

The Ministry of Helps

An Overview and Training Manual For the Body of Christ

House of the Lord Fellowship Church
Austin, Texas

This Handbook is one of the primary tools utilized by House of the Lord Fellowship Church located in Austin, Texas to train individuals called to the Ministry of Helps. This handbook was compiled by the Pastoral Team of House of the Lord Fellowship for the expressed desire to assist other Churches establish a strong Ministry of Helps department. To further strengthen the local pastors work with able ministers and to set the five-fold ministry free to accomplish the work set before it.

Pastors Jim Lillard, Eillery Jones and Roger Pilmore

WORK IS LOVE MADE VISIBLE

Table of Contents

ITEM/CHAPTER	PAGE
PUBLICATION INFORMATION	4
I. PREFACE	5
INTRODUCTION	7
A SAD STORY	8
II. WHAT IS THE MINISTRY OF HELPS?	9
III. HOW DOES ONE GET STARTED?	12
IV. CALLED ALONG SIDE THE 5-FOLD MINISTRY	14
V. ALONE IS NOT GOD'S PLAN	18
VI. MAKING TIME FOR A FOUNDATION	20
VII. HOOKING UP (God's plan, not your will)	22
VIII. UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF SERVING	25
IX. CHARCTER AND LIFESTYLE	27
X. FINDING YOUR PLACE IN THE BODY	31
XI. PREPARATION FOR A SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY	35
XII. A SURE WAY TO FAIL IN THE MINISTRY	
37	
XIII. FINAL THOUGHTS	40

This Document is a publication of

House of the Lord Fellowship Church

Jim Lillard, Senior Pastor
P. O. Box 140345
Austin, Texas 78714-0345

We grant you license to copy or utilize the information contained in this publication for use in your own Church or Christian organization. We do not grant permission to utilize this publication or any part thereof for the purpose of sale or financial gain. This information was freely received, and therefore freely given to the Body of Christ for the purpose of training and maturing the Saints of God.

House of the Lord Fellowship Church is an example of the New Testament Church assigned to Austin Texas. We believe that Austin, Texas is the Revival Center of the Nation, and House of the Lord Fellowship is a catalyst for Austin's revival, and for the revival of our Nation.

SECTION I



PREFACE, INTRODUCTION AND A SAD STORY

Preface:

We founded House of the Lord Fellowship Church in 1979. Part of the vision given by the Lord at that time included a strong “helps” ministry in the Church.

Many ministers today are burdened with the day to day tasks required to keep the ministry functioning. Ministers are familiar with all the responsibilities and have become proficient at being all things to all people, while covering every thing possible that can go wrong or needs attention during a service. Interestingly enough, that is not the mandate of their ministry. The call of the ministry is to prayer and preaching of the word. God has made provision for the many tasks that are required to keep the Church running efficiently and it is called the Ministry of Helps.

We have been faithful to disciple members of House of the Lord Fellowship and teach them the values of serving God through the Ministry of Helps.

The Ministry of Helps at House of the Lord began as a vision, was planted into the Church as a seed and through the watering of the word through the years has brought forth fruit in its season. Today, our “helps ministry” is recognized as an example of excellence in the ministry.

What God has taught us at House of the Lord Fellowship is knowledge that is easily transferred to other Churches and ministries. It is not necessary for other ministries to spend years gleaning this knowledge from the Word. It is quite possible for them to reap in fields they haven’t planted. It is our goal to the best of our ability to share with the Body of Christ knowledge that will enable their “Helps” ministry to be the best it can be.

The primary purpose of this book is to provide to the members of House of the Lord Fellowship and other ministries a resource to become excellent ministers and servants to the Body of Christ today. Then allow them to release their ministers to do the work God has called them to and to make provision for every Christian to find their place in the Body today, that we might fulfill Ephesians 4: 12 (Amp.) “His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people). [that they should do] the work of the

ministering toward building up Christ's body (the Church)," that we call all be fitly joined together. Knitted together as a body of believers, each functioning in their proper role.

Finally, it is our desire to demonstrate that God provides harmony and order. Submission to spiritual authority is the basis for all Christian service at House of the Lord Fellowship Church. One could say, you can't argue with success. God has richly blessed House of the Lord Fellowship with committed and submitted men and women who excel in their service. It is our privilege to pastor them.

Pastors Jim and Lou Lillard
House of the Lord Fellowship Church - November 1999

Introduction:

It states in Matthew 20:28;

"...the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many".

This was the attitude of Jesus, the Head of the Church, towards His ministry and His calling. We would do well to imitate His example of service if we were to attain to the goal of our high calling in the ministry of helps. The word of God instructs us we are to help others, to seek, to save, to heal, to mend, to bridge, to teach and to correct.

A primary understanding to all ministries is the acceptance that any ministry God calls us to is never "OUR MINISTRY," but always remains God's. With this attitude our will is totally submitted to the Holy Spirit and the "I" of self will not exalt itself. Spiritual authority and submission to that authority is essential to our success as ministers. There are five basic levels of spiritual authority in the local church. They are:

Your first level of submission is to Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church.
(Which includes the Godhead)

Your second level of submission is to your Pastor; the Shepherd God has given for your growth and development as a Disciple.

Your third level of submission is to the department head your Pastor has set in place to give order to the Church. The Pastor has given "delegated authority" or the extension of his ministry to the department leadership. That authority is respected in the same manner as the Pastors.

Your fourth level of submission is to those in the Body of Christ who you have been called to serve and love.

And finally you submit to yourselves for the word says, "to him who knoweth to do right and does it not, to him, it is sin".

Someone once said in Jesus we win! In self we offend! As members of the local church, the Body of Christ, when we submit ourselves to one another, we are also submitting ourselves to God. It is then His place and pleasure to exalt us. It is a greater joy when God exalts us then when we exalt ourselves.

A Sad Story:

Once upon a time, there was a church staff looking for volunteers to teach preschoolers, children and youth. Some adults said, "I don't want to leave the sweet fellowship and study in my adult class." But the drug pusher on the street said, "Not even the threat of jail will keep me from working with your children."

Some adults said, "I could never give the time required to plan and to go to teachers' meetings." But the pusher, the porno dealer, and the movie producer said, "We will stay open whatever hours are necessary each and everyday to win the minds of your children."

Some adults said, "I'm unsuited, untrained, unable to work with pre-school children, or with the youth." But the movie producer said, "We'll study, survey and spend millions to produce whatever turns kids on."

So... the adults stayed in their classes and enjoyed the sweet fellowship and absorbed the good Bible Study. They could go out of town often on the weekends and were often unavailable to do what was good on Wednesday or Sundays.

When Sunday came, the children went to their classes, and no one was there except the weary ministry staff going from one room to another trying to assure them that someone would surely come to teach them some Sunday soon. But no one ever came. The young children soon quit coming, and were instead listening to those who had special interests in the things they did and instilled into their minds that which would bring them into bondage to the lifestyle they promoted.

Yes, it is a sad story. Churches are closing all over this nation because there is no second generation to continue the life in the Church. It is said of a teacher that they have the privilege of learning twice. Once in preparation and once in teaching. Teachers and others in the "helps" ministry always receive more than they give.

If you are reading this sad story and it touches something in your heart, perhaps you're the only one in your Church to understand this story could be the story of your church. Commit now that it will not happen.

SECTION II

WHAT IS THE MINISTRY OF HELPS?

WHAT IS THE MINISTRY OF HELPS:

The work of any ministry is accomplished, when an individual's integrity of heart, allows their center of vision and concern to be moved from themselves to others. When an individual's understanding of Team Ministry is complete, they will know that their position on the Team is secondary to the Team effort, which is primary.

The Ministry of Helps is supportive or instituted assistance to complete the mission or work of God assigned to another.

Acts 6: 2-7 is the narrative of the beginning of the ministry of helps in the New Testament Church. The ministry of waiting tables set the Apostles free to do the work of the Gospel and was the beginning of bringing order to the church. This is one of the foundational scriptures, which demonstrates "helps" ministry in the New Testament Church.

The Ministry of Helps:

- Brought order to confusion.
- Provided a controlled flow to meet needs.
- Liberated the Apostles to follow God, not people.
- Set an example for others to follow.
- Was instituted by the Holy Spirit.
- Provided a training ground for ministry.
- Supplied the needs to the Body.
- Demonstrated the love of God at work within the Body.
- Stopped the voices of dissent within the Christian community.
- Demonstrated God's love to the world.

I Corinthians 14:40 *"...Let all things be done properly and in an orderly manner."*

The Ministry of Helps sustains, provides and allows the ministry and vision God has given your Pastor to proceed in a proper and orderly manner.

Acts chapter six provides the following qualifications to serve in the Ministry of Helps:

Acts 6:3:

- A Minister of Helps must be of honest report or good reputation.
- A Minister of Helps must be full of the Holy Spirit.
- A Minister of Helps must be full of wisdom.
- A Minister of Helps must be one who accepts responsibility to seize a task and take charge.

Acts 6:5:

- A Minister of Helps must be full of faith. Stable over time.

Exodus 17: 8 - 13

Another foundational example of the Ministry of Helps is found the Old Testament. Joshua led a battle against Amalek. Moses covered the battle as God's anointed leader with his hands lifted to the Lord. As long as the Ministry of Helps provided by Aaron and Hur physically held up Moses' hands, the spiritual work of ministry went forth and the battle was successful, but if they had allowed Moses hands to fall to his side, the battle would have been lost.

The Helps Ministry of Aaron and Hur allowed the plan and purpose of God to be fulfilled through Moses and Joshua. One might ask which of the ministries was most important. Was it Moses who God had given the leadership over Israel? Was it Joshua who was charged to do battle and win? Was it Aaron and Hur, who provided support to Moses? This is one of the great examples found in the scriptures of team ministry. The truth is that everyone was dependent on each other's ministry for success. All would have failed had the other not performed the ministry God had given each of them

The Book of Esther:

In the book of Esther we learn that the destiny of Esther was to save the people of Israel. Her destiny was fulfilled through the Ministry of Helps provided by her cousin Mordecai. Often there is a cost associated with stepping into the Ministry of Helps. While not having to put our physical life on the line as Esther and Mordecai did, our spiritual lives are often tied to accepting the ministry God has placed before us. For some, our physical health is tied to our spiritual health. Are we willing and obedient?

Luke the Physician:

Because Luke was willing to leave his profession as a physician, and become a "helps" minister to Paul, we have the books the Gospel of Luke and Acts of the Apostles. Luke embraced his call to serve in the Ministry of Helps and his ministry is still helping us today.

Mark 6: 33 - 44

In this Gospel we see the Disciples of Jesus operating in the Ministry of Helps. The five thousand were fed as the disciples provided order, assistance, service and submission to help Jesus complete a miracle.

The mainstay of the Ministry of Helps is to serve someone or something so that Ministry may take place. The Ministry of Helps requires learning a new vocabulary that uses the words "we" or "he", not "me". Learning to think in the shared rather than the singular.

Acts 6: 7

"And the word of God kept spreading; and the number of the disciples continued to increase greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were becoming obedient to the faith."

When the ministry of Helps is absent, the ministers are forced to be involved in consuming work that should be done by others. In such a situation, the ministry of the Word suffers and the increase and growth of that church or ministry will be hindered.

When the minister is free from physical labor, they can devote themselves to the Word and prayer.

3 John 2

"Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers."

It is the will of God for you to prosper in everything you do, whether it be in prospering financially, prospering in your spiritual growth, prospering physically, or prospering in the ministry God is drawing you too. The Ministry of Helps supports the notion of helping God prosper others and in so doing prosper yourself. You are probably a net result of someone sowing his or her selves into your life. Someone has "helped" you. You now have the spiritual maturity to "help" others. If your are being called by God to this ministry, you are entering a "high calling". Welcome!

SECTION III

HOW DOES ONE GET STARTED IN THE MINISTRY OF HELPS?

HOW DOES ONE GET STARTED IN THE MINISTRY OF HELPS?

In the business community there is a saying, "find a void and fill it." It is that simple to get started. There are no shortages of opportunities to assist the Man of God, the Woman of God; the People of God, the Work of God or the fulfilling of the Vision delivered through the Minister of God. Very often, you will find yourself drawn to a need in the Body. Depending on your Church organization, you may find others are busy working in the area you are drawn to. You will have this compulsion to join them. At other times you may see a need no one is addressing. Never the less, you are drawn to "help" in this area. The greatest enemy of those who are drawn to "helps" is waiting for someone to tell you....help! If you are sensitive to the Holy Spirit, you will see "need" everywhere. The parking lot needs to have trash picked up, the church needs the lawn mowed or the bush trimmed or flowers planted. The hostesses need help serving lunches. The Pastors wife needs some one to baby-sit or help clean her house once a week. The Pastors grass needs to be cut, their car needs to be washed. The church office needs to be cleaned and trash emptied. Following are some things to consider about submission, service and helps ministry.

- A. **Attitude** - *Matthew 25:40* "***As you have done unto the least of these you've done it to Me.***" **Serving anyone in the Kingdom of God is serving God.** Helps ministers always think about ways to serve others!
- B. **Invest** - *Luke 16:10* "***If one is faithful in the little things they can be trusted with more.***" Faithfulness brings promotion in the ministry!
- C. **Work** - *Ecclesiastes 9:10* "***Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.***" Helps ministers find and fill a void submitting themselves to the task!
- D. **Duplicate** - *Philippians 4:9* "***What you've learned, received, heard and seen in me, practice these things.***" Helps ministers become disciples and then disciple others!
- E. **Will and Submission** - *Isaiah 1:19* "***If you are willing and obedient you will eat the good of the land.***" Helps ministers are first willing, then obedience follows!

F. **Reward - Hebrews 6:10** "**For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the labor of love which you have shown, toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.**" Helps ministers always have a payday. God rewards are so much greater than the worlds!

Everyone is not "called" to perform the same tasks. Once again, some greet well; some usher well; some clean the building, keep the grounds, beautify the facility, and assist in the office. Take a load off the minister by keeping his yard, cleaning his home, washing his car - any labor performed in love to assist, to relieve, to honor, to serve the Man or Woman of God, People of God or the vision delivered through the Minister of God. This is the Ministry of Helps.

Your attitude of being a servant, knowing that the service you render in the cause of ministry, is an investment that will produce a harvest of being served on the seeds of service you have sown. The Ministry of Helps is work done by you to alleviate the load on others, to bring order, to stop confusion, to promote the vision, and to fill a need. The easiest way to learn is find a servant and duplicate their labor of love. Develop an attitude of serving, helping and supporting others in the cause of ministry, and willingness to serve in submission to authority and the vision. There is a spiritual hook up when one is willing, obedient and submissive. Serve as unto the Lord.

Ephesians 6:7 "**with good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men.**" This allows us to serve and not be easily offended or provoked. When we perform this labor of love in the cause of the ministry we know the God who sees in private will reward us openly.

The Ministry of Helps described in **I Corinthians 12:28** is entered into when one realizes there is a ministry gifting of God to help others fulfill their ministry - to ease their load - to take busy work out of their way - to honor them by serving them. In so doing, the Minister of Helps becomes a joint partaker in the rewards of all the ministry they serve accomplishes.

SECTION IV

----- CALLED ALONG SIDE THE FIVE FOLD MINISTRY

CALLED ALONGSIDE THE FIVE FOLD MINISTRY:

THE FIVE FOLD MINISTRY

Ephesians 4:11-12

11 "And He gave some to be apostles, and to be prophets, and some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers;

12 for the maturing of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the building up of the body of the anointed one and His anointing."

THOSE CALLED ALONG SIDE

I Corinthians 12:28-31

28 "And God has set (appointed) some gifts in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, then miracles (works of power), then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues.

:29 All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? All are not teacher's, are they? All are not workers of miracles, are they?

:30 All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak gift tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they?

:31 But earnestly desire to receive and operate in the greater gifts. And I will show you a more excellent way of accomplishing this."

As we look at these passages we readily see the Five Fold Ministry. But *Corinthians* lists three ministries, which are also God given gifts to the Body of Christ. These three gifts are helps, administrations and various kinds of tongues.

It is important to note that in verse 29 and 30 we are told very clearly that all are not gifted of God to flow, move and operate as members of the Five Fold Ministry. However, this restriction is not placed on helps, administrations and various kinds of tongues.

While the Five-Fold Ministry is a gifting of God intended only for those, whom God Himself selects, chooses and endows. The gifting and Ministry of Helps, administrations and various kinds of tongues is not limited to a select few, but is available to all.

Every ministry gift is a gift of giving. Giving out what God places in you. The gift of healing is not for the possessor of the gift, but for those to whom he ministers. The gift of prophet or apostle is not for the possessor to receive those ministries, but to dispense or distribute as the Spirit of God directs. God gives gifts to the church. He stores those gifts in chosen reservoirs (divinely selected ones) so that the gifts may flow out of them to touch His people as He directs. The gift is not theirs, they are but an executor of God's will, distributing the gifts of God as the Spirit of God directs.

I. HELPS

Helps would be defined as the act of giving or supplying aid, assistance, remedy or relief as one who is actively involved in service of or supply of assistance to another. A person not possessing one of the Five Fold Ministry gifts who through their assistance, service, aid, remedy, relief or direct intervention, make it possible or easier for the one possessing the ministry gift to operate that gift.

God gifts the Minister of Helps with a special love *I Corinthians 13* and submissive spirit so that they may give themselves in service to a minister or ministry, performing whatever task possible to take the load off that minister or ministry. To free up the hands of the one they are helping; to lift up the weary hands of the one they are helping. To remove stumbling blocks, traps or pitfalls from the one they are helping; to cover with prayer and to provide a buffer or wall of covering for the one they are helping.

Helps fills voids, performs tasks, carries burdens, defends, assists, aids, remedies, repairs, covers, prepares and whatever else is necessary to provide ease for the gifts of God to flow unfettered in the Body of Christ, the local Church.

II. ADMINISTRATIONS

Administrations should first be looked at in its barest elements. **Ad** - meaning: to, toward or before; **minister** - meaning: a servant or agent entrusted to represent, give aid or service on behalf of the one said minister was appointed or empowered by; **ion** - an act or process. Quite literally it is one who goes to, toward or before ministry is to take place or the minister of the gift to arrive and engages in the acts or processes necessary to provide a proper arena for ministry to take place.

One gifted of God in the Ministry of Administration is one who can bring order out of chaos or confusion. Much of the time a minister gifted of God in the five-fold ministry is a visionary. They have the inspiration to do, the aspiration to achieve, but need a diligent worker to come alongside them and assist them in going from inspiration (vision) to application (function).

An example readily visible is that of God who speaks the vision and the Holy Spirit who comes alongside to perform the word spoken.

To administer is to be one who adds to the minister the practical step by step ability to do what needs to be done to accomplish the vision. The gift of administration puts legs to the vision and provides an arena of order for its implementation.

III. VARIOUS KINDS OF TONGUES

Various kinds of tongues have been a point of great misunderstanding, misuse and have caused fear in many church bodies. The diversity of tongues is a gift of God separate from the five-fold ministry of exclusivity and is available to all. Understanding this gift of God and its supportive role, the aid, comfort and direction it brings, the inspiration and power it ushers in, will provide great comfort to the ministry gifts and the church body in which it is released to operate.

A person operating in the five fold ministry daily faces a plethora of situations, conditions and opportunities; some of God, some of the devil, and some of human invention. The minister of God must flow in supernatural wisdom to know what to embrace and what to reject. What they should accept as truth and what to exorcise.

A person gifted of God with the diversity of or variety of tongues fulfills ***Romans 8:26***. They pray for the servant of God, for the church body, for the vision, for the ministry. They do not allow their personal will, plan, agenda or desire to enter in, but simply yield to the flow of the Holy Spirit to pray through them until the answer, understanding or way is birthed in the arena for which they have undertaken to pray.

The Holy Spirit will flow in and out of the gifted, yielded minister of diversity of tongues. The diversity or variety of each facet of the situation, vision or problem is addressed in their prayer language. Different aspects, arenas, or applications of the thing prayed for may require different languages to address that particular aspect as the Spirit leads.

At times the situation may become so weighty, that the person gifted of God with the ministry of various kinds of tongues will flow over into travail and in groaning which know no language brings birthing to the needed answer.

Romans 8:26

"And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groaning too deep for words."

These three ministry gifts, Helps, Administrations and Diversity of Tongues are given of God as gifts to the body and to the Five Fold Ministry to undergird, assist, aid, relieve, support and cover so that the work of the ministry may go forth unhindered.

SECTION V

ALONE IS NOT GOD'S PLAN

ALONE IS NOT GOD'S PLAN:

God's will for His people is that we are members of a worshiping community of believers. Our call, our infilling by the Holy Spirit, our ministry gifting, our relationship and promotion as a person is always in context of our relationship to others. We never stand-alone or are set apart from the community of faith. The Five-Fold Ministry does not set ministers apart to act by themselves apart from the community. They are not "Lone Rangers" who are accountable only to themselves. The popular hero the "Lone Ranger" had a Tonto engaged in the work of helps. Had it not been for the work of his "helps" companion performing a support role in this popular series, the Lone Ranger would have failed in his mission many times and met an early demise. While we look to fiction for entertainment, a truth is still evident. Our ability to fail increase the more we depend entirely upon ourselves.

Every minister whether called to the Five-Fold Ministry or to the ministry of helps will discover God will always send others who are also called to minister, serve and support him or her. For every God given vision, there are those called along side to help bring the vision to pass. For every ministry God sets in place, there those called to aid and bring order to that work. For every ministry of the Body of Christ, there are those called to give themselves in serving and directing that body.

The three "helps" gifts God brings to stand along side the ministry and assure that His vision shall surely come to pass are: The Ministry of Helps, the Ministry of Administrations, and the Ministry of Various Kinds of Tongues. The operator of these gifts must have a servant heart. A person walking and working in these three realms cannot have a covetous heart, a jealous heart, or an envious heart. If their heart is not pure to serve, they will drift into attempts to control, direct divert, or even replace the gift they have been sent to help and destroy the vision or ministry they were called of God to serve.

The seeds you sow in service to others will determine the crop you harvest or reap in life and in your ministry when you are promoted. Sow a good, honest and sincere seed of serving the minister or ministry of God you are called to, and you can expect a multiplied crop of the same kind coming to you.

Many ministers failed to serve another minister before entering into their own ministry and so they have no harvest of the helps ministry serving them. The Law of SeedTime and Harvest

applies because they planted no seeds of service to other ministries; they have no harvest themselves.

It is important to note here that the current notion of going to a seminary or bible school and then establish yourself in a ministry is flawed. It is true that preparation and study of the Word of God is primary and needful. What is also needful is submitting to the process of becoming first a disciple and submitting to those who can mentor and grow us up into spiritual maturity. Gaining a keen sense of spiritual authority; which provides a covering and a spiritual father who can speak into our life. Then investing a time of service in the "helps" ministry within our local church. There is no replacement for solid on the job training (OJT) before one is launched into their ministry. We see so many young Pastors and ministers struggling today because they have not received the fullness of the preparation needed for the five-fold ministry. We have ample examples in Elijah and Elisha, Jesus and the disciples, Paul and Timothy, etc. The community of Israel was obsessed with the notion of mentoring. Fathers taught their sons.

One must serve others well to be served. Once again, no servant of God is called to stand-alone. Others are commissioned of God to minister unto and on behalf of the servant of the Lord. There is great reward in serving the servant of the Lord.

SECTION VI

MAKING TIME

FOR A FOUNDATION

MAKING TIME FOR A FOUNDATION:

Luke 6:47-49

47: "Everyone who comes to Me, and hears My words, and acts upon them, I will show you whom he is like:

48 he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation upon the rock; and when a flood rose, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built.

49 But the one who has heard, and has not acted accordingly, is like a man who built a house upon the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great."

- FIRST

God begins your ministry with the seeds you plant in serving others. He does not begin when you are licensed, ordained, or when you step out into "your ministry." If you skip the service part, your ministry will have no Godly beginning (or foundation) for that ministry to build on. It will fall for lack of proper foundation. A person must serve others to be served. There are no short cuts.

- SECOND

One never truly graduates from the Ministry of Helps. Others are joined to you in a continual stream and they elevate you to new realms of ministry, and yet greater opportunities to serve. Be sure you are planting great service seeds so you can reap greater and yet greater crops of being served. As you begin to mentor and train others to work with you, God promotes you. Often we train, cover and mentor our replacements.

- THIRD

A person not willing to take responsibility and serve others cannot be trusted with the authority to minister to others. Make sure you have served someone else in ministry as an investment in your future ministry. Without an understanding of being under authority, God will not give you authority. Many make the mistake of assuming they have spiritual authority because they are operating in a five-fold ministry position. God alone can grant spiritual authority, only He can grant authority over His children.

- FOURTH

Do not become weary in well doing. A servant and an automobile have an element in common. An automobile will usually start to miss and skip before it finally quits and shuts down. If you start to skip and miss in your service to others you are in danger of failing and quitting. God loves faithfulness.

SECTION VII

HOOKING UP (God's plan, not your will)

GOD'S PLAN - NOT YOUR WILL:

When God places a vision in the heart of one He has called, anointed and appointed. One called into the Five-Fold Ministry. That individual will begin to articulate the vision. As the vision is repeated, many people become excited as they hear. A desire to be involved is born, but often the desire is not to serve the vision, but to serve themselves through the vision, to be in the public eye or to exalt themselves or advance their own ministry. They become convinced their role is to "minister" at the side of the minister of God, they see themselves teaching with him, joining him in laying hands on the masses. They see no reason why they cannot start at the top and are unwilling to serve in a supportive role. They want equal billing with the minister of God. They will often seize the opportunity to build their own ministry instead of the one they should be serving. They want promotion, but are unwilling to pay their dues and "wait" on God for the promotion. They have not truly caught God's vision or they would see where they are needed for the vision to be fulfilled. Most of the time they have only "identified" with the vision and desire to use it as a vehicle for self-promotion. A Godly desire to rule is willingness to be faithful in the little things first, then our walk and integrity is being proven.

Mathew 25:21

"His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful slave; you were faithful with a few things, I will put you in charge of many things, enter into the joy of your master.'"

Luke 19:17

"And he said to him, 'Well done, good slave, because you have been faithful in a very little thing, be in authority over ten cities.'"

Anyone who looks at the ministry as a way of getting their needs met; as a "Platform" for their gift; as a means of financial supply; as a job, a place of work, a tolerated necessity or something they "have" to do are people who have no concept of "helps." They have no cognitive perception of the term "dedication." They have not served in the ministry of helps

A person called and dedicated to a God ordained vision does not watch the clock. Often they have to be forced to leave the Church office and go home. They are fulfilled by doing their part (and then some) to see the vision come to pass. No price within their means or ability is too great to pay so that the vision or ministry may be accomplished. They understand that to help, support, cover and aid the man of God now in fulfilling his call is to assure the same for their ministry when God says it is time. They are not working for man, but for God, and they know it.

I Corinthians 1:10 tells us the importance of each person in a ministry has the same mind, judgements, agreement and division free adherence to one another.

I Corinthians 13:4-8

4 "Love is patient, love is kind, and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant,

5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered,

6 does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth;

7 bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8 Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away."

Our paramount motivation and practice is found in the simple purity of *Philippians 4:8,9*, our understanding that the ministry is not one, but many, each operating in its proper function.

- 14** *"For the body is not one member, but many.*
- 15** *If the foot should say, Because I am not a hand, I am not a part of the body, it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body.*
- 16** *And if the ear should say, Because I am not an eye, I am not a part of the body; it is not for this reason any the less a part of the body?*
- 17** *If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole were hearing, where would the sense of smell be?*
- 18** *But now God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as He desired.*
- 19** *And if they were all one member, where would the body be?*
- 20** *But now there are many members, but one body.*
- 21** *And the eye cannot say to the hand, I have no need of you; or again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.*
- 22** *On the contrary, it is much truer that the members of the body which seem to be weaker are necessary;*
- 23** *and those members of the body, which we deem less honorable, on these we bestow more abundant honor, and our unseemly members come to have more abundant seemliness,*
- 24** *Whereas our seemly members have no need of it. But God has so composed the body, giving more abundant honor to that member which lacked,*
- 25** *That there should be no division in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another.*
- 26** *And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it."*

SECTION VIII

UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF SERVING

UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF SERVING:

One minister illustrates the Ministry of Helps with the following acronym:

H - having
E - enough
L - loving
P - people
S - serving others

Having enough loving people serving others aptly expresses the intent of the word "helps". Ministry takes work when properly supplied. The more excellent the ministry, the more work required to maintain the excellence. A vision cannot be borne on the shoulders of just one. It carried by the hearts and hands of many.

For some it is hard to put their need to receive above the needs of others. The act of putting another's ministry above their desire to minister, and to release their desire for recognition and applause so another can be in the spotlight. Helps is always about denying and dying to self, to embrace and empower and promote another.

The prophet Elijah in *I Kings: 18* needed a ministry of helps to build the altar, to slay the sacrifice, to cut the wood, to draw and carry the barrels of water, to soak the entire altar, not to mention the ditch that was dug around the altar. All of this was the work of the "helps" ministry so the prophet could step into the spotlight to call down fire. The helps ministers may not have their name recorded in the Bible, but God has a record of his or her labors. They were recipients of the prophet's reward.

Elisha would never have received and walked in the power of the "double portion" had he not been submitted to serve another man's ministry year after year. For a decade or more Elisha was faithful in his lowly and seemingly unappreciated role of the Ministry of Helps. The reward of being faithful in little was a ministry of power never before seen.

Gehazi could have stayed the course, learned from his master and walked in a double portion of Elisha's anointing. Gehazi could not wait for God's timing and *II Kings 5* allows us see his

example when he sold his ministry for some new clothes and a little silver. Not only did his lack of integrity and unwillingness to wait for promotion cost him a chance at the double portion of Elisha's anointing, but *II Kings 8:9* informs us Gehazi could have had a share in and become heir to forty camel loads of wealth and abundance. Had Gehazi stayed with the vision, he could have had it all. We could have had another great prophet to remember. But he sold out for self-promotion. It cost him his health and his ministry as a future prophet of Israel. Remember, if you can make it work by your own ability, it is not supernatural and God is not in it.

The Ministry of Helps is about serving, helping, following and covering. It is work, but it provides great rewards. It is about serving and assisting so ministry can take place in someone else's life. It is about making an investment in the life and ministry of others.

You are whatever you are today because of the service and commitment of others through the ages. You are the recipient of their service and their commitment of service. Will you now become a benefactor for those who follow you? Will you make a place for others or simply enjoy the place others have made for you?

SECTION IX

CHARACTER AND LIFESTYLE

CHARACTER AND LIFESTYLE:

What is the character and lifestyle of a minister of God? How do we maintain our spiritual life and strength to do the work of the ministry? What attributes does one look for in themselves that provides assurance we are healthy spiritually and able to continue in the ministry?

We believe the following provide certain safeguards for every minister and ministries daily life. Individually and corporately we should:

BE A WORSHIPPER OF GOD

Psalms 147:1

"Praise ye the Lord: for it is good to sing praises unto our God for it is pleasant, and praise is comely (it is right!)."

BE QUICK TO FORGIVE

Hebrews 12:14-15

14 "Try to stay out of all quarrels and seek to live a clean and holy life, for one who is not holy will not see the Lord.

15 Look after each other so that not one of you will fail to find God's best blessings. Watch out that no bitterness takes root among you, for as it springs up it causes deep trouble, hurting many in their spiritual lives."

DON'T SKIP CHURCH

Hebrews 10:25

"Let us not neglect our church meetings, as some people do, but encourage and warn each other, especially now that the day of his coming back again is drawing near."

DON'T HAVE A CRITICAL SPIRIT

Romans 2:1-4

"You may be saying, what terrible people you have been talking about! But wait a minute! You are just as bad. When you say they are wicked and should be punished, you are talking about yourselves, for you do these very same things ... Do you think God will judge and condemn others for doing them and overlook you when you do them too! ... Can't you see that he has been waiting all this time without punishing you, to give you time to turn from your sin?"

LEARN TO BE A SOUL WINNER

Proverbs 11:30

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, and he who is wise wins souls."

DEVELOP REGULAR PRAYER AND STUDY HABITS

II Timothy 2:15

"Work hard so God can say to you, 'Well done.' Be a good workman, one who does not need to be ashamed when God examines your work. Know what his Word says and means."

8 Ways to establish daily Lordship in your life

Psalms 118:24 (KJV)

"This is the day, which the Lord hath made: We will rejoice and be glad in it."

- 1. Start each day with heart-felt prayer unto God asking for His anointing, wisdom and favor. (Isaiah 10:27, Psalm 51:6, Psalm 5:12)**
- 2. Release in your heart, by faith, that good things are coming your way each and every day. (Psalm 62:5)**
- 3. Declare your steps to be ordered by the Lord. (Psalm 37:23)**
- 4. Vow to walk in love, joy, unity, and peace with yourself and with others. (Romans 14:19)**
- 5. Build, review, and expand your personal rhema word lifestyle. (John 6:63)**

6. **Each day, activate and exercise your personal faith through the avenues of dreams, visions, plans, projects, confession and vows. (II Corinthians 4:13)**
7. **Witness to someone, sometime, in some way, each and every day. (Romans 1:16)**
8. **Declare your life to be a life of joy, happiness, goodness and thankfulness. (Psalm 144:15)**

CHOOSE YOUR FRIENDS CAREFULLY

II Corinthians 6:14

"Don't be teamed with those who do not love the Lord, for what do the people of God have in common with the people of sin? How can light live with darkness?"

ABSTAIN FROM ALL APPEARANCES OF EVIL

I Thessalonians 5:22-23

22"Keep away from every kind of evil.

23 May the God of peace himself make you entirely pure and devoted to God, and may your spirit and soul and body be kept strong and blameless until that day when our Lord Jesus Christ comes back again."

DON'T GOSSIP

Leviticus 19:16

"Don't gossip. Don't falsely accuse your neighbor of some crime for I am the Lord."

BE CAREFUL IN YOUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE OPPOSITE SEX

Ephesians 5:2-5

2 "Be full of love for others, following the example of Christ who loved you and gave himself to God as a sacrifice to take away your sins. And God was Pleased, for Christ's love for you was like sweet perfume to him.

3 Let there be no sex sin, impurity or greed among you. Let no one be able to accuse you of any such things.

4 Dirty stories, foul talk and coarse jokes -- these are not for you. Instead, remind each other of God's goodness and be thankful.

5 The kingdom of Christ and of God will never belong to anyone impure or greedy, for he loves and worships the good things of this life more than God."

Matthew 5:29-30

29 "So if your eye - even if it is your best eye! -- causes you to lust, gouge it out and throw it away. Better for part of you to be destroyed than for all of you to be cast into hell.

30 And if your hand -- even if it is your best hand! -- causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. Better that, than find yourself in hell!"

I John 3:8

"But if you keep on sinning, it shows that you belong to Satan, who since he first began to sin, has kept steadily at it. But the Son of God came to destroy these works of the devil."

SECTION X



FINDING YOUR PLACE IN THE BODY

FINDING YOUR PLACE IN THE BODY:

The most frequently asked question we receive from people who have a desire to serve is: "How do I find my place in the Body of Christ?"

We are referred to *Proverbs 18:16*: which reads, "***A man's gift maketh room for him, and bringeth him before great men.***" Every Christian is called to the "helps" ministry. It is our service to God. Accepting this fact allows your gift to make room for you. Your responsibility to put your hand and help in any capacity you can. Often we find individuals have natural talent that is useful in the Church, at other times, you may feel led to do something for which you feel unqualified to do. Listen to the drawing of the Holy Spirit and trust that inward witness. We find in Churches that do not have a strong ministry of helps glaring needs. When you see a need, fill it. If your in the wrong place, God will soon tell you. Always let God exalt you. You can readily see from a study of the Word that men of God who were exalted into prominent ministries did not start there. They began by doing what was at hand; then God exalted them.

The apostles did not begin as apostles. They began by submitting to the teachings of Jesus to become disciples first. They began by doing the menial tasks. Then, in the book of Acts, these men were exalted to the office of Apostle. As the Church grew, they had to raise up under them the same types of servants they were originally so they could give themselves to the Word of God and to prayer. God exalted them! One of the men they raised up was Phillip who later became an Evangelist.

The most important element to your success in any ministry is to know beyond a shadow of doubt that you are called of God. No matter what you are called to do -- whether it is to fill one of the five-fold ministries or to be a deacon, a hostess, or a maintenance man -- you must realize that you are called of God. So often, people think that to be called of God, they must be in full-time ministry or occupy an office of ministry such as prophet or evangelist. That is not true. Every Christian is called by God to support the work of the Gospel with your prayers, your tithes and offerings, your time, and your talents and your "helps". There may be an appearance of a hierarchy in the ministry, but in truth there is not. Your call is equal to every other individual in ministry, whether it is a five-fold ministry or a support ministry. In fact, if you let down on your responsibility, the work of God could suffer.

Having said that, one must also realize for the Body of Christ to function in harmony, there must be strata's or a hierarchy of spiritual authority. My ministry has the same importance and the one to whom I submit it to in the body of Christ, yet I submit my ministry to them. I do not usurp authority; I receive delegated authority to perform the ministry God has given me.

There is place in the Body of Christ for every one of us. If you do not fill your place, someone else must pick up your task and theirs or there will be a weakness in your church in that place. Usually we find that a minister who has been called to bring the word to you must put down some of their study and ministry time to fill your spot.

Often people think, "Unless I can be a teacher or a leader in the front of everyone, and get my program going, I am useless to God." That is not true. Those thoughts cause people to step back because there is no room in the front. You often have more value behind the ministry -- praying, confessing the Word, and loving those in the ministry. Most successful ministers know the greatest time of ministry, which brings the most success, is one on one ministry.

We have observed teenagers take hold of the "helps" ministry and begin to serve God with great success. Some of them surpass the adults in spiritual maturity as they do whatever is set before them. Let me give you an example:

In the reception area of one particular church, there was a planter containing plastic flowers -- the kind that look really fake. As people walked by, they would say, "Those plastic flowers look horrible! Why doesn't someone do something about it?"

The church staff wanted to replace them, but nobody seemed to have the time. Then one day a teenaged girl came in and said, "You know, I've been thinking of planting real plants in the church reception area. Would that be okay?" The adults didn't have the time, but a teenager did. She knew her calling!

The Apostle Paul knew his calling. In *Romans 1: 1 and I Corinthians 1: 1*, he states his calling: "**Paul, called to be an apostle...**" Paul had no doubt about his call. But Paul didn't begin in the office of apostle. It was seventeen years from the time he was called to be an apostle until the time he was thrust into that office. (*See Acts 9 and 13; Galatians 1 and 2.*) The rest of that time, Paul was just going about teaching and preaching, helping out wherever he could.

Though he was not walking in the office of apostle, he knew he was called. It took time to develop his apostolic ministry. Paul was first a disciple, then a teacher and a prophet; then after being found faithful, he was exalted to the office of apostle and sent out by the Holy Spirit under the anointing of the apostle. What Paul was called never hindered him in his act of serving. He served no matter his title.

We need to remember it takes time to get from "start" to "finish", but time is our friend. You don't enter kindergarten one week and find yourself in college the next week. There are certain types of schools where a student can progress at their own pace and move up as rapidly as they want. Self-motivation is a great companion to the ministry of helps. You can move as rapidly as you desire with God. It only requires study and meditation in God's Word, then corresponding action.

Here are some steps that will help you find your place in the Body of Christ:

Step 1: Realize you are called of God.

Whether you are a prayer intercessor, one who financially supports the ministry, one acting in a supportive role, or one called to stand along side, you are called! Remember that every Christian is called to serve.

Step 2: Make a quality decision to fulfill the position God has called you into.

Remember: Let God promote you; don't promote yourself. (***Psalm 75:6-7***)

Step 3: Whatever your hand finds to do, do it.

Ecclesiastes 9: 10

"Whatever your hand, finds to do, do it with all your might."

It is not enough just to be called. Once you are called, you have to get involved and start doing the ministry. Whatever your hand finds to do, do it. Become involved; then you will be chosen. I know of many people who were called but they were not faithful enough to be chosen. When this happens, people; always blame God yet it was their own decision which caused them to fail.

Step 4: Do not attempt to walk in another's calling.

If you try it to walk in another's calling, it will only lead to frustration. Attempting to walk in another individual's calling will take you out of the will of God. You become an open target for Satan, and he will end your ministry of service as quickly as he can! The Lord will attempt to warn you, but if you won't stop, you will be responsible for your own failure. Realize that your gift will make room for you. God has sufficient meaningful work for every one of us without duplicating or taking another's call.

You must allow God to use you as he chooses, within the confines of your own personality traits. It is God that calls you; you do not call yourself.

So remember these FOUR steps:

Step 1: Realize you are called of God.

Step 2: Make a quality decision to fulfill the position to which God has called you.

Step 3: Whatever your hand finds to do, do it.

Step 4: Do not attempt to walk in another man's calling.

If you will follow these steps and wait on God, He will exalt and promote you right on time!

SECTION XI

----- PREPARATION FOR A SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY

PREPARATION FOR A SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY:

MINISTRY STANDARDS:

1. The Ministry must always maintain a high standard of ethics and integrity.
2. Don't seek to pattern your Ministry to mimic others, seek only to be like Jesus - - - you are an extension of His Ministry.
3. Never doubt God's call on your Ministry, rather keep it ever present in your thinking.
4. The success of your Ministry is not dependent upon your ability and efforts, but upon your availability to God's divine plan and call on your life.
5. Never be afraid to use a new, God-given technique, for reaching those needing to receive through your Ministry Gift.
6. If you deeply believe that God has truly called you, then you will never have to take advantage of people. God will supply.
7. Overcoming tremendous obstacles only comes through being single-minded. Focus on the vision God has given you or the one you serve.
8. The things that you compromise to get, you will ultimately lose.
9. You must become engulfed with the fact that GOD CANNOT FAIL. Therefore you will not fail.
10. Excellence is to be expected in every area. Good enough is the doorway to failure.

COMMITMENT:

1. You must have a deep commitment to the supernatural power of God and His ability to meet all human needs.
2. You must become dependable, compassionate, and unlimited in your ambition to bring deliverance to humanity.
3. You must seek and study God's Word with the hunger of an animal in search for food.
4. To minister freedom and deliverance to humanity as Jesus did, you must become consumed with compassion.
5. You must become deeply committed to breaking the power of sin, disease, fear, lack and demonic activity, striving to become an instrument of action, power, and compassion to this end.
6. Fasting often is a MUST to become a powerful instrument of God.
7. You must have absolute dedication to the Ministry of deliverance for all human suffering.

PREPARATION FOR MINISTERING:

1. You must set quality time aside for prayer and meditation that is NOT to be interrupted.
2. Never lose sight of the fact that it is God who is the source, you are only the instrument He has chosen to use.
3. If you are going to be effective in your ministry to the people, then you must learn to spend very little time talking and visiting with others.

SECTION XII

A Sure Way to Fail In the Ministry of Helps

A SURE WAY TO FAIL IN THE MINISTRY OF HELPS:

There are many ways to fail in the ministry. There are many traps that ministers fall into which destroy their ministry or destroy the work of the ministry. One does not have to search long or hard to hear the stories of ministers whose lives have either brought disgrace or ruin to the Body of Christ, their families or to themselves. John 10: 10 reminds us that the thief comes but for to kill, steal and destroy. While the chief thief, Satan is still in the earth, he will continue to destroy any Christian who will let him.

It is an interesting phenomenon in the churches today to see so many people moving in and out of churches. They come, tell you how great your church is, are there for a while, and then get offended and leave. They don't like the pastor, or they don't like the message, or they don't like the length of the service, or they don't like Sunday school, or they don't like the color of the church building, or they don't like the location, on and on. Where is it written God has given us any choice about where we go to church. which Shepherd we sit under, or who we worship with? Ephesians says that God sets some in the Church. If he sets the five-fold ministry in the Church, He certainly will set the people who need to be ministered to by those set gifts in the church also.

The three main reasons we as Christians fail today are:

1. underdeveloped spirit
2. unrenewed mind
3. uncontrolled flesh

One could write volumes about the reasons for failure in the ministry, but for this manual, we will discuss just one. **The major reason "helps" ministers fail to fulfill their call in the local church is offense.**

In chapter 18 of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus deals with offenses. It says in verse 7:

Woe unto the world because of offenses! For it must needs be that offenses come; but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh!

One of the major reasons that offenses come is found in verse 1 of chapter 18.

At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of Heaven?

We become candidates for offense when we allow the question of greatness to enter our thinking. We must not begin to think of ourselves as more than a servant. Our servant's heart will always protect us from offenses. Offenses will surely come. We have been taught from the time we were children to stand up for ourselves; not to allow people to walk all over us; that we are someone important, too. How dare anyone say such a thing to us! What and how people talk to us controls our social life, our business life and now our church life. How we receive what they say determines if we become offended or not. At our work, we may have to take "things" from people and not like it. We get offended and talk to anyone who will listen about our offense. We have not been taught to be a servant. The notion of a servant's heart brings up thoughts of servitude. Our usual response is, "I'm no one's servant". We become obsessed with the notion of being the head and not the tail.

The reality of the "helps" ministry is that for you to be successful, spiritual authority must exist. Without spiritual authority, without order and harmony, your ministry becomes the kingdom of self and not the Kingdom of God.

Hebrews 13: 7 (KJV)

Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.

How difficult this passage is for the modern Christian who has been taught that from childhood they are not to give control of their life to anyone.

Every minister must at some time in their life make a decision to submit their self and their ministry to someone else. In the Ministry of Helps especially, where you have been called along side to help another with the vision God has given to them, your submission is essential. Your offense has the power to hinder and in some cases destroy the work of the ministry they have been called to. We have observed pastors leave their churches because offended people made the ministry hard and unfruitful.

Offenses come when our high held opinions, thoughts, ideas; and leanings are not received and acted upon. We perceive it as rejection and we react the way we have been taught. A servant's heart will not be offended. It will continue to serve where it is placed.

Members of our Church will not always speak to us in love; they may say something that we perceive as hurtful, demeaning, or even cruel. Again Matthew chapter 18 provides counsel and direction for us.

Matthew 18: 15 – 16 (KJV)

15 Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

16 But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

Our choice is two-fold. We can become offended, or we can obey the Word of God. We can all remember when we were so pre-occupied that we did not treat someone with the respect due them. Had they come to us, told us how badly it made them feel, we would have apologized immediately. It is always better **to gain thy brother** than to lose your servant's heart.

It seems every church has someone that will not receive us. Usually these are people who are so offended, they become offensive. Matthew 18: 17 instructs us further.

17 And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as a heathen man and a publican.

Offenses and offensive people have no place in the Body of Christ. We are to cast them out of the ministry (of helps) if they cannot be brought into the fellowship of love and walk with a servant's heart they must be dealt with according to the Word of God.

Jesus continues the same thought and does not change the subject in Matthew 18: 18, Speaking to the Church. (AMP)

Truly I tell you; whatever you forbid and declare to be improper and unlawful on earth must be what is already forbidden in heaven, and whatever you permit and declare proper on earth must be what is already permitted in heaven.

Offenses are forbidden and improper in heaven, no one is walking around heaven offended at God. Love is proper and is the environment of heaven. So it must be in the earth, in the Church. We have the Word of God, which teaches us how to deal with offense. We are commanded to walk in love (not offended).

Finally, becoming offended is like a cancer, which will eventually destroy the work of service God is calling you to. If left untreated, it will destroy your life as a Christian. It may even lead to your leaving the Church and going back to the former way of life before you gave your life to Jesus. Many have. It is serious and must be dealt with the instant offense comes. You cannot give it life by adding any thought to it. Jesus had many opportunities to get offended. So will you. We must learn to deal with offenses when they come.

FINAL THOUGHTS

FINAL THOUGHTS:

Many people through the years of ministry at House of the Lord Fellowship have contributed to this book. Many in the manner by which they have lived their lives of service, teaching us by their example. Some through their failure to remain faithful to the call God had placed on their life as “helps” ministers. Our consistent application of the Word of God and allowing God to direct and grow our Ministry of Helps, to mature them has given many great examples of truth we feel qualified to share.

Obviously, God is continuing to reveal truth and revelation regarding the Ministry of Helps and this book is not intended to be a final authority on this ministry gift. Our purpose is to help other ministries and ministers get started and help those who are now struggling with some practical help.

It is certain the work of the ministry of House of the Lord Fellowship Church could not be accomplished without our strong “helps” ministers. This book is dedicated to those in the Ministry of Helps at House of the Lord Fellowship Church whose labor of love makes it possible.