Ministry in the Church Acts 6:1-7 January 3, 2021

God has given gifts to his people. He expects us to use them.

We should use our gifts in the church to the glory of God.

Romans 12:6; 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

A hammer can be a door stop, but should it?

There is a good, better, and best scenario in the church.

Ministry is Messy v1

A Living room should look lived in, not like a museum.

The church will always have problems and issues in this sinful world.

An "us and them" mentality within the church.

"Their widows." No, they are our widows.

Bringing Issues to Leadership v 2a

When you have an issue,

- 1) Get the facts, go to the source. Seek to solve the issue.
- 2) If that does not resolve the it, then, bring it to the leadership.

What are we supposed to do?

What is the primary calling of a hammer? Preacher?

The Apostles <u>could do it</u>, **but** <u>they should be doing</u> something else.

The Solution v2b-4

We must devote ourselves to the ministry of the Word and to prayer.

Word and Deed ministry must be combined.

Look out for godly men. Seek them out. Nominate them for office.

Notice, the delegation of responsibility, the limited sphere of authority, and they are not micromanaged. (Numbers 27:18-19)

Qualifications of the men (servants, deacons)

Men of good reputation

Full of the Holy Spirit

Full of wisdom

Men in charge

What is the Difference between elders and deacons?

The Follow Through

Proposals need to be lived out.

What we know of these men.

The Fruit of Ministry v 7

Word of God continued.

Many priests came to the obedience of the faith. (Deuteronomy 14:28-29).

Ministry is a mess

I want the church to run on all cylinders.

Application

Be a servant in the church

Be part of the solution, not part of the problem.