

## ***N is for NURTURE***

If we are going to be a clone of the Acts 2 church, we must learn to nurture the body.

To nurture the body means to \_\_\_\_\_ to the body.

What is Ministry?

Ministry is reaching out to \_\_\_\_\_, while missions is reaching out to \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_. The Acts 2 church took nurturing the body seriously.

Acts 2:45 *And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.*

In order to fulfill our purpose, we must find our ministry as believers.

Eph 4:11-12

*And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ESV*

### **I. The P \_\_\_\_\_ is to Equip the Members v12a**

God gives the preacher one task: to \_\_\_\_\_.

How is he to do that? Acts 6:1-4

1. **P** \_\_\_\_\_

#### **2. Preaching**

a. 2 Tim 3:16-17 *All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be competent, equipped for every good work.*

b. 2 Peter 1:21 *For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit*

3. **P** \_\_\_\_\_

1. The word pastor literally means \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Jer 3:15-16 *And I will give you shepherds after my own heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.*

## II. The People are to Execute the \_\_\_\_\_ v12b

Acts 6:5-6

We must find our gifts, the gifts that God has given us, and put them to work.

Rom 12:3-8 For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. 4 For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, 5 so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. 6 Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; 7 if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; 8 the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

1 Cor 12:14-22 For the body does not consist of one member but of many. 15 If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 16 And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. 17 If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? 18 But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. 19 If all were a single member, where would the body be? 20 As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. 21 The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." 22 On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable,

HOMEWORK: Please take time to take the spiritual gifts test. This will help you determine where God would have you to serve and what God is calling you to do as you execute his ministry. You can access the spiritual gifts information at the following links.

[http://www.lifeway.com/lwc/files/lwcF\\_wmn\\_SpiritualGifts\\_List.pdf](http://www.lifeway.com/lwc/files/lwcF_wmn_SpiritualGifts_List.pdf)

[http://www.lifeway.com/lwc/files/lwcF\\_wmn\\_SpiritualGifts\\_Survey.pdf](http://www.lifeway.com/lwc/files/lwcF_wmn_SpiritualGifts_Survey.pdf)

1 Cor 15:58 Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

## III. The \_\_\_\_\_ is to Edify the Membership v12c

Acts 6:7

Rom 14:19 Therefore let us pursue the things which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another

1 Thess 5:11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

**Please List your top 3 Spiritual Gifts below**

**1.**

**2.**

**3.**

**If you knew you could not fail, what is it that you would attempt to do for God with your life?**