



**ASSOCIATION OF BIBLE  
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## **BIBLICAL OFFICES IN A CHURCH**

This document gives some more detailed information about the offices of godly men within a Biblical Church. These are not just titles given to someone we hope will fill the role, but rather are a recognition of what the Lord has already called them to be, and they are actively fulfilling.

### **The Order Of God's Giving: Which Gifts Came First—**

***1 Corinthians 12:28 And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.***

**The Work**



**Ephesians 4:11**

***And He gave some,***

***apostles; and some, (ordained as bishops)***

***prophets; and some, (ordained as preachers)***

***evangelists; and some, (ordained as preachers)***

***pastors and teachers; (ordained as preachers and/or pastors)***

**The Recognition**



## INFORMATION REGARDING BIBLICAL APOSTLES

**APOSTLESHIP IS AN OFFICE GIVEN BY THE LORD.** **Luke 6:13** *And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;*

**GOD IS THE ONE WHO CALLS AND ORDAINS THEM, NOT MEN.** **Galatians 1:1** *Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead;)*

**Ephesians 1:1** *Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus: \*\*There is no legitimate ordination for "an apostle" in the church.*

**THERE ARE SPECIFIC SIGNS WHICH CONFIRM THE CALLING OF AN APOSTLE.** These are composed of both signs and evidences of their work. A person may have one or more of these "proofs," but the standards for an apostle are so high that if he does not have ALL, he cannot be considered an apostle.

**2 Corinthians 12:12** *Truly the signs of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.*

\*\*There is some disagreement as to what these evidences actually are. Some restrict them to only those people who actually witnessed the earthly ministry of Jesus, including His death, burial, and resurrection. Others believe that the office is an on-going office which has significant evidences such as: Personal Gifts from God such as patience, which show the power of God working in the person's life—coupled with—

—**Signs**—evidences of God using the person to perform confirmed miracles.

—**Wonders**—evidences which could only have been from God. Many use their effectiveness in prayer, healings, special events taking place, as those evidences,

—**Mighty Deeds**—and on this, most Bible scholars who believe in the continuing office of 'apostle,' agree. This would be where the person has been **used by God to establish many churches**, and through their ministry see God call many pastors. This is confirmed by the people who have been saved and called through an 'apostle's' ministry, not merely by their say-so.

Paul's evidence was the churches he established, and the souls there who were serving the Lord Jesus. **1 Corinthians 9:2** *If I be not an apostle unto others, yet doubtless I am to you: for the seal of mine apostleship are ye in the Lord.* (Although Paul was called to be an apostle shortly after being born-again, he did not manifest the evidence, and could not prove it until the fruits of God working through him were found).

**THE CALLING OF AN APOSTLE IS THE HIGHEST RANK OF AUTHORITY GIVEN BY GOD FOR THE CHURCH ORGANIZATION.** This does not mean that it is the highest ranking in a relationship with God, but it is the highest calling of God WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CHURCH.

**1 Corinthians 12:28** *And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.*

**SOME DEDICATED CHRISTIANS, OTHER THAN THE TWELVE, WERE CALLED TO BE APOSTLES.** BARNABAS BEING ONE. **Acts 14:14** *Which when the apostles, Barnabas and Paul, heard of, they rent their clothes, and ran in among the people, crying out, (This Barnabas, also called Joses, is not the Lord's step-brother. This man was from Cyprus, not Israel).*

## **WHAT DO APOSTLES DO ?**

—THEY TEACH. **Mark 6:30** *And the apostles gathered themselves together unto Jesus, and told him all things, both what they had done, and what they had taught.* **Acts 2:42** *And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.*

—THEY LEARN, AS ALL TRUE DISCIPLES. **Luke 6:13** *And when it was day, he called unto him his disciples: and of them he chose twelve, whom also he named apostles;*

—THEY EXERCISE GOD-GIVEN AUTHORITY TO ASSIST THE CHURCHES. TO ISSUE DECREES TO HELP THE CHURCHES WORK BETTER. **Acts 16:4** *And as they went through the cities, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem.* AUTHORITY TO LEAD. **1 Corinthians 9:5** *Have we not power to lead about a sister, a wife, as well as other apostles, and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas?*

—TO RECOGNIZE THE CALLING OF GOD IN MISSIONS OF THE CHURCHES. **Acts 15:22** *Then pleased it the apostles and elders, with the whole church, to send chosen men of their own company to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas; namely, Judas surnamed Barsabas, and Silas, chief men among the brethren:* **Acts 8:14** *Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:*

—TO DETERMINE DOCTRINAL ISSUE. **Acts 15:6** *And the apostles and elders came together for to consider of this matter.*

THERE ARE FALSE APOSTLES, JUST AS THERE ARE FALSE PROPHETS. **Revelation 2:2** *I know thy works, and thy labour, and thy patience, and how thou canst not bear them which are evil: and thou hast tried them which say they are apostles, and are not, and hast found them liars:*

## **INFORMATION REGARDING BIBLICAL PROPHETS**

HEBREW = Strong's # 05030 aybn nabiyy' naw-bee' = One who speaks the future (often associated with having the Spirit of God, or an evil spirit).

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### **1. A PROPHET IS A WORK OF GOD, NOT AN ORDAINED POSITION WITHIN THE CHURCH.**

A. PROPHETS WERE FORMERLY KNOWN AS SEERS. **1 Samuel 9:9** *(Beforetime in Israel, when a man went to enquire of God, thus he spake, Come, and let us go to the seer: for he that is now called a Prophet was beforetime called a Seer.)*

### **2. THE PROPHET'S CALLING:**

A. A TRUE BIBLICAL PROPHET IS CALLED OF GOD. JEREMIAH. **Jeremiah 1:5** *Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.* BEING A PROPHET WAS GOD'S PLAN FOR THAT PERSON.

B. A TRUE PROPHET OF GOD DOES NOT BECOME ONE MERELY BECAUSE HE WANTS TO BE A PROPHET. **2 Peter 1:21** *For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.* IT MUST BE A PART OF GOD'S PLAN AND CALLING.

### **3. THE PROPHET'S ABILITIES:**

A. A TRUE PROPHET OF GOD IS GIVEN THAT GIFT BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. **1 Corinthians 12:10** *To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another*

*discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:*

B. A PROPHET WITHOUT LOVE—EVEN THOUGH HE HAS THE GIFT OF PROPHECY—WILL AMOUNT TO NOTHING. CASE: JONAH. **1 Corinthians 13:2** *And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.* MANY HAVE WORLDLY VIEW OF A PROPHET AS SOMEONE WITHOUT COMPASSION, READY TO CALL DOWN FIRE UPON ENEMIES.

C. A PROPHET DOES NOT RELY UPON SO-CALLED NATURAL ABILITIES. **\*\*IS THERE SUCH A THING AS A “NATURAL” ABILITY TO KNOW THE FUTURE ?** ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT PROPHETS OF GOD ABLE TO TELL WHAT LIES AHEAD ? WHAT ARE THESE PSYCHIC ABILITIES ? **James 4:14** *Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.*

—SOMETIMES PEOPLE ARE VERY GOOD AT ADDING UP ALL THE INFORMATION AROUND THEM, AND SEEING WHAT NATURALLY MIGHT OCCUR.

—SOME PEOPLE ARE SPOKEN TO BY DEMONS. **Deuteronomy 18:11** *Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.*

**1 Samuel 28:3** *Now Samuel was dead, and all Israel had lamented him, and buried him in Ramah, even in his own city. And Saul had put away those that had familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land.*

**1 Samuel 28:9** *And the woman said unto him, Behold, thou knowest what Saul hath done, how he hath cut off those that have familiar spirits, and the wizards, out of the land: wherefore then layest thou a snare for my life, to cause me to die?*

—SOME PEOPLE HAVE THE ABILITY TO PICK UP INFORMATION FROM OTHER PEOPLE...“VIBES”...AND MAKE SOME ASSESSMENT AS TO WHAT THEY MIGHT MEAN FOR THE FUTURE.

#### **4. HOW THE WORK OF A PROPHET IS DONE:**

A. GOD IS THE ONE WHO MAKES THEM KNOWN AS PROPHETS. (THEY DO NOT NEED TO ADVERTISE OR PROMOTE THEMSELVES). **Genesis 20:7** *Now therefore restore the man his wife; for he is a prophet, and he shall pray for thee, and thou shalt live: and if thou restore her not, know thou that thou shalt surely die, thou, and all that are thine.*

—JESUS WAS FOUND TO BE A PROPHET BY HIS ACTIONS, NOT HIS ANNOUNCEMENT: **John 4:19** *The woman saith unto him, Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet.*

—NO PRONOUNCEMENT WAS NECESSARY FOR ELISHA TO BE SEEN AS A PROPHET. HIS ACTIONS REVEALED IT. **2 Kings 4:9** *And she said unto her husband, Behold now, I perceive that this is an holy man of God, which passeth by us continually.*

B. GOD WILL SPEAK TO HIM IN A DREAM OR VISION. **Numbers 12:6** *And he said, Hear now my words: If there be a prophet among you, I the LORD will make myself known unto him in a vision, and will speak unto him in a dream. DID MOSES GO AROUND TELLING ABOUT THE BURNING BUSH...OR OTHER TIMES GOD SPOKE*

TO HIM ? UNLIKELY, AND IT IS NOT RECORDED, IF HE DID.

C. GOD REVEALS THINGS TO A PROPHET THAT HE WOULD NOT HUMANLY BE ABLE TO KNOW. **2 Kings 6:12** *And one of his servants said, None, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber.*

—A PROPHET'S KNOWLEDGE IS LIMITED TO ONLY WHAT GOD WANTED REVEALED. HE WILL NOT KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT A SUBJECT. \*If you were to ask John about the composition of the walls of the mansions in heaven, would he know ? Possibly not. **1 Corinthians 13:9** *For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.*

D. SOMETIMES GOD KEEPS THE GIFT OF PROPHECY WITHIN A FAMILY. **2 Kings 9:1-4** *And Elisha the prophet called one of the children of the prophets, and said unto him, Gird up thy loins, and take this box of oil in thine hand, and go to Ramothgilead: And when thou comest thither, look out there Jehu the son of Jehoshaphat the son of Nimshi, and go in, and make him arise up from among his brethren, and carry him to an inner chamber; Then take the box of oil, and pour it on his head, and say, Thus saith the LORD, I have anointed thee king over Israel. Then open the door, and flee, and tarry not. So the young man, even the young man the prophet, went to Ramothgilead.*

—THE HOUSEHOLD OF PHILIP. **Acts 21:8-9** *And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him. And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.*

E. A PROPHET MAY HAVE OTHER GIFTS FROM GOD. DAVID. **Acts 2:30** *Therefore being a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him, that of the fruit of his loins, according to the flesh, he would raise up Christ to sit on his throne; THE GIFT OF PROPHECY, THEN WORKS IN COORDINATION AND TOGETHER WITH THE OTHER GIFTS TO MORE GREATLY MAGNIFY THE LORD.*

F. PROPHECY FROM GOD SOMETIMES ACTUALLY BRINGS THE THING PROPHESED ABOUT INTO BEING. **(If something was not prophesied, would it come about anyway ?)** **Ezekiel 37:4,9** *Again he said unto me, Prophecy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.*

**Revelation 11:3-6** *And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees, and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth. And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed. These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.*

## **5. THE NEW TESTAMENT PROPHETS:**

A. AGABUS. **Acts 21:10** *And as we tarried there many days, there came down from Judaea a certain prophet, named Agabus.*

B. PAUL. **1 Corinthians 13:9** *For we know in part, and we prophesy in part.*

C. JOHN. **Revelation 10:11** *And he said unto me, Thou must prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings.*

D. PHILIP'S DAUGHTERS. **Acts 21:9** *And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy.*

E. OTHER BELIEVERS. **Acts 2:17-18** *And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:*

F. THE PROPHETS OF THE LAST DAYS. **Revelation 11:3** *And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.*

## **6. THE FALSE PROPHETS:**

A. PROPHETS CAN GO ASTRAY. KING SAUL. **1 Samuel 10:10-12** *And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them. And it came to pass, when all that knew him beforetime saw that, behold, he prophesied among the prophets, then the people said one to another, What is this that is come unto the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets? And one of the same place answered and said, But who is their father? Therefore it became a proverb, Is Saul also among the prophets?*

B. THERE ARE PROPHETS WHO ARE SIMPLY NOT OF GOD. A NUMBER OF POSSIBLE FACTORS:

—1. THEIR FAITH MIGHT NOT BE IN THE TRUE AND LIVING GOD.

—2. THEY COULD BE RECEIVING INFORMATION FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN GOD, BUT BELIEVE THAT THE SOURCES ARE FROM GOD. THIS COULD INCLUDE THEIR OWN IMAGINATIONS, THEIR INPUT OF INFO FROM ACTUAL SOURCES THAT ARE NOT TRUE, FROM "GUT FEELINGS," ETC.

—3. THEY COULD KNOWINGLY BE GETTING INFORMATION FROM SOURCES WHICH THEY KNOW ARE NOT FROM GOD, BUT PASS THEM OFF AS IF THEY WERE FROM GOD. **Deuteronomy 13:1** *If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder,*

**Deuteronomy 13:3** *Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.*

**Deuteronomy 18:22** *When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him.*

**Acts 13:6** *And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a false prophet, a Jew, whose name was Barjesus:*

# INFORMATION REGARDING BIBLICAL EVANGELISTS

**EVANGELIST**—Strong's #: 2099 *ευαγγελιστη* yoo-ang-ghel-is-tace'

1) a bringer of good tidings, an evangelist

2) the name given to the NT heralds of salvation through Christ who are not apostles

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## **1. THIS IS THE LEAST MENTIONED POSITION IN THE CHURCH,**

**YET IT IS THE FOREMOST ASSIGNMENT OF THE CHURCH. WHY THE SEEMING DISCREPANCY ?**

It is used by its root word, as “declared, preached, bringing good tidings,” etc. It is mentioned in Ephesians 4:11 as one of the gifts to the Church for the perfecting of the saints, but few see evangelism for what it really is. It is literally, “Bringing forth the Good News.” As we know, the Good News goes far beyond bringing people to Jesus for salvation. If the Good News stopped there, we would all be in serious spiritual trouble.

All pastors are to do the work of an evangelist. Paul said to Timothy, a pastor, (**2 Timothy 4:5**) *But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry*

However, there may be some local churches that do not have a God-called evangelist who is gifted by the Holy Spirit for the exclusive work of evangelism. They should pray that as they grow, God will bring or call someone from their congregation who has the specific gift of evangelism.

**2. THERE IS AN OFFICE OF EVANGELIST,** WHICH IS CALLED BY GOD, AND USED IN THE CHURCH TO GLORIFY THE LORD. **Ephesians 4:11-13** *And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:*

**3. THERE IS A TWO-FOLD WORK OF AN EVANGELIST,** soul-winning and edifying.

However, the work of winning souls to Christ is the primary calling and talent which he has been given.

A. HE CANNOT BE TIMID IN PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH, OR HE WILL FAIL TO COMMUNICATE THE PLAN OF SALVATION. AN EFFECTIVE EVANGELIST MUST BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT'S BOLDNESS, NOT A HUMANLY-LEARNED TECHNIQUE. **Acts 4:29** *And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word,*

**Acts 4:31** *And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.*

B. AN EFFECTIVE EVANGELIST MUST BE FILLED WITH THE COMPASSION OF THE LORD FOR THE LOST. **Jude 1:22** *And of some have compassion, making a difference:*

C. AN EFFECTIVE EVANGELIST WILL BE FILLED WITH COMPASSION FOR HIS BRETHREN. BUT, HE MUST OPERATE WITHIN THE LIMITATIONS OF ONLY THOSE GIFTS GOD GAVE TO HIM. FOR THE OTHERS, HE MUST REFER THEM TO OTHERS IN THE BODY OF CHRIST. JESUS WAS MOVED WITH COMPASSION.

**Matthew 20:34** *So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him.*

**Mark 1:41** *And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.*

D. HE CANNOT BE SHALLOW IN HIS FAITH, OR HE WILL FAIL TO MEET THE SECOND PURPOSE OF THE GOOD NEWS, WHICH IS TO EDIFY THE BELIEVERS. PART OF THE EVANGELIST'S WORK. **Ephesians 4:12** *For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:*

E. AN EVANGELIST CANNOT EDIFY UNLESS WHAT HE SAYS IS FROM GOD. SO, HE MUST STUDY GOD'S WORD TO KNOW THAT WHAT HE SAYS IS FAITHFUL TO SCRIPTURES. **2 Timothy 2:15** *Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*

**\*Can a person be a pastor, but not be an evangelist ?** In other words, are all pastors evangelists, too ? Evidently not, or the Bible would not distinguish between the two offices. Each gift from God comes with special tools or abilities unique to that gift. A person can have knowledge, for an example, but not have the gift of knowledge. It won't be as powerful or effective, but it will be there.

**What special gifts does an evangelist have ?** The gift of communicating. The gift of boldness. The gift of clarify.

#### **4. THE EVANGELIST WAS SOMETIMES A GIFT THAT WENT ALONG WITH OTHER GIFTS FROM GOD.**

**A. TIMOTHY WAS A PASTOR, ALSO.** **2 Timothy 4:5** *But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.*

**B. PHILIP WAS A DEACON, ALSO.** **Acts 21:8** *And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him.*

**C. PAUL WAS AN APOSTLE AND A PASTOR-TEACHER, ALSO.** **1 Corinthians 1:17** *For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel <2097>: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. **1 Corinthians 9:16** For though I preach the gospel <2097>, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach <2097> not the gospel <2097>!*

**5. MISUNDERSTANDINGS ABOUT THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST:** The following are ideas which are not correct--although held by some churches.--

- A. THAT ONLY AN EVANGELIST IS TO DO THE WORK.
- B. THAT IF A PERSON IS CALLED AS AN EVANGELIST, IT IS THE ONLY POSITION CAN HOLD.
- C. THAT EVANGELISTS MUST CONSTANTLY BE ON THE ROAD, PREACHING AT



EVERYONE ELSE'S CHURCH.

D. THAT AN EVANGELIST ONLY PREACHES A SALVATION MESSAGE.

E. THAT AN EVANGELIST ONLY PREACHES TO REVIVE THE SAVED.

\*\*C.G. Finney

**6. EVANGELISM IS A PART OF EVERYONE'S MINISTRY.** (But, some are specifically given a gift for evangelism which makes their work more effective.

**A. BE WITNESSES.** *Acts 1:8* *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

**B. TEACH.** *Matthew 28:19* *Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:*

**C. PREACH.** *Acts 8:4* *Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word.*

**7. THE EVANGELIST'S RELATION TO THE LOCAL CHURCH.**

A. THE CHURCH CANNOT MAKE AN EVANGELIST. IT IS GOD THAT CALLS HIM. *Ephesians 4:11* *And He gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and **some, evangelists**; and some, pastors and teachers;*

AN EVANGELIST WILL BE DOING THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST ON A PERSONAL AND CROWD BASIS BEFORE THE LOCAL CHURCH ACKNOWLEDGES THAT HE HAS THE GIFT THAT COMES FROM THE HOLY SPIRIT.. IN OTHER WORDS, HE WILL BE PROVING THAT HE HAS THE GIFT FROM GOD BEFORE THE LOCAL CHURCH ACKNOWLEDGES HIM AS ONE OF ITS EVANGELISTS. **2 Timothy 4:5** *But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, **make full proof of thy ministry.***

An evangelist may be a saved child, man, or woman who shows evidence of having the gift of evangelism.

**8. THE SUPPORT OF THE EVANGELIST.**

A. THE LOCAL CHURCH WHERE THE EVANGELIST IS A MEMBER. The local church may provide some financial or other assistance, depending upon the ability and desire of the local church. The church where the evangelist is a member is considered to be the "sending church."

B. IN CASES WHERE THE EVANGELIST TRAVELS EXTENSIVELY, HE MAY BE SUPPORTED BY MORE THAN ONE CHURCH. This support may be in the form of providing temporary housing, food, and other necessities. In most cases, the evangelist must rely upon the freely given love offerings or voluntary assistance which may come from each local church.

C. THE ABCI organization may vote to provide financial or other assistance to an evangelist whose work is recognized by the organization to be of special importance.

# **YOUR MINISTRY**

REGARDLESS OF WHICH OFFICE A PERSON MAY OCCUPY, EACH CHRISTIAN IS INVOLVED IN MINISTRY. HOW SHOULD WE APPROACH SERVING IN MINISTRY ?

## **1. WHAT IS MINISTRY ?**

A. THE SPECIAL WORK OF EVERY BELIEVER FOR THE LORD JESUS.

—SOME JUDGE MINISTRY AS THE WORLD SEES IT.

—MINISTRY IS ENJOYABLE AND FUN, BUT WHERE DO WE GET OUR DEFINITION OF ENJOYMENT AND FUN.

SOMETIMES WE CARRY OVER THE WORLD'S VIEW. WORLDLY LANGUAGE, CRUDE OR INSULTING REMARKS, OFF-COLOR STORIES, ESPECIALLY DURING TIMES OF MINISTRY, ARE NOT OF THE DEFINITION OF FUN AND ENJOYMENT THAT COMES FROM GOD. THOSE ARE THINGS THAT UNGODLY PEOPLE THINK OF AS FUN.

B. THE WORK WHICH IS DESIGNED TO WIN SOULS AND EDIFY.

## **2. HOW SHOULD MINISTRY BE HANDLED ?**

A. AS A PRIVILEGE.

B. AS A CALLING.

C. AS A COMMAND.

D. AS AN OPPORTUNITY.

## **3. IS GETTING READY FOR MINISTRY ALSO A HOLY ACTIVITY ?**