

THE LOCAL CHURCH
Serving: You Have A Part

- I. In the local church that God has called you to, you have a part to play in it fulfilling the call God placed upon it**
- A. God has called every believer to be a part of a local church-God's way is flock and overseers-Ac20:28-Take heed therefore unto yourselves and to all the flock over the which the Holy Ghost has made you overseers to feed the church of God
1. He made them overseers of a flock, a portion of the body, not the whole body-1Pt5:2-Feed the flock of God *which is among you taking oversight*
 2. Which portion of the body did God not give an overseer and a flock to-Are their special believers that don't need an overseer to lead them and a flock to be a part of
 3. Which flock are you a part of and who is overseeing you?-You need to be able to answer this question
- B. God hooks you to people more so than to an organization-Hb13:7-Remember *them* which have the rule over you; 17-Obey *them* that have the rule over you; 1Th5:12-13-Know *them* which are over you in the Lord; 1Co11:1-Follow *me* as I follow Christ
1. All leaders are not the same-Different leaders flow in different graces and God has hooked you to specific leaders
- C. God has a specific place for every believer in the Body of Christ-1Co12:18-KJ-God *set the members every one of them in the body as it pleased him*; VO-God has meticulously put this body together; He placed each part *in the exact place to perform the exact function He wanted*; ER-He made a place for each one; CEV-The way that he decided is best; PH-According to His design
1. God put you in that place to both to minister and be ministered to, to both give and receive-There are things you will receive for your life and destiny; There are things you will give that advance the vision God gave that church
 2. You have a function to perform-No one is exempt from this, being part of a flock and having a function to perform (A note from mom doesn't get you out of the function you are to perform)
- D. You're called to that leader and ministry to help it fulfill the mission that the Lord gave to it -The Pastor is like the captain of a ship who sets the course, determines the type of mission, calls the directions; God made it so that he cannot do it alone and help from a crew is required; Everybody on the ship has a something to do to help the ship function properly
- II. Every believer is called to serve-Rm6:22-But now being made free from sin, and become servants to God; Ep6:6-As servants of Christ doing the will of God from the heart; Ph1:1-Paul and Timothy, the servants of Jesus Christ; Co3:24-For you serve the Lord Christ**
- A. Serving or ministry is the administration of something good or helpful-Ac6:1-In those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily *ministration* (service, minister, administer, aid). ² Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and *serve* tables. ³ Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. ⁴ But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the *ministry* of the word. ⁵ And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch: ⁶ Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them. ⁷ And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith. ⁸ And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.
1. Ministry is serving, serving is ministry-We're all in ministry because we are all called to serve
 2. Ministry comes from the word to administer which means to dispense-One was dispensing food, one was dispensing the word, but both are being done for the Lord, in the service of His people and both are ministry; The thing you minister may vary, but whatever it is you're doing it for the Lord and in the service of His people
 3. People need to be ministered to in different ways-It takes more than preachers for the church to function properly
 4. When everybody did their part the church grew-The Word increased and the number of disciples was multiplied
- B. One of the main ways we serve God is by serving His people-Mt25:34-The King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ³⁵ For I was an hungered, 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 hungered, 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 The King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you in as much as you have done it to the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me

1. This is ministry to the saints-**Hb6:10**-For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labor of love, which you have showed towards his name in that you've ministered to the saints
 2. What you do for God's people, God takes it personally like you're do it to Him
 3. We are supposed to serve one another and when we do we are serving the Lord-**Gal5:13**-By love serve one another
 4. The local church affords you the opportunity to serve God by affording you the opportunity to serve His people
- C. How are you serving Him?-Many people like to quote Joshua 24:15 but quoting it doesn't make it true in your life-**Js24:15**-As for me and my house we will serve the Lord
1. Servant-1.Devoted to another to the disregard of one's own interests 2.Used by God to advance His cause among men
 2. How are you serving Him-What are you doing to advance His cause, disregarding your own interests and devoted to His?-Being saved, going to church, reading your Bible serves you, what are you doing to serve Him?
 3. Many like the idea of serving, but not the sacrifice of serving-Serving is to disregard your own interests
- D. If you don't make yourself a servant you won't be one-This is a decision of quality to be a servant not just in word, but in deed-**1Co9:19**-For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more