- D. If you have come from another church, we accept letters of transfer. (Did you leave in good standing?) *Explain the importance of this.

VI. TRANSFERRING YOUR MEMBERSHIP FROM HOTL FELLOWSHIP CHURCH TO ANOTHER CHURCH

- A. Either by moving from this city or as you are directed by the Holy Spirit to leave this body, you should comply with the following:
 1. Follow the leading of the Holy Spirit.
 2. Notify the church office as soon as possible.
 3. Be a member in good standing.
- B. Then you will receive a letter of transfer from the House of the Lord Fellowship Church with our prayers and blessings.

All scriptures quoted are from the New King James Version unless otherwise stated.
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