

How To Survive – And Thrive – During the Sabbatical
August 10, 2008 * Romans 12:3-8

Ephesians 4:15-16 – “Speaking the truth in love, we will in all things grow up into Him who is the Head, that is Christ. From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”

I. Being at Disneyworld recently reminded me that there are always two things required for a successful venture:

1. _____
2. And _____ who buy into that vision.

II. To thrive during the sabbatical, what 3 things does this verse call us to do?

1. Look to _____ (for He’s our _____.)
2. _____ each other (for we’re His _____.)
3. Carry out the _____ assigned to me (for my _____ matters.)

Which means we’re to be a:

- _____ community, and a
- _____ community.
- _____ community.

Point 3 stresses that we’re to be a:

- _____ community.

II. Essential Questions About Ministry

A. Why should I do the work of ministry? (Rom.12:3)

1. Because I am the recipient of _____.
 - a. If I am a Christian this morning, why is that?

2. Because God wants to build His _____ and His _____ through me.

B. Who is to do the work of ministry? (Rom.12:4-5)

1. _____ who is a part of the Body of Christ.
2. ‘Ministry’ is simple a fancy word for what?

C. What work of ministry is to be done? (Rom.12:6-8)

List the examples Paul gives:

Circle any of these ministries where you may have abilities.

What’s the purpose of Grace’s FULL member concept?

D. Does my ministry matter?

“For want of a parking spot the ease was lost
For want of a greeter the warmth was lost
For want of an usher the contact was lost
For want of a soundman the worship was lost
For want of a prayer the caregiving was lost
For want of a cup of coffee the soul was lost”

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I. Being at Disneyworld recently reminded me that there are always two things required for a successful venture:

- Vision**
- And **people** who buy into that vision.

II. To thrive during the sabbatical, what 3 things does this verse call us to do?

- Look to **Jesus** (for He’s our **Head**.)
- Love** each other (for we’re His **Body**.)
- Carry out the _____ assigned to me (for my _____ matters.)

Which means we’re to be a:

Worshipping community, and a
Discipling community.
Fellowshipping community.

Point 3 stresses that we’re to be a:

Serving community.

II. Essential Questions About Ministry

A. Why should I do the work of ministry? (Rom.12:3)

- Because I am the recipient of **grace**.
 - If I am a Christian this morning, why is that?

Is it because you are so clever, and boy isn’t God lucky to have you on his side? Is it because you pulled yourself up by your own bootstraps and here you are? I hope you don’t think that way. Maybe God didn’t appear to you as spectacularly as he did Paul, in a vision, in a flash of blinding light, with an audible voice. But he did appear to you, and speak to your heart in some way.

*2. Because God wants to build His **kingdom** and His **rule** through me.*

B. Who is to do the work of ministry? (Rom.12:4-5)

- Anyone** who is a part of the Body of Christ.
- ‘Ministry’ is simple a fancy word for what?
Serving others for God.

C. What work of ministry is to be done? (Rom.12:6-8)

List the examples Paul gives:

Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Encouraging, Giving, Leading, Showing Mercy

Circle any of these ministries where you may have abilities.

What’s the purpose of Grace’s FULL member concept?

We believe that God has equipped every Christian with spiritual gifts that are to be used for the strengthening of his church and the building of his kingdom. If I do not allow my gifts to be used, the work of the church will suffer (and I will too!) At the same time, there must be a balance to my service. Church-a-Pewism (doing too little) and Church-a-Holism (doing too much) are to be avoided. The FULL Member concept is designed to help you find direction and balance in your church involvement.

D. Does my ministry matter?

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For want of a greeter the warmth was lost
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