

**Ministry:
Serving God By Serving Others**

Matthew 20:25-28

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25) But Jesus called them *unto him*, and said, Ye know that the princes of the Gentiles exercise dominion over them, and they that are great exercise authority upon them.

26) But it shall not be so among you: but whosoever will be great among you, let him be your minister;

27) And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant:

28) Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

Effective Ministry

- **Serving Ministry**

Ministry Serves

1 Samuel 2:11

11) And Elkanah went to Ramah to his house. And the child did minister unto the LORD before Eli the priest.

1. Choose Who You Will Serve

Matthew 6:24

24) No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

2. Choose to Be Enlightened By Serving

Hebrews 9:14

14) How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

3. Choose to Serve One Another

Galatians 5:13

13) For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.

Effective Ministry

- Serving Ministry
- Impacting Ministry

1. Own the Right Field

Acts 16:9-10

9) And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

10) And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavored to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

2. Fertilize Unexpected Areas

Acts 16:13-14

13) And on the sabbath we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted *thither*.

14) And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard *us*: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

3. Look to God in the Time of Drought

Acts 16:23-24

23) And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast *them* into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely:

24) Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks.

4. Praise God in the Storms

Acts 16:25

25) And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them.

5. Allow God to do HIS Work

Acts 16:27-28

27) And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled.

28) But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

6. Harvest the Crop

Acts 16:30-31

30) And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?

31) And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

Effective Ministry

- Serving Ministry
- Impacting Ministry
- Adapting Ministry

God's Chosen Adapted

- Joseph – Treasured Son, Slave, Ruler
- Moses – Slave, Prince, Deliverer
- Joshua – Spy, Leader
- Ruth – Daughter-In-Law, Wife
- David – Shepherd, King
- Job – Rich, Poor, Richer Than Before
- Daniel – Scholar, Slave
- Peter, James, John, and Andrew – Fishermen, Apostles
- Matthew – Tax Collector, Apostle
- Paul – Jewish Rabbi / Roman Citizen, Prisoner

1. Hope Empowers Adaptation

1 Corinthians 9:10

10) Or saith he it altogether for our sakes? For our sakes, no doubt, this is written: that he that ploweth should plow in hope; and that he that thresheth in hope should be partaker of his hope.

2. The Gospel Authentically Adapts the Life

1 Corinthians 9:14

14) Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

3. An Adapted Life Desires to Serve Others

1 Corinthians 9:15-16

15) But I have used none of these things: neither have I written these things, that it should be so done unto me: for it were better for me to die, than that any man should make my glorying void.

16) For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!

4. Our Desire to Reach Others Drives Us to Adapt to Reach

1 Corinthians 9:19-23

19) For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more.

20) And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law;

21) To them that are without law, as without law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law.

22) To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some.

23) And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.

Effective Ministry

- Serving Ministry
- Impacting Ministry
- Adapting Ministry

Minister With Purpose

1 Corinthians 9:24, 26-27

24) Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

26) I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

27) But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

Minister With the Word of Deliverance

John 8:32

32) And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

Deliver With the Truth

John 14:6

6) Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
