**The 5 Fold Ministry**

**Qualifications for Ministry**

**Ephesians 4:1** NKJV - “*I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,*”

**Prisoner** - someone who doesn’t call the shots for themselves. What they do, where they go, where they sleep, what they eat, is directed by someone else. He’s talking about how his life is completely and fully submitted to the Lord.

**Worthy** - appropriately.

**Ephesians 4:2-3** NKJV - *“with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”*

**Lowliness** - humble of mind

**Gentleness** - meekness or humility

**Longsuffering** - patient

**Bearing with** - Putting up with people in love.

Keys to success in the Kingdom of God:

1. Remain teachable
2. Remain submissive to authority

**Proverbs 13:10** NKJV - “*By pride comes nothing but strife, But with the well-advised is wisdom.*”

In ministry you cannot tolerate strife.

*“We do the right thing regardless of whether anyone else does”*

**Ephesians 4:8-10** NKJV - “*Therefore He says: “When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, And gave gifts to men.” (Now this, “He ascended”—what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.)”*

This is talking about Jesus. **Jesus is the one who gave the 5-fold ministry gifts to men**.

In the OT there were Prophets, Priests, and Kings. These three were anointed to lead God’s people in various capacities.

Now in the New Covenant, after Jesus ascended to heaven, He gave new gifts to men.

**Ephesians 4:11** NKJV - “*And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers,”*

These are sometimes referred to as a ministry office. People can move from one office to another.

Jesus operated on this earth in all 5 offices: apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher, and evangelist.

Everyone is called to do something for God, but not everyone is called to a 5-fold ministry office. You don’t call yourself into one of these offices, Jesus calls you into one of these offices.

**Jesus calls you into one of these offices and when He does there is an anointing to do what that office requires**.

How do you know if you are called into one of these ministry offices?

**Acts 13:1-2** NKJV - “*Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.*””

**Acts 13:3** NKJV - “*Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.*”

Who said they were called? The Holy Spirit.

Who did the Holy Spirit tell? The people who were called and those in leadership over them.

**You KNOW you are called to a 5-fold ministry office when the Holy Spirit tells you and you have confirmation from the spiritual leaders in your life.**

Other qualifications listed in the Bible for ministry: (also found in Titus 1)

**I Timothy 3:1-2** NKJV - “*This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a bishop, he desires a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach;*”

**Bishop** - overseer of a Christian church. This would be a Pastor.

Blameless - free of guilt.

Married to 1 person.

Have self-control.

Modest or orderly - not a slob.

Fond of guests.

Able to teach - A overseer in a church must be able to also teach. A Pastor teaches.

**I Timothy 3:3** NKJV - “*not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous;*”

**I Timothy 3:4-5** NKJV - “*one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?);*”

There are people who God has called but disqualify themselves based on their behaviors listed in these verses. Why? Because they would hurt other people as ministers.

**I Timothy 3:6** NKJV - *“not a novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil.”*

The more spiritually immature a person is the more susceptible they are to falling into pride.

**I Timothy 3:7** NKJV - “*Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.*”

This person needs to have a good reputation outside the church.

**I Timothy 3:8-12** NKJV - “*Likewise deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience. But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless. Likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.*”

The same qualifications for a deacon as a bishop except deacon’s do not have to teach.

**Ephesians 4:11-12** NKJV - “*And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,*”

**The purpose of the 5 fold ministry is to equip the saints for the work of the ministry.**

**I Corinthians 12:27-28** NKJV - “*Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.*”