

Five-Fold Ministries



419) What is five-fold ministry?

- A. The five-fold ministry are those ministry gifts that God presented to the church as His spiritual leadership. They are given the responsibility for spiritual oversight of the church.
- B. They are sometimes called "ascension gift ministries" because Christ gave these gifts to the church when He ascended into heaven after His resurrection.
- C. Each one of these gifts is an office or recognized position in the church.
 - 1. Apostle
 - 2. Prophet
 - 3. Evangelist
 - 4. Pastor
 - 5. Teacher

"This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he led captives in his train and gave gifts to men." ... It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,"

EPH 4:8, 11 NIV

420) What is the responsibility assigned to the five-fold ministry?

- A. They are charged with the task of preparing God's people for service.
- B. They accomplish that by using their giftings to build up, unify, and develop the local body of Christ and thereby fulfill the will of God.

"to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up [13] until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ."

EPH 4:12-13 NIV

421) What is an apostle?

- A. The word apostle means "sent one." They were recognized as having the highest level of spiritual authority and honor in the church.
- B. They hold a foundational office in the church.

"Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's

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people and members of God's household, [20] built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone."

EPH 2:19-20 NIV

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."

ACT 2:42 NIV

422) What characterizes his ministry?

- A. He is a mature, senior minister who can flow in all five ascension ministry gifts when necessary.
 - 1. He is able to flow in any verbal, revelation or power gift he might need to fulfill God's purpose.
 - 2. He is not a "superman," but a gifted servant. He has learned to allow the Holy Spirit to flow through him to meet whatever need God desires to address within the body of Christ.
- B. Apostles are spiritual pioneers and trail blazers who often open new areas for other ministries.
- C. He is involved in church planting and therefore is very concerned about governmental issues of order, organization, and spiritual authority.
 - 1. He is involved in the identification, appointment and ordination of church leaders.
 - 2. He is active in restoring fallen leaders and strengthening faltering churches.
- D. The apostle sees beyond the needs of the local church to the universal church. His actions and decision reflect a broad view of what God is doing on the earth.
- E. He is a gift to the body at large and usually travels extensively. He often serves as a spiritual father to leaders, a pastor of pastors. Although his ministry is church wide, he and his family are submitted and established in a local church.

"Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles."

ACT 2:43 NIV

"In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. [2] So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. [3] Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them [4] and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word." [5] This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. [6] They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. [7] So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith."

ACT 6:1-7 NIV

"Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are you not the result of my work in the Lord? [2] Even though I may not be an apostle to others, surely I am to you! For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord."

1COR 9:1-2 NIV

"By the grace God has given me (Paul), I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds."

1COR 3:10 NIV

423) What is an apostolic team?

- A. It is a group of ministers that are carefully chosen so that their combined giftings and ministries can accomplish apostolic influence. Often an apostle is paired with others to make up the team.
- B. The team accomplishes the work of an apostle, while providing valuable apostolic training to every member of the team.

"Philip (the evangelist) went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Christ there. [6] When the crowds heard Philip and saw the miraculous signs he did, they all paid close attention to what he said. ... [14] When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them."

ACT 8:5-6, 14 NIV

424) What is a prophet?

- A. He is one who not only flows in the gift of prophecy, but holds the office of a prophet.
 - 1. He is recognized as one who speaks with the voice of God and has the respect of his fellow prophets.
- B. He is highly respected in the church because of the divine guidance he brings through the prophetic word. God has placed their ministry second only to apostles in governmental importance.

"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt; I will make you live in tents again, as in the days of your appointed feasts. [10] I spoke to the prophets, gave them many visions and told parables through them."

HOS 12:9-10 NIV

"In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways,"

HEB 1:1 NIV

"And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues."

1COR 12:28 NIV

425) What characterizes his ministry?

- A. He serves as God's mouthpiece. He gives counsel to the church leadership as to God's direction for the local church.

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- B. He can bring warnings of national, local or church problems so the church can either avoid the problem through prayer or otherwise properly prepare to face the issue.
- C. He confirms and establishes ministries in the church through the prophetic word.
- D. He encourages and builds up both the sheep and the shepherd.
- E. He is responsible to train younger prophets to hear and boldly speak the word of God.

"Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets."

AMOS 3:7 NIV

"During this time some prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. [28] One of them, named Agabus, stood up and through the Spirit predicted that a severe famine would spread over the entire Roman world. (This happened during the reign of Claudius.) [29] The disciples, each according to his ability, decided to provide help for the brothers living in Judea. [30] This they did, sending their gift to the elders by Barnabas and Saul."

ACTS 11:27-30 NIV

"Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you."

1TIM 4:14 NIV

"Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said. [30] And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop. [31] For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged. [32] The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets."

1COR 14:29-32 NIV

426) What is an evangelist?

- A. An evangelist is one who declares the good news of the Gospel. His calling to preach the Gospel goes beyond every Christian's responsibility to fulfill the Great Commission. He holds the office of an evangelist.

"Leaving the next day, we reached Caesarea and stayed at the house of Philip the evangelist, one of the Seven."

ACT 21:8 NIV

"But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry."

2TIM 4:5 NIV

427) What characterizes his ministry?

- A. He is focused on the salvation of lost souls. He is consumed with the Gospel message.
- B. He is also concerned with deliverance.
 - 1. His ministry would include healings, miracles and breaking demonic strongholds in peoples lives.

- C. He is one to take the Gospel message to the streets.
 - 1. Frequently, an evangelist will travel. His ministry serves the church at large, although he will consider one local body as his "home" church.
- D. Within the church, he serves to stir up the people, provoking them to fulfill the great commission.

"He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. [16] Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. [17] And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; [18] they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well." [19] After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God. [20] Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it."

MARK 16:15-20 NIV

"Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full.'"

LUKE 14:23 NIV

428) What is a pastor?

- A. The pastor is the under-shepherd of that local flock. He is to watch over God's people and see that they remain safe and that their spiritual needs are met.
- B. Contrary to what many believe, the pastor is not able to singlehandedly meet every spiritual need of his congregation. God never intended the ministry gift of pastor to carry that burden alone. God gave the church five ministry gifts - apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher - to work as a team to meet the needs of the church.

"Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood."

ACTS 20:28 NIV

"Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, serving as overseers - not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not greedy for money, but eager to serve; [3] not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. [4] And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away."

1PETER 5:2-4 NIV

429) What characterizes his ministry?

- A. The pastor is responsible for the daily care of the people. He marries and buries. He visits the hospital and prays for the sick. He counsels and cares for the body of Christ.
- B. He is dedicated to serving the people. He is willing to put in long hours, not for the pay, but so he can see the church grow strong and mature.
- C. He is a leader, showing the sheep, by his example, the correct path to follow.

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- C. He is a leader, showing the sheep, by his example, the correct path to follow.

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- D. He is responsible to see that the people receive the proper spiritual food. He does not carry the preaching burden alone, but regularly schedules speakers who flow in the other ministry gifts to complete the work of Christ in the local church.
1. If the church is large enough to have more than one pastor, the additional team members should be gifted in the area that is the senior pastor's weakness.
- E. He makes sure that the saints are challenged and don't become lazy.

"The word of the LORD came to me: [2] "Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel; prophesy and say to them: This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Woe to the shepherds of Israel who only take care of themselves! Should not shepherds take care of the flock? [3] You eat the curds, clothe yourselves with the wool and slaughter the choice animals, but you do not take care of the flock. [4] You have not strengthened the weak or healed the sick or bound up the injured. You have not brought back the strays or searched for the lost. You have ruled them harshly and brutally. [5] So they were scattered because there was no shepherd, and when they were scattered they became food for all the wild animals."

EZE 34:1-5 NIV

"The hired hand is not the shepherd who owns the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. [13] The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep."

JOHN 10:12-13 NIV

"When they had finished eating, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me more than these?" "Yes, Lord," he said, "you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my lambs." [16] Again Jesus said, "Simon son of John, do you truly love me?" He answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Take care of my sheep." [17] The third time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him the third time, "Do you love me?" He said, "Lord, you know all things; you know that I love you." Jesus said, "Feed my sheep."

JOHN 21:15-17 NIV

"The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. [2] He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, [3] he restores my soul. He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake."

PSA 23:1-3 NIV

430) What is a teacher?

- A. The teacher instructs the church in all doctrine and righteousness.
- B. The basis of his instruction is what God has revealed to the church in His holy Word. When a teacher teaches, he speaks with the authority of Christ.

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith. [7] If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach;"

ROM 12:6-7 NIV

"Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD."
PSA 34:11 NIV

"Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will turn back to you."
PSA 51:13 NIV

"If anyone speaks, he should do it as one speaking the very words of God. If anyone serves, he should do it with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen."

1PETER 4:11 NIV

431) What characterizes his ministry?

- A. Where the evangelist is focused on winning the lost, the teacher is focused on establishing the saint.
- B. The teacher is a student of God's Word who is gifted at breaking down the Gospel into understandable pieces so that no one is overwhelmed.
- C. He provides orderly presentations of doctrine. He is careful to provide a balanced spiritual meal.
 - 1. A teacher must always be careful to keep knowledge and spiritual insight in proper balance. While teaching is all about dispensing knowledge, true understanding can only come from our enlightened spirit man.
- D. He reproduces his teaching gifts by training others gifted in the art of teaching.

"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth."
2TIM 2:15 NIV

"Not only was the Teacher wise, but also he imparted knowledge to the people. He pondered and searched out and set in order many proverbs. [10] The Teacher searched to find just the right words, and what he wrote was upright and true."
ECC 12:9-10 NIV

"We proclaim him, admonishing and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone perfect in Christ. [29] To this end I labor, struggling with all his energy, which so powerfully works in me."
COL 1:28-29 NIV

"This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, expressing spiritual truths in spiritual words. [14] The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned."
1COR 2:13-14 NIV

"And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others."
2TIM 2:2 NIV

432) Which of the five-fold ministries can hold the position of senior pastor?

- A. God can raise up a senior pastor from any of the five-fold offices. Each of the five-fold offices has its strengths and weaknesses. The senior pastor has to honestly evaluate his giftings and make sure the strengths of his support staff complement his ministry by bringing strength to his areas of weaknesses.

433) Which of the five-fold ministries is most important to a local church?

- A. Each ministry is equally important. Each one supplies a certain gift the church needs. No local church should overlook any five-fold office.
- B. It is unlikely that any church has all five-fold ministries in residence. It becomes the responsibility of the local pastor to see that each of these ministries is brought in to fully equip the saints.

Name: _____ Group Leaders: _____

Date: _____

Homework for Chapter 28

Please answer the following questions from the textbook in full sentences and return to your Group Leaders next week.

1) What is five-fold ministry?

2) Explain the ministry of an apostle.

3) Explain the ministry of a prophet.

4) Explain the ministry of a pastor.

5) Explain the ministry of a teacher.

6) Explain the ministry of an evangelist.

7) Which of the five-fold ministries is most important?
