

SESSION 4
SERVING THROUGH THE RESEDA CHURCH

EXAMINING MY EXPERIENCES

"And we know that in ALL things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Rom. 8:278

"Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel" Phil. 1:12

One of the most overlooked factors in determining the ministry God has for me is my past experience, particularly my hurts and problems I've overcome with God's help. Since our greatest life messages come out of our weaknesses, not our strengths, we should pay close attention to what we've learned in the "school of hard knocks".

GOD NEVER WASTES A HURT!

HE WANTS YOU TO BE OPEN TO MINISTERING TO PEOPLE WHO ARE GOING THROUGH WHAT YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN THROUGH!

"(God)... Wonderfully comforts and strengthens us in our hardships and trials. And why does he do this? So when others are troubled, needing our sympathy and encouragement, we can pass on to them the same help and comfort God has given us!" 2 Cor. 1:3-4 (LB)

ON YOUR MINISTRY PROFILE RECORD THESE EXPERIENCES:

- * Your spiritual Experiences
Meaningful decisions/times with God

- * Your Painful Experiences
Problems, hurts, trials-that have taught you

- * Your Educational Experiences
What were your favorite subjects in school

- * Your Ministry Experiences
How have you served in the past

RECORD THESE ON YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE

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THE RESEDA MINISTRY STATEMENT
(Our Philosophy of Ministry)

WE BELIEVE...

ABOUT MINISTRY

* Salvation in Jesus Christ automatically includes a call to ministry. Every believer is created, saved, called, gifted, authorized, and commanded to minister.

* _____ is the heart of the Christian life (Matt. 20:28)

* _____ follows form in ministry. How God made me determines what He intends for me to do. God has uniquely shaped each individual for a specific ministry.

* God has given all His children gifts that can be developed and used in ministry. Everyone is a "10" in some area. Everyone has something to offer. Developing and using your gifts is an act of good _____ and of _____ .

* You discover your gifts through ministry, instead of discovering your ministry by identifying your gifts.

* The evidence of the right match between my "*shape*" and my ministry is _____ and _____ .

* Membership and maturity are prerequisites to ministry. Therefore we require class attendance and commitment to these two areas before serving through the Reseda church.

ABOUT THE BODY OF CHRIST

* God intends for ministry to be performed through the context of the local church. Membership includes a commitment to ministry.

* The Holy Spirit has provided our church body with all the spiritually gifted people needed to do everything He wants done. Our task is to discover, enlist, train, and support these people in ministry.

* The church is to operate on the basis of spiritual gifts, rather than elected offices. We do not _____ people to ministries. "*A man's gift makes room for him.*" Prov. 18:16 (NAS)

* The church is a _____, not a business, an _____, not an organization. Therefore we streamline the structure in order to maximize ministry and minimize maintenance. We don't bury ministries under a bunch of procedures.

* The mobilization of every member as a minister is the key to balanced growth of the church.

* The greater good of the whole body must always take priority over the needs of any single ministry. There is no place for _____ in God's family.

ABOUT THE ROLE OF THE PREACHERS AND ELDERS

* The equipping of the members for ministry is the number one priority of the Administrative staff. The people are the ministers and the church leaders are the administrators. (Ephesians 4:11-12)

* The objective of the Ministry Department is to _____ an army of ministers who are maximizing their unique gifts, heart, abilities, personality and experiences (SHAPE) in a meaningful place of service through our church.

* Every member deserves personal assistance in discovering a meaningful place of service. We value the individual more than the ministry.

* Those involved in ministry are entitled to competent leadership from the staff. Therefore, every ministry is assigned a Departmental Coordinator who is committed to the success of that ministry.

* Each Departmental Coordinator is to provide training, encouragement, guidance, feedback and resources to the ministers under his or her care.

ABOUT ACCOUNTABILITY

* We become what we are committed to. Therefore we encourage growth in commitment to Christ and His Church.

* Everything rises or falls on _____. No ministry can exceed the commitment of those leading it. The Commitment of leaders is a critical concern

* One mark of maturing church is that the standards for leadership are raised every year.

* There must be periodic reviews of all ministries. We do what is inspected, not just what is expected. Best intentions are not enough.

ABOUT TRAINING

- * Every leader is a _____. The moment you stop learning, you stop leading.
- * We emphasize on the job training more than pre-service training. We learn best by doing. We delegate to develop people.

ON DIVERSITY OF MINISTRY

- * We have unity without uniformity. We believe diversity in ministries simply illustrates the unique giftedness of individuals.
- * Any member who has completed Class 301 may start a new ministry with the assistance of the Ministry Department Coordinator.
- * Every ministry must fill one or more of the basic purposes of the church or we don't do it.
- * Ministries have _____. If a ministry isn't meeting a need anymore, we will give it a decent burial. There are no sacred cows!
- * Most ministries require one year commitment but we allow people to change ministries gracefully, without guilt. We don't lock people in permanently.
- * Only official ministries of the Reseda church, under Department supervision are given publicity space in the bulletin.
- * Your *primary* ministry commitment should be in the area where you're _____. Your *secondary* ministry includes serving in any other area of the body where you are _____.
- * You are not ready for ministry until you are willing to serve *anywhere*.

ABOUT PERFORMANCE

- * We expect excellence in ministry, not _____. Excellence is doing your best. God deserves our best.
- * We encourage creativity and innovation in ministry, which assumes mistakes will be made. "No mistakes" means you're not growing or trying anything new. We have no "failures" in ministry at the Reseda church, only "experiments that didn't work!"

* A failed project does not mean a failed person. There are no "wrong" people, only "right" people in the wrong ministry.

Previewing The Opportunities

RESEDA'S MINISTRY IDEAS AND/OR OPPORTUNITIES

PURPLE ZONE: GOVERNANCE TEAMS

- **MONEY COUNTERS:** This team takes care of counting, sorting, and recording all of the offerings from the weekend. They work together in the church office on Sunday mornings.
- **OFFICE HELPS:** This team insures that all the programs inserts are included. They work in the church office on Thursdays, Fridays, and Sunday mornings.

RED ZONE MINISTRIES: THE CELEBRATION

- **AUDIO TECHNICIANS:** A team who set up and monitors the sound for the worship assembly and special activities.
- **CHILDREN'S BIBLE HOUR:** A weekly time for elementary children to participate in children's worship, games, scripture memory, crafts, and break out sessions of age-appropriate bible classes.
- **BROADCAST TECHNICIANS:** A team who set up and control worship computer graphics for the assembly, online streaming, and video productions for small groups and satellite ministries
- **CHERUBS:** A musical group consisting of older preschoolers that practices during the week to sing on for the church and community events.
- **KIDS CHOIR:** A musical group consisting of elementary children that practices during the week to sing for the church and community events.
- **KIDS ENSEMBLE:** Children ages 7-12 years old who sing before various worship services, and community activities.
- **MINISTER'S RESEARCH:** This team of researchers is given specific target area of Biblical, demographic, and community study to compile for use in Sunday and mid-week messages.
- **PRAISE SINGERS:** This organization has opportunity for singers to use

their talent in worship services, salt and community activities.

- **THE FURNACE:** A team that prays for and follows up on every specific prayer request that comes through the registration cards. They coordinate all church prayer chains and prayer events.
- **VOCAL WORSHIP ENSEMBLE:** A vocal group that participates in the worship services as well as civic programs. The Reseda Praise Team singers are selected from this group to lead Worship Services.
- **SUNDAY INFORMATION GUIDES:** This ministry helps people who visit the church by assisting people to specific tables on the patio between the services on Sundays.
- **WORSHIP GREETER:** A welcoming team that warmly greets everyone who is on their way to the worship service with a handshake and a smile. These people give first impressions of friendliness, acceptance, and love to members, attendees, and visitors alike.
- **WORSHIP HOSTS:** Welcoming teams to help visiting families find the correct Sunday school rooms by personally walking with them to each classroom. They introduce teachers to the parents, then lead them to the sanctuary and wish them a good service.
- **WORSHIP USHER:** A welcoming team that assists people into the worship service by handing out programs, contribution envelopes, communion cups, overseeing the service in general, and assisting people where needed.
- **TAPE/VIDEO:** This ministry provides either those who miss a weekend, or someone who lives out of the area a chance to get the service by coordinating and producing all the audio visual tapes.
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL - PRESCHOOL:** Classes that provide Christian principles for children from newborns to kindergartners.
- **SUNDAY SCHOOL - ELEMENTARY:** Bible learning classes of 1st-6th grades that include games, discussions of Bible stories and characters with applications to practical living.
- **TRAFFIC CONTROL:** This ministry helps people to have a positive experience at church by helping cars flow smoothly into and out of the parking lot on Sundays between services.

ORANGE ZONE: DEVELOPING MINISTRIES

- **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY:** An international organization to eliminate inadequate housing by working with God's people to build modest, adequate homes. Work project sites include Rancho Santa Margarita, Santa Ana, and Mexico.
- **LIVING ALTERNATIVES:** This ministry is a crisis pregnancy center that seeks to provide an alternative to mothers who do not want abortion by meeting various needs like temporary housing, medical care, or helping with adoption procedures.

YELLOW ZONE: BRIDGING MINISTRIES

- **FRESHSTART DIVORCE RECOVERY:** This is a work shop style event that seeks to meet the specific needs of the divorced. A Freshstart Divorce Recovery ministry team schedules and facilitates all aspects of the seminar, and follows up with phone calls and encourager cards.
- **GOOD FOOD GOOD COMPANY:** A ministry to bring married couples in the church family together through a dinner setting once a month for five months. The dinners take place in homes, restaurants, beaches, ... anywhere.
- **HARVEST PARTY:** An outreach event that is provided as an alternative to traditional Halloween. This team of people helps with the organization and administration of the carnival style event.
- **QUAD PARTY:** A monthly Sunday morning event to attract and provide information to new students. This ministry team plans, coordinates, and runs the event.
- **YOUTH LEADERS:** This is a team of people with talent for running creative recreation for students in a camp setting.
- **STUDENTS:** A team of people that helps with regular activities for Jr. High and Sr. High students. This team helps with food, coordinating socials, welcoming, leading or assisting small groups of 10-15 students.
- **SINGLE'S ENCOURAGERS:** This ministry adds a personal touch of encouragement to those involved in singles ministries and events by sending birthday cards, encouraging and special occasion notes. It also assimilates new members with calls, and "encourager dinners."
- **SINGLE'S OUTREACH:** The ministry team that targets unsaved singles with the purpose of sharing Jesus with them. They also do follow-up work

with new Christians in the group.

- **SINGLE'S PUBLICITY:** This is a team with skills in graphic writing and communication, that develop flyers, promotional materials, and does publicity to educate on activities and Bible studies.

GREEN ZONE: LIFE GROUP MINISTRIES

- **TEEN COUNSELORS:** A team that ministers to a group of seven gender specific teens by encouraging teens to grow spiritually, and with evangelism.
- **REACH MISSIONS:** Short-term mission teams that participate in projects that are designed to introduce various aspects of foreign missions and missionaries to team members. These trips vary in length from 10 days to 3 weeks.
- **MISSION FRIENDS:** This is the preschool mission's education program during the mid-week service.
- **PARENTS OF TEENS:** This ministry is for couples with teenagers that meet as small groups in homes for time of study, sharing and support.

BLUE ZONE: SPECIAL CARE MINISTRIES

- **ADOPT-A-GRANDPARENT:** This ministry focuses on the seniors of the community to lead, encourage, and aid them in seeing Jesus as a source of hope by visiting, holding worship services, and showing special care during holidays.
- **CARE CALLERS:** Wednesday evenings at the church office to call regular attendees and ask if they have any comments, prayer requests, or family needs to share with the elders or other staff. They record the comments, etc., and leave them for the elders or other staff for review or follow-up.
- **CARING HEART:** The ministry team of women who come to the aid of other women in crisis or "life-change" challenging times through one-on-one encouragement.
- **RESPONSE TEAM:** This team directs the homeless to protective shelters, those in need of food to meal providers and the jobless to resources of employment.

- **CRADLE ROLL:** A ministry to new and expectant mothers that visit and help lead special events.
- **EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNICATION:** This team is charged with analyzing and improving all written and visual communication that go out from RBCoC. They are experts in various areas of communications.
- **LADIES OF GRACE:** A team of senior women who get together for Sunday brunches, make hospital visits to church family members, volunteer in church office, and prepare dinners for member care needs.
- **OVERCOMERS:** These are "care groups" for individuals who are dealing with alcoholic or chemical abuse.
- **PRISONS:** A ministry team that visits local prisons, encouraging and witnessing to prisoners. Sports teams play prison teams and have opportunities to share together.
- **FITNESS SUPPORT:** This ministry helps people keep physically fit for life by offering a wide variety of team and individual sports activities. These activities are intended to serve as introduction points for our people to the community.
- **TEEN MOMS:** This is a ministry to new or expectant teenage mothers. Adult women lead this ministry of small groups, and lend practical help and support.
- **VICTORS:** These are "care groups" for women that deal with victimization and sexual abuse designed around two successive 12 week programs.

DEVELOPING A HEART TO SERVE

MY MINISTRY COVENANT

Having committed myself to membership and the habits essential for spiritual maturity, and agreeing with the Reseda church Ministry Statement, I commit to...

- * Discover my unique *shape* for ministry and serve in the area that best expresses what God made me to be.
- * Prepare for ministry by participating in S.A.L.T. and C.L.A.S.S.
- * Demonstrate a servant's heart by serving in secondary ministries as the Body needs me.
- * Cooperate with other ministries and place the greater good of the whole

Body over the needs of my ministry.

signed

date

This certifies that _____ is a commissioned minister of Jesus Christ through the Reseda Boulevard Church of Christ and is entrusted with the related responsibilities and privileges.

Dr. Dewayne Winrow, Senior Minister

WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE?

1. COMMIT TO THE MINISTRY COVENANT.

Turn in your signed covenant to a staff ministry guide. Dr. Winrow will sign it and the staff will have it laminated for you.

2. COMPLETE YOUR S.H.A.P.E. SELF-EVALUATION.

Then transfer your results to your Ministry Profile form.

3. SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT IMMEDIATELY FOR YOUR INTERVIEW WITH A PERSONAL STAFF MINISTRY GUIDE. THE GUIDES ARE AVAILABLE TO SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT AT THE CLOSE OF THIS SESSION. Together you will select two or three ministry opportunities that best match your unique *S.H.A.P.E.* using the **Reseda Church Ministry Discovery Guidebook**.

4. CONTACT THE STAFF SUPERVISORS OVER THE MINISTRIES YOU'VE SELECTED FOR POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT. It is your responsibility to contact them. They will be waiting to hear from you. Do this **within two weeks** after your meeting with your Ministry Guide while your ideas are still fresh in your mind.

5. BEGIN SERVING!

6. START ATTENDING THE MONTHLY S.A.L.T MEETING

Advanced Leadership Training meets at the church building the first Wednesday evening of every month from 7-8 PM. Dr. Winrow speaks to the entire Ministry community on various leadership qualities. Once you are involved in ministry you are eligible to attend S.A.L.T. meetings.

7. ENHANCE YOUR MATURITY AND MINISTRY THROUGH OTHER C.L.A.S.S. COURSES. You only have one more basic class to complete,

"Discovering My Mission #401" and you will be a Grand Slam Disciple! You will be presented with a certificate and lapel pin for completing the 16 hours of basic training. Now begin to take elective course of your choosing!

RESEDA'S PROGRAM TO HELP YOU GROW
Christian Life And Service Seminars

Go On To Home Base!