



New Mt Zion MBC
Bible Study Series: Spiritual Gifts

Bible Study Topic: Five Offices of the Church & Laborers of the Church

[Eph 4:11 KJV] 11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

The Five Offices of the Church

Apostle - One who can pioneer, construct, and begin a work with no problem. Not only can he conceive and bring into being a body of believers, but he can also remain behind to found that church and put it on a solid rock of truth. He can organize it, set it in order, and teach it with accuracy.

- Greek **apostolos** - a delegate; one sent with full power of attorney to act for another.
- At least 24 Apostles are mentioned in the New Testament
- Foremost ministry in the Church
- Not appointed by men, must come from God

[2Co 8:23 KJV] 23 Whether [any do enquire] of Titus, [he is] my partner and fellowhelper concerning you: or our brethren [be enquired of, they are] the messengers of the churches, [and] the glory of Christ.

[Phi 2:25 KJV] 25 Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants.

- 78 times the word is translated “sent one”
- An Apostle is on with delegated authority.
- An Apostle is different from the other four offices in that he has the ability to perform the other functions.
- An Apostle has the ability/authority to:
 - Raise up a church without outside help
 - Pastor the Church
 - Can set Church Government in order
 - Deacon Boards
 - Elderships
 - Develop the ministry of Helps
 - Governments in a church

Examples of Apostles:

Jesus – Hebrews 3:1	Apollos - 1 Corinthians 4:6,9
Paul - Galatians 1:1	James - Galatians 1:19
The original twelve – Matthew 10:2-4	Silas & Timothy - 1 Thessalonians 1:1
Matthias – Acts 1:26	Titus - 2 Corinthians 8:23
Barnabas – 1 Corinthians 9:5-6	Epaphroditus: Philippians 2:25
Andronicus & Junia – Romans 16:7	Apollos - 1 Corinthians 4:6,9

Prophet - also called seer
 ra'ah = to see or perceive
 chozeh = beholder of visions

- 78 prophets and prophetesses

Old Testament Examples:

Adam	Elijah
Enoch - Methuselah (at his death the sending forth of waters)	Isaiah
Noah	David
Abraham	Jeremiah
Jacob	The Seventy (Numbers 11:25)
Joseph	Company of Prophets (1 Samuel 10:5-10)
Moses	Sons of Prophets (2 Kings 2:2-3)

New Testament Examples:

Wrote:	Speaking:	Prophetess
Peter	John the Baptist - (John 1:29, 32-34)	Miriam
Paul	Zacharias - (Luke 1:67-71)	Deborah
James	Simeon - (Luke 2:25-35)	Huldah - (2 Kings 22:14)
John	Agabus (Acts 11:27-28; 21:10-11)	Isaiah's Wife - (Isaiah 8:3)
	Ananias (Acts 9:15-16; Acts 13:1-2)	Anna - (Luke 2:36-38)

Evangelist - Proclaimer of the Gospel

- Preaches
 - Love
 - Forgiveness of God
 - Salvation

Philip - [Act 8:5-8 KJV] 5 Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. 6 And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. 7 For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed [with them]: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed. 8 And there was great joy in that city.

[Act 21:8 KJV] 8 And the next [day] we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was [one] of the seven; and abode with him.

Timothy - [2Ti 4:5 KJV] 5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.

Timothy - 2 Timothy 4:5

Office of Pastor

- Shepherd
- Poim is found 17 times in bible

Matthew 9:36 - Jesus (Chief Shepherd)

Ra'ah - means to tend sheep (Old Testament this word is translated Pastor)

[Jer 2:8 KJV] 8 The priests said not, Where [is] the LORD? and they that handle the law knew me not: the pastors also transgressed against me, and the prophets prophesied by Baal, and walked after [things that] do not profit.

[Jer 3:15 KJV] 15 And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Pastor's Job:

- Feed the flock with knowledge and understanding
- Feed the souls of all who come by the Spirit of God
- Beware of Hirelings - (John 10:11-13)
- Distinguishing mark of a Pastor is a Pastor's Heart

Office of Teacher - A teacher is a person who has been set in the body of Christ by God for one specific purpose; to teach the Word of God.

Laborers

Elders or Bishops - the role of the elder is to be a spiritual overseer involved in blessing people spiritually.

- Elder vs. Reverend

Timothy 3:1 - ***teaches that it is not the title but the ministry it involves***

Timothy 5:17-19

Acts 20:17

James 5:14-15

Acts 14:23

Titus 1:5-6, 7-9

- Are men of the church who were mature both physically and spiritually.

Deacon

[Act 6:1-4 NLT] 1 But as the believers rapidly multiplied, there were rumblings of discontent. The Greek-speaking believers complained about the Hebrew-speaking believers, saying that their widows were being discriminated against in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve called a meeting of all the believers. They said, "We apostles should spend our time teaching the word of God, not running a food program. 3 And so, brothers, select seven men who are well respected and are full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will give them this responsibility. 4 Then we apostles can spend our time in prayer and teaching the word."

[1Ti 3:8-12 NLT] 8 In the same way, deacons must be well respected and have integrity. They must not be heavy drinkers or dishonest with money. 9 They must be committed to the mystery of the faith now revealed and must live with a clear conscience. 10 Before they are appointed as deacons, let them be closely examined. If they pass the test, then let them serve as deacons. 11 In the same way, their wives must be respected and must not slander others. They must exercise self-control and be faithful in everything they do. 12 A deacon must be faithful to his wife, and he must manage his children and household well.

Qualifications:

- Capable of ruling their own homes
- An example to the people in his church
- Honest report
- Full of the Holy Ghost & Wisdom
- Respected and have Integrity

Ministry of Helps

Acts 27:17 - helps is a ropelike cable that sailors used to wrap around the ship during a storm.

- ministry of helps is what God wraps around us to hold us together in our stormy times
 - Phoebe - Romans 16:1-2
 - Lydia - Acts 16:14-15
 - Aaron and Hur and Moses - Exodus 17:8-12

Governments

[1Co 12:28 KJV] 28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

- kubernesis = to steer or guide

Those who possess the knowledge to steer the church & guide it around its problems become the governments of that church.

Committees & groups would be an example of church governments

God is not an author of confusion he wants order.

[1Co 14:33 KJV] 33 For God is not [the author] of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.

Questions and Comments