

Christian Doctrine The Church (Part 7) Finding Your Role

Being Active and Getting Involved

A healthy church is an active church. In this lesson, let us look at ways we can get involved and accomplish the purpose God has for us in the church.

- **Participation:** In order to be involved, you must first be present. Worship services, Sunday School classes, Bible Study groups, and activities all give opportunities for getting plugged-in to a church. When a believer is not actively involved, the local church is not complete and the believer's spiritual development is greatly hindered (Heb. 10:25; Ps. 122:1).
- **Service:** Involvement includes using your spiritual gifts. Spiritual gift are abilities or skills that the Holy Spirit gives to believers which are used to minister to and build up the body of Christ. Note the following:
 - Every believer has a spiritual gift(s) (I Cor. 12:7).
 - The Holy Spirit decides who gets which gifts (I Cor. 12:11).
 - All gifts are important and necessary for the health of the church (Rom. 12:4-5; I Cor. 12:14-25).
 - Gifts are given for the purpose of benefiting the whole church (I Cor. 12:7; 14:12).

Gifts include teaching, leadership, encouraging, giving, mercy, etc. (Rom. 12:6-8; I Cor. 12:8-10, 28; Eph. 4:11). We have each been given a spiritual gift that we need to put into use. If you do not know where to serve, simply consider what interests you have (this is often a good indicator of what spiritual gift you have!) and look for ways to get involved. It is also helpful to talk to other church members and church leaders on how you could put your gifts into practice. (Ps. 100:2; Gal 5:13; Phil. 1:27)

A church will only be active to the level of which its members are willing to be involved. Prayerfully consider what needs are around you and then faithfully and wholeheartedly serve as unto the Lord (Luke 16:10; Col. 3:23)!

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