

WHO'S GOT THE TENT PEGS?

PRECEPT

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27-31

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. ²⁸ And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues[d]? Do all interpret? ³¹ Now eagerly desire the greater gifts.

2 KINGS 3:11

¹¹ But Jehoshaphat said, "Is there no prophet of the Lord here, that we may inquire of the Lord by him?" And one of the king of Israel's servants answered and said, "Elisha the son of Shaphat is here, who used to pour water on the hands of Elijah."

PROMISE

Paul talks in 1 Corinthians 12 about the ministry of helpers. In our humanity and worldly mindset, we tend to put helpers on a lower level and the pastors up on a higher level, but God never did that. God intended that every helper that is in the church will have the same sense of calling, same sense of ministry, and the same sense of doing what is proper and right as any pastor would do. It doesn't matter whether you're an apostle, a pastor, a missionary, a Bible school professor, or whether you're a helper, who does nothing more than clean toilets; God looks at us with the same love and respect.

The prophet Elisha is one individual who's a tremendous example concerning helping. The Bible tells us that some confederate kings have got together to go to war, but thought that it would be good to seek and ask the Lord for some guidance and divine wisdom as to how they should go and whether they should wait or go up and fight. They brought out all they prophets who happen to be all false prophets. The king of Israel knew that all those "prophets" were lying to them and asked for a prophet of God in Israel. One of his servants said he know of one and the king asked about the individual's credential in order for them to believe him. The servant said that Elisha used to pour water on the hands of Elijah. So the kings went down to him and heard his advice and followed it. It was enough credential to make him worthy of their trust and time.

Sometimes, the job that we fulfil in the family of God is quite insignificant. Some of us just open the doors of the church every Sunday afternoon. We might think that nobody's taking notice, but our God in heaven does. As Christians, it's important for us to realize that God has called us to a ministry for such an hour as this. If we want to impact our city and community, we need helpers and people that are not afraid to do the little jobs and the big jobs. We need people to look out for our children in Sunday school, people that will come early to set up the sound system, people that will stay late to vacuum and shut the lights out. We truly need helpers in the church. Think of a way that you can meet the need of the church, in your own little ways. This is a great opportunity to use your skills and serve the Lord. Serve Him in the ordinary. God will reward us for our faithfulness in due time.

PRACTICE

1. Being a Helper. How does being a "helper" in the church affect your relationship with God and others?

2. Application. How can/do you help-out the church? How can you inspire someone today to serve in the church?

PRAYER

I. Life Groups

- Pray that we will love and encourage one another at all times; that we will share our lives together.

II. Pastors & Elders

- Pray for joy, peace, and strength for Ptr. Jeffrey & Roann Basco & all our elders.

III. Missionaries

- Pray for courage and that God will shield and guard them against the enemy.

IV. Gospel

- Pray for open doors for His Gospel to spread all over the world.

V. Community

- Pray that we will be intentional in reaching the lost in our community and serve them.

VI. Edmonton

- Pray for our mayor Amarjeet Sohi and his associates for guidance and wisdom in running our city.

VII. Canada

- May the Lord fill our leaders with wisdom, integrity, compassion, and discernment.