

A Place to Belong – Part 2: Ministry is to Serve One Another

I need the Local Church so that I can minister through my God-given gifts.

There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. – 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

1. Gifts are for O _____ NOT Y _____.
2. Gifts are to be used ...
 - a. In C _____ with Pastoral Leadership
Listen to your pastors, and do not resist them, for they watch for your souls as those that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief; for that is unprofitable for you. – Hebrews 13:17 (JB)
 - b. In an O _____ and O _____ manner, not in an Independent and Arbitrary way.

If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God. – 1 Corinthians 14:27-28

For God is not a God of disorder but of peace, as in all the meetings of God’s holy people. – 1 Corinthians 14:33

3. Though gifts are G _____ by God, they can also be taken away.
“Use ‘em or Lose ‘em”

“So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” – Matthew 25:28-30.

4. Ministry Applications can E _____ with time.
 - a. Gifts and Gifted Individuals remain V _____.
 - b. Ministries (programs) become obsolete, but people never do.
 - i. People may be R _____ to different responsibilities as the church grows.

“For churches to grow spiritually, pastors must give up control of the ministry and laymen must give up control of the leadership.” – Pastor Rich Sherman