

MINISTER BY JESUS' EXAMPLE

Luke 4:14-21

Introduction: In every community there are organizations that try to meet certain needs of their community and then there are the various school programs organized to try to meet the school needs and then there is the church. How does the community Church go about meeting the community needs?

I. MINISTRY WAS AT THE CENTER OF ALL JESUS DID

1. Jesus ministered to EVERY need.
2. Jesus ministered to EVERY person.
3. Jesus ministered EVERYWHERE.
4. Jesus taught others (His disciples) to minister.
 - Illustrated by His washing their feet.
 - The story of the Good Samaritan.
5. John the Baptist began to have questions as to whether Jesus was really the Messiah and Jesus replied, "see my MINISTRY..."
6. Anyone in need, ANYWHERE is fit to be ministered to.
 - Jesus would - so go minister to everyone everywhere.

II. MINISTRY IS AT THE CENTER OF WHAT THE CHURCH IS TO DO

1. 1 John 3:17-18; James 2:14-17
2. Ministry today can't be as perfect as that of Jesus and can't do the miraculous as Jesus did, BUT - it can, it must follow Jesus' example and teachings of ministry.
 - Minister to every need
 - Minister to everyone
 - Minister everywhere
3. The Holy Spirit has equipped the Church to minister by giving to each Christian a gift.
4. The Sunday School is the best equipped and most able to minister group in the whole Church - visitation, baby/bridal showers, food, clothing, witnessing, etc.
5. No Sunday School is perfect but each Sunday School can do its best, better each year than the year before in trying to follow Jesus' example of ministering.

CONCLUSION:

1. By ministering to every need, to everyone, everywhere, those ministering are actually ministering to their own selves as well.
2. Take a look around, a serious look, looking for needs and you will see things that you never saw before that need YOU.
3. The Church is not some dignified institution with its thumbs in its suspenders saying "look at me" how important I am" no, it is an institution of MINISTRY!
4. If the Church doesn't minister as Jesus did, then the Church is failing to do what Jesus commanded and failing to be like Jesus who is the head of the Church.
5. Christian! YOU are a minister not just your pastor, but YOU are to minister as well.