**LET’S ASSESS IT!**

**OUR STRUCTURE**

Lesson 20 – A Model for Ministry

Premise: Ministry is a movement. To fulfill God’s plan and purpose for our lives and for the life of our church, we cannot become complacent or stagnant. We must get *On the Move*! To accomplish this, we must honestly examine who we are, where we are, and what we are as a ministry, and with boldness, begin making the necessary changes to fulfill God call (Ephesians 2:10).

**DISCUSSION**

**Assess, Evaluate, Examine**

Does anyone know the process which governs building a house?

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Which of these would you say is the most important step? Why?

Laying the Foundation – Luke 6:47-49

When we talk about how the church is structured, we are talking about how it is built. We cannot address anything within or surrounding the church until we first understand its foundation.

**DISCOVERY**

**Foundation – “Upon this Rock…”**

Matthew 16:18 (13-20)

The Person of the Messiah (16)

“…You are the Christ…”

Christ (Gk. *christos*) means “anointed”. This is the New Testament equivalent of the Old Testament word “*Messiah*” – which means “the anointed One”.

According to these verses, what was Jesus anointed to do?

What is the “rock” upon which Jesus would build His church?

It is the truth that Jesus is God’s anointed One – that He (Jesus) is the Christ.

This MUST be the foundational message of the church – that Jesus is the Christ! If it ceases to proclaim this message, then it ceases to be what God intended.

**1 Corinthians 3:11; Ephesians 2:19-20; 1 Peter 2:4-6**

The church is God’s **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**. It is from God’s heart for His people.

The Program of the Messiah

“…I will build My church…”

The church is not a building; rather, it is a body.

The word church comes from the Greek word “*ekklesia*” (eh KLEE see uh), which means.

**“*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_***”.

**1 Peter 2:9-10**

The *building* began on the Day of Pentecost (see Acts 2) and continues to this day.

The Apostle Paul uses a great illustration in 1 Corinthians 12:12-31 regarding the church being the “body of Christ”.

The parts of the body should not function independently from one another. Rather, each part should be dependent upon all the others, even while doing its part.

**1 Corinthians 12:27; Ephesians 4:16**

So how does this become a model for ministry?

\*What components are necessary to make a church?

**Organization**

I believe that we can use the pattern demonstrated in Exodus 18 when Jethro confronts Moses about his service to the children of Israel.

Jethro advises Moses that leadership works best when it is **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

Who is your Jethro?

He further instructs Moses to create levels of leadership with lines of accountability, and layers of responsibility. (v. 18-23)

Leaders must be ***qualified***, then ***identified***. (19-21)

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Acts 6:3; 1 Timothy 3:1-12; Titus 1:6-9

These identified leaders were delegated responsibility for what they could handle – not more, not less – thousands, hundreds, fifties, tens. (21)

They would respect boundaries and know their limits! When their matters were too great for them to judge, they then took the matter to Moses. (22)

\*Do you believe that this principle (1000, 100, 50, 10) is relevant to churches today?

Is there New Testament support for this idea?

**DIRECTION**

Assess – Evaluate - Examine

Read 1 Corinthians 12

Does the New Testament support multi-level, multi-layered leadership in the church?