

## **All believers should be involved in Christian Ministry**

According to the Apostle Paul, all believers have a spiritual gift, but no one possesses all of the gifts. For example, some possess the gift of wisdom, while others possess the gift of knowledge. The Holy Spirit is the source of all spiritual gifts. Therefore, the Body of Christ is composed of believers with different spiritual gifts.

I Corinthians 12: 4,5,6, 8, 20 (KJV)

- 4 Now, there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.
- 5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.
- 6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.
- 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;
- 20 But now *are they* many members, yet but one body.

## **Christian Ministries**

### **Evangelism Ministry**

Evangelism is preaching, teaching, witnessing, and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ to unsaved men, women, boys, and girls. Sharing the good news of Jesus Christ is the Church's primary mission, but there are numerous supplementary church missions or ministries.

Jesus says in Matthew 28: 19 "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost:"

All believers are called to share the good news of Jesus Christ. Evangelism is not just the responsibility of the pastor, Sunday school teachers, deacons, or trustees. The entire Church membership is responsible for evangelizing.

Philippians 2: 10-12 says "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth; **11** And every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father. All believers have a job to perform in the Kingdom of God.

### **Evangelism Objectives**

- Pray for the salvation of the unsaved
- Share the good news of Jesus Christ
- Nurture and provide training for new believers until they can lead others to Christ
- Promote an evangelistic outreach program

- Teach the unsaved about the blessings of heaven and the penalty of hell

## **Church Education Ministry**

Another mission of the Church is to promote or institute a strong Christian education program. Training believers to be effective ambassadors for Jesus Christ is essential for the programming and the development of effective Christian missions. In addition, Christian education programs are needed to help develop strong Christian character, which is needed today.

## **Christian Education Objectives**

- Sponsor Christian education seminars and workshops
- Provide a platform for current event discussions that impact Christian life
- Inform the church leadership of essential Christian education needs
- Highlight the importance of essential Christian education material, financial, building, and spiritual resources
- Promote Christian education goals and objectives

## **Elderly Ministry**

Ministry to the elderly and the less fortunate is an essential church mission. The Bible says to honor your mother and your father so that your days will be long on the earth. Unfortunately, the Bible does not explicitly mention ministering to the elderly. Still, it stresses the importance of respecting the dignity of the elderly when it says honor your mother and father so that your days will be long on the earth.

## **Elderly Objectives**

- Teach the importance of respecting the dignity of the elderly
- Encourage senior citizen communication and visitation
- Sponsor senior social programs
- Sponsor spiritual growth programs
- Sponsor senior benefits workshops and seminars
- Sponsor senior outings

## **Sick and shut-in, less fortunate Ministry**

We need to follow the example of Jesus in ministering to the sick. Jesus showed love and compassion to a woman who had an issue with blood for 12 long years, he gave sight to the blind, food to the hungry, and he opened the ears of the deaf and allowed the lame to walk. Christians should visit the sick and shut-in, rest homes, and hospitals; showing love and compassion for the ill and the less fortunate is essential.

## **Objectives**

- Have an organized sick and shut-in ministry team
- Pray for the healing and restoration of the sick
- Encourage all church members to visit the sick and shut-in
- Have an ill assistance fund
- Provide worship service videos and tapes

## **Prison Ministry**

The Church is in the business of ministering to the needs of people regardless of their condition or circumstance. Forgiving and reforming broken lives is a vital Christian ministry. Ministering to prisoners is one of the noblest Christian ministries; showing unconditional love speaks to the very core of the Christian faith.

## **Objectives**

- Have an organized prison visitation ministry
- Provide bibles and other small gifts
- Write letters of encouragement
- Share words of hope and encouragement
- Let prisoners know that they are loved
- Assist prisoners in readjusting to public life
- Form a prisoner support group
- If possible, preach and teach the word to prisoners

## **Family Development Ministry**

Family development is a vital Church ministry or mission. Unfortunately, the entertainment media complex has produced programs that are not youth and family-friendly. The Church must sponsor programs to lead nonbelievers to Christ and encourage fellow believers to live a Christian lifestyle by avoiding cheating, lying, cursing, drinking, smoking, sex outside of marriage, and adultery.

## **Objectives**

- Sponsor positive relationship seminars and workshops
- Provide social outlet opportunities
- Find ways to counter the negative influence of the entertainment media complex
- Sponsor marriage enrichment retreats
- Offer parenting classes
- Sponsor social group outings

## **Men's Ministry**

Men have a grave responsibility; according to Psalms 8:4, Man was made a little lower than the angels; he had dominion over the Garden of Eden and everything that lived in the garden. Men will have to give an account of their stewardship. It is time for men to get serious about their Christian stewardship. Men must love their wives and be strong role models for their children and other young people.

### **Objectives**

- Sponsor workshops and seminars that deal with the spiritual growth and development of men
- Serve as role models for young boys
- Have scheduled men's bible studies
- Encourage men to pray and read the scripture
- Make men aware of their responsibilities
- Develop programs that keep men engaged in ministry
- Encourage men to use their spiritual gifts
- Encourage the men to develop their spiritual projects
- Emphasize the importance of proper diet and exercise
- Encourage men to take care of their emotional and physical health

## **Women's Ministry**

The woman was taken from a man's rib close to his heart. Women have a maternal nature that uniquely equips them to minister to their husbands and children. Over the years, women have joined the Church in groves. In many ways, women are the backbone of the Church. Women are responsible for setting a positive example in their dress, speech, and behavior. During the early years women tend to influence children more than men; therefore, women need to be aware of their unique accountability in God's Kingdom.

### **Objectives**

- Mentor youth and young adult women
- Develop programs to assist children
- Sponsor workshops and seminars on Women's spiritual, health and other issues
- Invite outside groups to talk on spiritual subjects
- Work with the pastor on special projects
- Have regular bible and prayer sessions
- Share outside workshop information

## **Youth Ministry**

Youth self-esteem programs are also an essential Church mission. The Church must support parents in teaching children and youth to respect authority. Youth also must be taught about their

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heritage; black history programs are essential because history writers do not always highlight the contributions of black American singers', politicians, artists, scientists, and inventors. We must teach youth about their history and their heritage.

## **Objectives**

- Have an organized prayer and bible study program
- Provide sufficient recreational opportunities
- Teach about heritage and culture
- Teach youth about money and financial management
- Encourage youth to respect authority
- Teach sex education
- Expose youth to positive role models
- Sponsor group outings
- Involve youth in the worship and music ministry
- Provide academic and tutoring assistance
- Sponsor specific youth-oriented programs such as fashion and talent shows, drama productions, etc.
- Talk about the importance of personal responsibility
- Encourage youth to use appropriate language
- Stress the importance of proper dress
- Encourage youth to be on guard against sexual predators and abusive behavior
- Teach youth about dating and positive relationships
- Promote music involvement such as praise teams, choirs, etc.

## **Sunday School, Church Training, Bible Study and Prayer ministries**

Christian training and prayer programs are essential for the spiritual development of Church members. All Church ministries should address the unique needs of diverse age groups such as children, youth, young adults, adults, and seniors, and they also need to address the unique spiritual needs of married couples and singles. The Church is accountable for effective Christian missions and programs.

Church ministries must address individual age groups. Each age has its own unique needs. Age-appropriate programs are essential for the growth and spiritual development of believers.

### **Sunday school**

Sunday school is not just for children; all church members should attend Sunday school. The blueprint of living a Christian life is embedded in the school curriculum.

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## **The Importance of Church Training**

Church Training is essential for teaching standard Christian doctrine, Church policy and procedure.

### **Objectives**

- Expose members to a variety of teaching methods
- Emphasize the importance of prayer and bible study
- Have scheduled weekly ongoing training programs
- Stress the importance of being consistent and devoted to all spiritual tasks
- Promote spiritual growth and development
- Highlight the importance of patience and devotion

## **Hospitality or Hosting Ministry**

A friendly smile and a kind word can go a long way in attracting new members. Social, loving environments tend to attract visitors. People want to feel loved and appreciated. The hospitality committee should be staffed by Church members who are friendly and have the people skills to assist in the growth and development of the Church.

Those who serve on the hospitality committee are usually the first church greeters. First impressions are significant. There is no way to undo the first impression. There is a saying, "First impressions are golden," this is highly true in a church setting.

### **Objective**

- Greet others with kind words and a friendly, loving smile
- Dispense church literature and handouts
- Greet incoming and outgoing members and visitors
- Answer visitor questions
- Project a sense of confidence, faith, and love
- Assist ushers when called on
- Assist with food and special program events

## **Recreation Ministry**

Fun and recreation is a part of church life. Jesus attended weddings and ministered to large gatherings, such as when he fed 5,000 people. However, most of his pastoral work was outdoors in open areas; ordinary men, women, boys, and girls were the central focus of Jesus' ministries.

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- Involve youth and members in team-oriented sports such as basketball, softball, soccer, etc.
- Sponsor exercise or walking programs
- Supervise youth recreational activities
- Educate members on the importance of exercise and recreation

## **Outreach Ministry**

Each Church should have an effective outreach ministry. The true Church extends beyond the walls of a wood or brick structure. It is all about ministering to others who live in the community. There are a lot of hurting people who do not attend Church; they need to be ministered to. The Church outreach ministry also aids in church membership growth and development.

## **Objectives**

- Highlight the importance of evangelism and salvation
- Aid the pastor in attracting new members
- Develop strategies to minister to those who do not attend Church
- Dispense evangelist and church invitation literature
- Use the print media, audio media, phone calls, emails, Facebook, Twitter, and other social media to invite and promote church attendance, special events, and other programs

## **New members/support ministry**

New members need to be enrolled in a new member's class. The class should highlight the scriptural teaching of tithing, a review of the Church's Covenant, Constitution, Bylaws, and standard Church Doctrine.

It is up to the Church to customize a personal new member's class. It could be ten or more hours of instructions. Upon completing a new member class, members should be encouraged to serve in one or more church ministries, whether the music, the usher, or the recreational ministry. The pastor has the option of subjecting where new members should serve.

## **Support team ministry**

A support team should be made up of spiritually mature Christians. A husband-and-wife team would be ideal. The team will provide support for incoming members throughout their spiritual journey. Incoming members are encouraged to call their support team if they desire prayer or have questions or a problem within the Church.

## **Objectives**

- Pray for the spiritual growth of new members
- Sponsor new members' orientation classes
- Highlight church doctrine and explain church policy
- Help new members transition into church ministries
- Mentor, the counsel, support incoming members
- Work with the pastor to acquire an appropriate new member's curriculum

## **Media/ Newsletter/ Technology Ministry**

A church newsletter can be a tremendous ministry promotional and educational tool. The church community needs to share positive, uplifting news.

## **Technology Ministry**

The information age has taken root. The Church must take advantage of new emerging technologies. LCD projectors, computers, and Large screen monitors are a few technologies that have made a difference in dispensing information in many of our progressive churches. Unfortunately, young people live in a world of Facebook, Twitter, and many other social networks. It is time to use technologies to dispense essential spiritual wisdom and knowledge.

## **Objectives**

- Publish religious, health, family, cultural heritage and other appropriate information
- Promote events and programs
- Find ways to use technology to air spiritual programs
- Use technology to save and better manage time
- Provide opportunities for young people to use technology

## **Landscape/ Car Parking/ Beautification Ministry**

- Beautify outdoor church grounds
- Help to keep the inside of the Church cleaned and sanitized
- Aid in cutting grass, planting flowers
- Supervise the cleaning of the Church's gravesite
- Suggest future beautification projects
- Assist in parking cars and other physical church projects