

Ministry Part 2

2. Diakonia: *“Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching.” (Romans 12:7 KJV)* Diakonia it can include the followings:

A. A service or ministry in which we execute the commands of others: Where we are under someone else to command us and instruct us of what to do. *“But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.” (Luke 10:40 KJV)* Martha here was doing her own, and she was not listening to Jesus. She supposed to listen to Him before she do anything. Ministry in certain time is to be done under somebody and you need to listen to instructions to avoid confusion and disturbances. We need to thank God and appreciate that He put us in a ministry, *“And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry.” (1 Timothy 1:12 KJV)* therefore we need to obey instruction and be useful in our service to God, *“Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.” (2 Timothy 4:11 KJV)* Mark previously had caused hard time to Paul in his missionary journey, when he left their company in Pamphelia and went back to Jerusalem. *“Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem.” (Acts 13:13 KJV)* What Mark did, was a bad experience to Paul and to the ministry, even when later on in his second missionary journey, Barnabas suggested to take him but Paul denied that request because he was afraid that Mark will do the same as before, *“37 And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark. 38 But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work.” (Acts 15:37-38 KJV)* But later on, thanks God, Mark came back and was now recommended even by Paul to get involved in the ministry.

B. Those who by the command of God proclaim and promote the Word of God among men: *“That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.” (Acts 1:25 KJV)* Here the Apostle who are commissioned directly by God to spread the Word of God and to make disciples, they needed to elect another person to do the work instead of Judas Iscariot who betrayed the Lord and went to where he belong. The ministry should continue in whatever way. When those leave the ministry, God will use others so the ministry of spreading God’s Word will continue. All the church ministry is simplified in this statement: *“And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation.” (2 Corinthians 5:18 KJV)* We are called to preach the Word of God and to confront the world with their sins and give them the solution to repent and to come back to God.

C. The office of the apostles and its administration: *“But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.” (Acts 6:4 KJV)* Here the apostles gave themselves to the ministry that God had called them to do. Sometimes trials and pressure of ministry may try to take us away of what God had ordained for us to do, but we need to be careful not to be drift away. We need to be alert and determine to complete the ministry that God had ordained for us to do. Here apostle Paul was determined to complete the ministry that he had received from the Lord, *“But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord*

Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.” (Acts 20:24 KJV) Ministry is a privilege and is mercy from God, therefore we need to be encouraged and strong and not to give way to faint during trials. *“Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not.” (2 Corinthians 4:1 KJV)* Persecution may come to hinder us to present acceptable ministry. Devil will always try to present us ugly before people. But having ministry is the mercy of God that will enable us to endure persecution, therefore we need to persevere, completing our ministry and not to give up doing it till He come and deliver us completely: *“That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints.” (Romans 15:31 KJV)*

D. The office of prophets, evangelists, elders etc: *“7 But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away: 8 How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious? 9 For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory.” (2 Corinthians 3:7-9 KJV)* We need to be led by the Holy Ghost in whatever gift we received to serve and perfect the saints. *“For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,” (Ephesians 4:12 KJV)* We need also to be careful not to do offences and not to repeat wrong things that will cause the ministry to be blamed. *“Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed.” (2 Corinthians 6:3 KJV)*

To do all these requirements it mean willingness from our side to suffer and to endure hardship whenever we are called to do that, and maintaining the evangelism and give the full proof of our ministry as in the instruction of Paul to Timothy: *“But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.” (2 Timothy 4:5 KJV)*

E. The service of those who prepare and present food: The ministration of those who render to others the offices of Christian affection, especially those who help meet the needs by either collecting or distributing charities. Read and meditate on these Scriptures: *“I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.” (Revelation 2:19 KJV)* *“Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea.” (Acts 11:29 KJV)* *“Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.” (2 Corinthians 8:4 KJV)* *“For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you.” (2 Corinthians 9:1 KJV)* *“12 For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God; 13 Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men;” (2 Corinthians 9:12-13 KJV)* *“I robbed other churches, taking wages of them, to do you service.” (2 Corinthians 11:8 KJV)*

F. The office of the deacon in the church: *“I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,” (1 Corinthians 16:15 KJV)* The house of Stephanas were the first convert in Achia, Paul was pleased and impressed with them because they were addicted to serve and wait on the people needs in the church at Corinth.

My dear and beloved: “Are they not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?” (Hebrews 1:14 KJV) As you read and enlightened with God’s Word, commit your life to the ministry of God, submitting yourself to serve God with the guidelines that the Word of God is teaching us today, so that the salvation of God and His Word will spread to others and enriched God’s church and the saints as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I commit myself to the principles that I learn from your Word. I am offering the parts of my body as a living sacrifice to serve you and do the work of yours in full as you ordained it to be. Lord gives me good health; strength and perseverance to continue to be fruitful and effective till you come and take me. I thank you and praise you this is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

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