

④ A Herald

☰☰ Proclaimed (Heralded) vs. 9 ... "received the Word of Θ ..."

- ☑ Gospel Message is the WORD of Θ
- ☑ WORD of Θ is the Gospel Message
- ☑ WORD of Θ /Gospel Message is at work in you believers (vs.13) who received the WORD of Θ
- ☑ Work \blacktriangleright makes imitators of the LORD Jesus Christ, and his apostles (1:6) and His churches (2:14) Mold

Application \blacktriangleright You

1. The most important thing is that you receive the Gospel and let it run its course/do its work in your life.
2. Beware of false dichotomy that opposes Scripture/Bible knowledge to Gospel. WORD of Θ is Gospel + Gospel is Word of Θ . My observation
 - ☑ Jews had Scripture but rejected Jesus + Gospel and remained under wrath of Θ
 - ☑ To hinder course of Gospel/work of Gospel in yourself + others is to displease Θ and be in danger of His wrath

➡ May Gospel be Mighty Among us...

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Discuss the meaning of each of the metaphors of Gospel Ministry: (1) a steward, (2) a mother, (3) a father, and (4) a herald. What new insight did you have that you can share?
2. In light of these metaphors, where do you need to repent and grow in your own receiving of the ministry of the Gospel? Another way of putting this is: Where does the Gospel need to do its work in you?
3. Pray for each other.

3 Powerful statement of Gospel Ministry in the context of controversy ▶ today

Church Let's be formed into this mold as minister + church

Seeker Listen in

4 Metaphors mold Gospel Ministry

① A Steward

≡≡ Not named but assumed = "Gospel of Θ "...
"approved"... "entrusted"... "please Θ " (2:3-6)

☑ Gospel appeal comes not from error or impurity or any attempt to deceive... not to please men but Θ ▶ Motivation

☑ Gospel appeal comes not w. words of flattery nor greed, not seeking human glory but Θ 's glory ▶ End/Goal

Motivation ▶ End = Θ 's Gospel for Θ 's glory!

Application

Minister = I am a steward of a message Θ 's Gospel! The message is my priority; I must have loyalty to it NOT human approval, pastoral "performance", church reputation, etc.

Church = You must value the Message over Messenger. Evaluate the Messenger by the Message; beware of Hero worship, seduction by "movement" Mars Hill

➔➔➔ No excuse b/c my minister is public ("as you know") ROOT TO FRUIT

② A Mother

≡≡ Gentle like a nursing mother

☑ ...taking care of her own children ▶ gentle + fiercely protective Jenny #1

☑ ...being affectionately desirous of you... share... our own selves ▶ self-giving love Jenny #2

③ A Father

≡≡ Like a Father

☑ labor + toil, day + night ▶ Not to be a burden

☑ holy, righteous, + blameless in conduct ▶ character
Jack Dorsey: sketch of an Artist

☑ exhorting, encouraging and charging you ▶ walk worthy of Θ 's call, Kingdom + glory.

Application

Minister + Church

1. Gospel Ministry must combine the tender love of a ~~M~~ Mother w. the tough love of a Father, Any imbalance is unhealthy J.I. Packer... Jesus... godly man

➔➔➔ Beware of pendulum swing!

2. I must boldly lead church like Father/Mother (despite my age) and open my \heartsuit to congregation (despite the hurt) and you must receive Gospel Ministry as children (despite your experience, expertise) and open \heartsuits to me (despite the hurt)

Q. Would I preach/lead w/o paycheck?... YES