

THE APOSTLE

The apostle is one who is sent by the church with the authority to GO and establish believers under the church's covering.

KEY POINTS

- ❖ A simplistic definition of the five-fold ministry is that Apostles Go, Prophets Guide, Evangelists Gather, Pastors Grow, and Teachers Ground.
- ❖ An apostle's key contribution is church growth and oversight. Their gift, as Peter Wagner defines it, "...enables them to assume and exercise helpful leadership over a number of churches in spiritual matters which is spontaneously recognized and appreciated by those churches."

The apostles in Jerusalem sent the apostles Paul and Barnabas to the church in Antioch.

- ❖ The apostles in Jerusalem were the original eleven chosen by Jesus, plus Matthias, who took the position Judas vacated. They were with Jesus from the beginning of His ministry and had seen the resurrected Christ. Each had been called by Jesus to be apostles, though one might say Matthias was chosen indirectly by the casting of lots. These twelve apostles were the foundation of the church (see Revelation 21:14).
 - ❖ Paul and Barnabas were also called apostles (Acts 14:14), though Paul described himself as the apostle to the Gentiles (Romans 11:13). These two men were sent by the apostles in Jerusalem, who represented the foundation of the growing church that Jesus built upon the revelation He gave to Peter—that He is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (Matthew 16:16-17).
 - ❖ The doctrine of salvation—that the way to Jesus is by grace through faith in Jesus and not by keeping the Jewish Law—was essential to the foundation of the fast-growing church. Thus, the apostles in Jerusalem felt it necessary to send leaders out into the field to confirm their word.
- Judas and Silas were sent to confirm the authority of the message Paul and Barnabas brought.**

- ❖ Apostles go because they are sent. However, as we read in Acts 15:24, there were people who had gone out from among those in Jerusalem who wanted to impose the Jewish Law on others.
- ❖ These people went, but had not received authority from the apostles in Jerusalem. Their message became a stumbling block and not a blessing to the Gentile churches.
- ❖ The solution was for the apostles in Jerusalem to send the general apostles Paul and Barnabas—people who had the authority to speak on behalf of the church. (There is a difference between Jesus' twelve apostles and the apostles more generally referred to in the five-fold ministry.) These were men who had risked their lives for the name of Jesus (see 2 Corinthians 11:22-28).
- ❖ There is an element of the anointing of the apostle that has to do with being a credible witness. Just as Judas and Silas served as witnesses to the apostles' mission, so we have people here at Faith Sanctuary who carry a similar anointing that can calm and consolidate the many different segments of the body in order for the kingdom of

KEY SCRIPTURE: Acts 15:22-29

(all scripture in NIV unless otherwise noted)

God to be further established and aligned behind the vision God gave us.

The apostles' letter confirmed the message of Paul's leadership in the churches.

- ❖ In matters of church leadership, the apostolic direction comes from God, just as Jesus said it should in John 14:26.
- ❖ What the apostles felt the Spirit was saying seemed to resonate with what they were feeling: that there was no need to burden the gentiles with the Jewish ceremonial laws. However, there were certain pertinent things they needed to pay attention to (Acts 15:29; see also 1 Cor. 8:8-9).
- ❖ The sheep will follow the leadership of the apostle because they belong to God. Goats won't follow because they don't have the gift of the apostle and are unable to see things as God does. They think only about themselves and are willing to drag down the children for whom Christ died. "You will do well to avoid these things" (Acts 15:29).
- ❖ Paul had been preaching a gospel of salvation through faith in God by grace and not by works. Yet there were others who came from Jerusalem who taught a different gospel. To the new converts, they looked like the real deal, but what was missing was the apostolic anointing.
- ❖ More than that, they failed to grasp what the prophets had written and what Jesus had said about the New Covenant. That's why the apostles from Jerusalem confirmed the message they had sent with Paul and the delegation to Antioch.
- ❖ The things we are doing here at Faith Sanctuary can be backed up—confirmed—by the full counsel of scripture, which people with the apostolic anointing always refer to.
- ❖ The office of the apostle will grow as our church grows. As we do, some of you with the apostolic anointing will be sent to **GO** with authority to exercise leadership over a number of churches. It all starts with that gifting in operation in our church.

DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Read Acts 15:24-27. Discuss these verses in the context that "Apostles go because they are sent." What happens when people go out who were never sent?
2. According to Scripture, what are some of the attributes of an apostle (e.g., Mark 3:14-15; 2 Cor. 12:12)?
3. "An apostle's key contribution is church growth and oversight." Discuss this statement as it relates to Faith Sanctuary.

PRAYER TIME

Lord, may the apostolic anointing be at work here at Faith Sanctuary among Your people. Amen.

WEEK OF SUNDAY, JULY 13, 2025

NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.



(Reminds me/Confirms)



(New idea)



(Think about)



(Do this)



(Speaks to my heart)



(Must share)

Start-up: Are you the type to embrace the unknown? How do you feel when you are asked to do something you have never done before?

PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

Go deeper with your Life Group family.
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE
WORD

PRAYER FOCUS: U.P.C.I. Ontario District departments,
leaders, participants

Daily Devotions: Monday-Friday (except public holidays)
@ 6:30 a.m.; **Monday-Thursday** @ 9:00 p.m.;
Corporate Prayer: Monday, Wednesday & Friday (all day),
(in-person **Friday** @ 7:00 p.m.); **Sunday** @ 6:00 p.m.
Zoom ID: 898 3191 5909 **Phone Access:** 647-374-4685

FAITH SANCTUARY DONATIONS

To donate online, please go to www.faithsanctuary.com/give
For email transfers, please use donate@faithsanctuary.com



ANNOUNCEMENTS

STOREHOUSE

The storehouse is in need of the following
non-perishable food items:

Pasta, rice, sugar, canned sardines, peas, beans, corned
beef, soup, condensed milk, etc.

Contact: Bro. Richard or Sis. Naomi Daley

WOMEN'S PRAYER

Calling the women of Faith to the throne room of
God! **Every Thursday**, there is Women's Prayer on the
Faith Sanctuary Zoom Prayer line from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00
p.m. This is a powerful prayer meeting that is led and
facilitated by the women of Faith Sanctuary.

Please join us as we approach the throne of God "with
confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace
to help us in our time of need" (Hebrews 4:16).

Contact: Sis. Memory Mangwiro

*"Therefore GO and make disciples
of all nations, baptizing them in
the name of the Father and of the
Son and of the Holy Spirit...."*

(Matthew 28:19)

FAITH SANCTUARY WEEKLY SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service @ 11:00 a.m.
(Listen via phone: 1-844-268-4848)

Monday Berean Bible Study @ 6:30 p.m.
(Zoom, Facebook, YouTube)

Wednesday Bible Study @ 7:30 p.m.
(In person and via Zoom)

Friday Evening Service @ 8:00 p.m.
(In person and via Zoom)

Life Group Meetings – individually scheduled
(see ushers for information)

FAITH FOUNDATIONS

GOD

We believe there is only one God: the eternal, holy, loving, all-
knowing, all-powerful, omnipresent Spirit, creator of all
(Deuteronomy 6:4; 1 Timothy 1:17; Leviticus 19:2; 1 John 4:8;
Hebrews 4:13; Revelation 19:6; Jeremiah 23:24; John 4:24;
Isaiah 44:24; Colossians 1:16).

GOD'S WORD

We believe the Holy Scriptures—The Bible—is God's true and
complete Word to humanity, verified most notably through
fulfilled prophecies concerning Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 3:16;
2 Peter 1:20-21; Isaiah 41:21-23, 42:8-9, 46:9-10;
Luke 24:25-27; John 17:17).

GOD'S CREATION

We believe all people were created in the image of God for His
pleasure, to be His children, His church and His bride, living in
eternal love and fellowship with Him (Revelation 4:1;
Genesis 1:27; John 1:12-13; Romans 8:16;
Ephesians 5:25-32; Revelation 19:7).

HUMANITY'S FALL

We acknowledge that we have all sinned and failed to fulfill
God's plan and purpose for our lives, through willful
disobedience to the word of God and our own conscience. All
sinful acts lead to separation and alienation from God's pure,
holy presence, eventually resulting in both physical and spiritual
death (Romans 3:23, 6:23a).

THE GOSPEL

We believe that Jesus Christ is the Almighty God, fully divine
and fully human (1 Timothy 3:16). He came to Earth and
suffered death by crucifixion, willingly substituting Himself for
us in receiving God's judgment against sin (Isaiah 53:5). But God
raised Him from death (Acts 5:30), and He now offers eternal
life to all who will believe in Him (John 3:14-17, 6:29; 2
Corinthians 5:18-21; Romans 6:23b; Ephesians 2:4-9). Faith is
sparked within us when we hear the gospel, the "good news"
that Jesus died, was buried and rose from the dead for our
benefit (Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4).

OUR FAITH RESPONSE

Hearing the gospel is intended to lead us to repentance, a
divinely inspired change of heart that causes us to turn away
from our sins and turn to God (2 Corinthians 7:9-10; 2 Timothy
2:24-26). Faith and repentance lead us to obey the scriptural
command to be baptized in Jesus' name for the forgiveness of
our sins and to receive His gift of the Holy Spirit. His Spirit gives
us the power to live a righteous, godly life, joyfully sharing the
good news of our new life in Christ with others (Mark 16:16;
Acts 2:38, 4:12; 1 Peter 1:22-23).

CHRIST'S RETURN

We believe our Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to
Earth to receive His people to Himself and establish
His righteous, eternal kingdom
(John 14:3; Matthew 25:34).

JULY 13, 2025



Feed Canada to Feed the World



Pastor:
Rev. Adrian W. Peel

*"So Christ himself gave the apostles, the
prophets, the evangelists, the pastors
and teachers, to equip his people for
works of service, so that the body of
Christ may be built up until we all reach
unity in the faith and in the knowledge
of the Son of God and become mature,
attaining to the whole measure of the
fullness of Christ."
Ephesians 4:11-13 (NIV)*

1901 Jane St., Toronto, Ontario M9N 3T9
Phone: 416-244-4898

Email: mail@faithsanctuary.com

Website: www.faithsanctuary.com

Livestream: <https://faithsanctuarytoronto.online.church>