

First Baptist Church – Odessa

Pastor Byron McWilliams

Date: _____

“Building Members into Ministers”

“iChurch – Doing Church Intentionally – Pt. 8

Ephesians 4:11-12 & Selected

A healthy New Testament church intentionally equips its members for full-time ministry.

Every Member a Minister Means...

I. I will humbly answer God’s call to full-time ministry.

“I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called.” Ephesians 4:1

“But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift.” Ephesians 4:7

“[God] saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of His own purpose and grace, which He gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began.” 1 Timothy 1:9

“Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making His appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.”
2 Corinthians 5:20

II. I will be equipped to fulfill God’s call as a minister.

“And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints.” Vs. 11-12a

God’s Ministry Equipping Process Demands:

1) Time spent plowing deep in God’s Word.

See 2 Timothy 3:16-17

2) Time spent bowing deeply in prayer.

“So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church.” Acts 12:5

3) Time spent enduring the trials that come.

“Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” James 1:2-4 NIV

4) Time spent weathering storms that blow.

“And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to His eternal glory in Christ, will Himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.” 1 Peter 5:10

“For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised.”

Hebrews 10:36

III. I will gladly work to evidence God’s call to ministry.

“And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry.”

Vs. 11-12b

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.”

Ephesians 2:10

IV. I will build up the Church as a God-called minister.

“And He gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ.” Vs. 11-12

“Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.”

1 Corinthians 12:27