

Tenth Grade – Roles in The Church

The heart behind this week of curriculum is to begin to form in our students a biblical theology of church that goes deeper than just their experience of their own local church. We will be looking at the roles outlined in the New Testament for the church. We want students to understand this not just as outsiders, but as young men and women exploring what their role in the church will be! This is also a time to begin to help understand the difference in the work of a vocational minister and the work of ministry that we are ALL called to.

Introducing the Topic

Spend some time before you open the Bible asking students to share what they already think about this topic!

- You've been a part of a church before, how did you see that church run? Who was in charge? What were the different roles people played in the church?
- In your understanding, what is the difference in someone that is in vocational ministry/"called to ministry" and the call of all Christians?

Scripture Study

As you transition to the Scripture Study portion of this session, remind students that Scripture is where we turn for truth. We want to continually reiterate that we study Scripture not just for the "Christian take" on a matter, but God's revealed word, given to us out of love for our good

- Let's begin by looking at the two clear roles described in the Bible for church leaders. Set the context that this was basic structure set out for the early church which met in much smaller groups in much different settings than we do today. OK, now let's look at what Scripture says.
- Read 1 Timothy 5:17, 1 Peter 5:1-4, and 1 Timothy 3:1-7 together.
 - o What role do you see defined in these passages?
 - o What makes someone a good fit for this role?
 - o What are the responsibilities of someone in that role?
 - o What modern day jobs at a church seem to fill this role (even though they may be called something different?)
- Read 1 Timothy 3:8-13 together.
 - o What role do you see defined in these passages?
 - o What makes someone a good fit for this role?
 - o What are the responsibilities of someone in that role?
 - o What modern day jobs at a church seem to fill this role (even though they may be called something different?)

Practical Application

Say to your group: the church needs people to lead it and serve it so that the church is equipped to accomplish the great commission. Every believer is charged with the great commission, but someone "called" to ministry (in the way that we use that phrase) is someone who is

vocationally working to equip the saints for the work of ministry. That work being the fulfillment of the great commission.

- Is there anything we talked about today that was confusing to you?
- Why do you think it is so important for the church to have leader and servants who are focused on equipping the church as opposed to every Christian being focused on OLNLY fulfilling the great commission?
- What are some ways you feel the modern church is structured to equip the saints well?
- What are some ways you feel the modern church could do a better job of equipping people for the work of ministry? How could you help make that change at our church?
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