



Helping, Encouraging, And Refreshing, Together

Coming alongside the Pastor, his family, and the local church to assist in areas of encouragement, evangelism and education.

Enduring Ministry Structures II

These six topics emphasize unified efficiency in the local church:

- Structuring a Local Church Ministry
- Regionalizing Neighborhood Gospel Outreaches
- Effective Neighborhood Canvassing
- Biblical One Anothering
- Tips for an Enduring, Joyful Ministry – Helps for Workers
- Compelling Reasons for Memorizing Scripture

*“Study to shew thyself approved unto God,
a workman that needeth not to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the word of truth.”*

II Timothy 2:15

More Bible study helps are available at www.kjvhearthelps.com

~ STRUCTURING A LOCAL CHURCH MINISTRY ~

(based on “Nehemiah and the Dynamics of Effective Leadership” by Cyril J. Barber)

CONDITION – The church needs to be built and grow

COMMON OBJECTIVE – Teamwork from loyal church members to build the church

COMMUNICATION – “The I told them of the hand of my God which was good upon me; as also the king’s words that he had spoken unto me. And they said, Let us rise up and build. So they strengthened their hands for this good work.”

Prevailing prayer with the Lord

Permission – courtesy in keeping open lines of communication with superior

Proper foresight – list of material needed for the job

Personnel – simple training for their individuality

Pulling together – the group works together as a unit: “next unto them”

COORDINATION – DELEGATION

Break up the work into sections

Coordinate the efforts of personnel according to ability and available time

Simplicity – each person completely understands his / her job

COOPERATION – Different groups having a unity of spirit to build the church for the glory of God – “So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work.”

COMMENDATION – Vital dimension of personal encouragement

COMPLETION – Using strategy from “To Seek and to Save” by Paul Chappell

Inspire – through the local church aheart for God

Include – Through membership, ministry and fellowship

Involving – each person a place, every saint a servant

Instruct – through pulpit, Sunday school and discipleship

Impact – your region, saturate, training every available member (T.E.A.M.)

CYCLE – Repeat

And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.” (II Timothy 2:2)

~ REGIONALIZING NEIGHBORHOOD GOSPEL OUTREACHES THROUGH THE LOCAL CHURCH ~

Proverbs 29:18a – “Where there is no vision, the people perish:”

Acts 1:8b – “. . . ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

Acts 5:42 – “And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.”

- By assigning mapped out regions for members to systematically work their own neighborhoods, you are helping them to acquire a vision for the lost and to carry out the great commission (Matthew 28:18-20). There are also many other benefits:
1. Ephesians 5:16 – saves time, gas and postage
 2. Matthew 10:16 – flexibility to serve in favorable weather
 3. Nehemiah 2:18, 8:10 – able to carry out great commission more effectively and enjoyably
 4. Exodus 1:9-11 – a government that now aggressively takes control of economy and businesses may soon strike religious freedom in its wake
 5. John 4:24, I Corinthians 15:15 – to include the whole family and neighborhoods of church members
 6. Philippians 1:6-17 – to develop more confidence, consistency and spiritual boldness
 7. Acts 11:22-25 – to know neighbors, people groups, locations of various forgotten people
 8. Colossians 4:5 – to walk wisely toward them that are without (also helps physical fitness)
 9. Luke 10:30-37 – to have a missionary mindset every time you leave the house
 10. Mark 10:43-44 – increases a prayerful servant attitude
 11. John 15:16 – to disciple others (NOTE: All H.E.A.R.T. Bible study courses are **FREE!** This includes a 3-course Discipleship set containing John, Romans and Bible Doctrines)
 12. II Timothy 2:15 – to increase your Bible knowledge: “iron sharpeneth iron” as we walk with God
 13. II Timothy 2:2 – to have friends for eternity, to teach them, and to train them to do the same
 14. I Peter 4:9 – to be hospitable
 15. Acts 13:2-5 – to increase the opportunity to be called into foreign missions
 16. II Peter 3:18 – to see your church have new converts baptized and grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ
 17. II Corinthians 9:6 – to see the Lord bless your continued obedience (sow bountifully to reap bountifully)
 18. Hebrews 1:7 – to be consistently on fire as a minister of the Lord
 19. Psalm 82:3-4, James 1:27 – to encourage the widows, fatherless, poor, needy, oppressed and lonely
 20. Matthew 28:18-20 – By assigning mapped out regions for members to systematically work their own neighborhood, you are helping them to acquire a vision for the lost and carry out the great commission.

~ EFFECTIVE NEIGHBORHOOD CANVASSING ~

“The wise in heart shall be called prudent . . .” Proverbs 16:21

1. Pray without ceasing (in your home, at the church, upon arrival at area, as you walk, upon departure).
2. Declare the gospel with grace, compassion, and boldness.
3. Stay focused on the mission at hand with your partner ~ avoid being sidetracked.
4. Don't cut across lawns (avoid all appearance of evil).
5. Don't leave literature in mailboxes, or at homes displaying a “No Soliciting” sign.
6. Secure gospel literature from wind and rain as much as possible.
7. On windy or cold days, try to work on streets that are perpendicular to the wind. (Example: If there is a west wind, work streets that are north and south. The house and garage will minimize the wind.)
8. Don't go to the back door.
9. Don't leave literature where there is potential danger (terrain, out of control people or dogs).
10. Be careful about going into a stranger's home ~ especially the elderly.
11. When knocking on a door, only one person should be on the porch. The partner should stand at the bottom of the steps, silently praying.
12. After knocking, back off to the top step on the handle side of the door so that you can be seen from the window. Avoid chatting with your partner while waiting.
13. Consider using the word “include” instead of “invite” when talking to a prospect about church.
14. Witness to adults only. Do not approach children in the neighborhood.
15. Never argue or be antagonistic when witnessing. Have a “harmless as doves” approach.
16. Be polite and leave the door open for the next person that will visit from the church.
17. If a partner being trained is talking and gets “stumped”, transition to the veteran partner by turning to him and saying “Do you have anything else to add?”
18. If it is obvious no one is home (no inside lighting, no noise or cars in the drive), consider just leaving the literature instead of waiting for someone to answer the door. You will cover much more ground.
19. You may want to bring bottled water with you.
20. Especially if you have children with you, make sure you know where the nearest accessible bathroom is located (restaurant, library, etc.). This comes up more often than you would expect.

TIPS FOR DRIVERS

Vans or busses:

- Safety first ~ obey all the traffic regulations.
- Map your drop-offs to make as many right-hand turns as possible.
- Avoid having to back up.
- Drop your teams on the high side of slanted streets to conserve their energy.

Car block work:

- Park (and lock) the car in the center of the block starting with the first block of the street.
- For team of two ~ begin at the car, crossing the street at the stop sign and circling the block back to the car. Proceed to the next block.
- For teams of four ~ if the majority of team members are inexperienced, use the same strategy as above, but teams should leap-frog around one another. This will keep team members close in case assistance is needed in witnessing. If team members are experienced at canvassing, have each team start at the car on the same side of the street, moving in opposite directions to the end of the block and back in a U-shape, until they meet the other team back near the car. Proceed to the next block.

~ BIBLICAL ONE ANOTHERING IN THE LOCAL CHURCH ~

GOAL: The church will increase when “edifying itself in love” (Ephesians 4:16). Examples of this principle: Romans 12:10; Romans 13:8; I Thessalonians 3:12; I Thessalonians 4:9; I John 3:11 & 23; I John 4:7, 11, 12; II John 5.

MOTIVATION: To build up the church with love and unity, serving one another. “To be like minded one toward another, by love serve one another” (Romans 13:8; Galatians 5:13). We are not to put down one another. Examples of biting, devouring, consuming, provoking, envying, speaking evil, grudging one against another: Galatians 5:26; James 4:11, 5:9.

PRINCIPLE: Abound in love one toward another, pray one for another (I Thessalonians 3:12, James 5:16)

1. Follow pastoral leadership
 - Pray for him, his wife and children – I Timothy 2:1-2
 - Honor him / be faithful and loyal – I Thessalonians 5:12-13, I Timothy 5:17, Hebrews 10:25
 - Obey and submit to his Biblical teaching and preaching – Hebrews 13:17
2. Fatherless and widows in affliction – “pure religion” – James 1:27
 - Fellowship, time of prayer / scripture reading
 - Meet practical needs
3. Friendly encouragement to membership – “exhort one another” – Hebrews 3:13, I Thessalonians 5:14-18
4. “Forbearing one another in love” (endure, tolerate, control oneself under provocation) – Ephesians 4:2, Colossians 3:12-17
5. Fruitful restoration of inactives with spirit of meekness – Galatians 6:2
 - Kind, tender-hearted, forgiving attitude – Ephesians 4:32
 - Have peace one with another – Mark 9:50b
6. Faithful training – “consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works” – Hebrews 10:24
 - Soulwinning – in class and by example – Acts 1:8, 5:42
 - Discipleship – Proverbs 13:20; II Timothy 2:2, 15
7. Feeding one another with a generous spirit
 - Hospitality – “use hospitality one to another” – I Peter 4:9
 - Preferring one another – “for we are members one of another” – Ephesians 4:25
8. Focus on comforting – I Thessalonians 5:14
 - The dying – “comfort one another with these words” – I Thessalonians 4:18, 5:11
 - The bereaved – “have compassion one of another” – I Peter 3:8
 - The suffering – “the God of all comfort who comforteth us in all our tribulations” – II Corinthians 1:3-4
9. Fellowship with the struggling – “we have fellowship one with another and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin” – I John 1:7
 - “Ministering the same one to another” – I Peter 4:10
 - Overcome spiritual obstacles by our faith, and the blood of Jesus Christ – I John 5:4; Revelation 12:11
10. Finance Management – Biblical attitude and behavior disciplines – Matthew 6:33
 - Owe no man anything, but to love one another – Romans 13:8
 - By “love serve one another” (Galatians 5:13b) – By being free of financial bondage, you will have more time to serve your family, to serve the Lord’s work, and more resources to give.

~ TIPS FOR AN ENDURING, JOYFUL MINISTRY – HELPS FOR WORKERS IN THE LOCAL CHURCH ~

These are tips that have been gleaned over many years of ministry, most from observing the lives and ministries of Roy and Faith Thompson:

1. Make the Lord Jesus central and lifted up in *every* lesson you teach or message you preach. (This has been one of Roy Thompson's real strengths. He faithfully exalts Christ no matter what text he uses.)
2. If you preach to a broken heart, you will never be without a congregation.
3. Have a generous spirit.
4. Make special time for the elderly, widows and fatherless.
5. Have a truly hospitable spirit. This is a great relationship builder. (What a wonderful example of gracious hospitality Faith Thompson continues to be!)
6. Visit the suffering, including the sick, the dying, the caregiving, the grieving, the lonely, and the depressed. (Matthew 25:34-40)
7. When praying with anyone in an institution (hospital, veteran's home or nursing home), always include the roommate in your prayer. Some have never heard their name lifted up in prayer, and many times this will open up a great opportunity to witness.
8. Seek to have a caring, compassionate heart, and a peaceable, humble spirit when dealing with the lost or other believers. True Christianity *is* ministry. (Matthew 5:44; Mark 10:43-45)
9. Don't compromise on Biblical principal; don't lower your colors or Baptist heritage. (Proverbs 22:28 – Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set.)
10. Don't take compliments or unwarranted criticism to heart.
11. Have a good sense of humor ~ make yourself the target of humor. (Proverbs 15:13, 17; Proverbs 17:22)
12. Have the attitude that your co-laborers in ministry serve *with* you, not *for* you. Pray with them and for them at every opportunity. (II Thessalonians 1:11-12)

~ COMPELLING REASONS FOR MEMORIZING SCRIPTURE ~

Memorizing the Word of God makes it instantly accessible in every situation and for every need.

1. Memorizing Scripture IS SPECIFICALLY COMMANDED BY GOD: “And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children . . .” (Deut. 6:6-7). “. . . lay up his words in thine heart.” (Job 22:22).
2. Memorizing Scripture ENLIGHTENS DARKENED HEARTS: “And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.” (II Tim. 3:15). The word burns and smites (Jer. 23:29), pierces and discovers (Heb. 4:12).
3. Memorizing Scripture INFUSES CONVICTION on the standard of values and righteousness as being absolute and unchanging: “Therefore I esteem all thy precepts concerning all things to be right; and I hate every false way.” (Psa. 119:128). Also Isa. 55:8-9.
4. Memorizing Scripture RESTORES BROKEN LIVES: “He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.” (Psa. 107:20).
5. Memorizing Scripture HELPS SPIRITUAL GROWTH: “As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:” (I Pet. 2:2). Scripture is “strong meat” for those who go on to Christian maturity (Heb. 5:12).
6. Memorizing Scripture MAKES FOR AN EFFECTUAL PRAYER LIFE: “If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.” (John 15:7).
7. Memorizing Scripture MOTIVATES SPONTANEOUS WITNESSING: “Then I said, I will not make mention of him, nor speak any more in his name. But his word was in mine heart as a burning fire shut up in my bones, and I was weary with forbearing, and I could not stay.” (Jer. 20:9).
8. Memorizing Scripture PROMOTES FRUITFULNESS: “But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.” (Luke 8:15).
9. Memorizing Scripture MAKES CONTINUAL MEDITATION POSSIBLE: “But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.” (Psa. 1:2).
10. Memorizing Scripture AFFORDS COMFORT AND STRENGTH IN TIME OF TROUBLE: “Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction.” (Psa. 119:92).
11. Memorizing Scripture GUARDS AGAINST SIN: “Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.” (Psa. 119:11)
12. Memorizing Scripture PROVIDES WISDOM AND GUIDANCE FOR DAILY LIVING: “The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have rejected the word of the LORD; and what wisdom is in them?” (Jer. 8:9). Also James 3:17.
13. Memorizing Scripture EQUIPS FOR SPIRITUAL WARFARE: The covering of truth, the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the helmet of salvation, the sword of the Spirit. (Eph. 6:11-17).
14. Memorizing Scripture IS EXEMPLIFIED BY CHRIST: When tempted by the devil, He said, “It is written,” and then gave the Scripture.

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