

## Ministry Part 2

We will continue in this message to speak about the Word ministry so that we can understand better how God wants us to serve Him and how we can do better in God's service. In the previous message we had discussed four Words:

**I. Shareth:**

**II. Obadah:**

**III. Yad:**

**IV. Leitourgia:**

In this message we will discuss the fifth Word:

**V. Diakonia:** *"7 Or ministry, let us wait on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching."* (Romans 12:7 KJV) Diakonia it can include the followings:

**A. Diakonia can mean service or ministry in which we execute the commands of others:** That means that we are under someone else who command us and instruct us of what we need to do. Let us read the following passage to understand the application and the meaning of 'Diakonia', *"38 Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house. 39 And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word. 40 But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me. 41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: 42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her."* (Luke 10:38-42 KJV) Martha here was doing her own will and she was not listening to Jesus. Martha supposed to listen to Him before she will do anything. **Ministry in certain times is to be done under somebody and you need to listen to that person instructions and do, so in such a way to avoid confusion and disturbances.** Please don't do your own!

**We need to thank God and appreciate that He put us in a ministry,** *"12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry."* (1 Timothy 1:12 KJV) Therefore let us be thankful to God who put us into the ministry, and we need to obey the instruction from those who instruct us to be useful in our service to God,

In 2 Timothy 4:11, Paul said the following about Mark: *"11 Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry."* (2 Timothy 4:11 KJV) Mark previously had caused hard time to Paul in his first missionary journey, when Mark left Paul and his company in Pamphelia and went back to Jerusalem. This we can read in Acts 13:13, *"13 Now when Paul and his company loosed from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia: and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem."* (Acts 13:13 KJV) What Mark did who is called John here, was a bad experience to Paul and to the ministry, therefore, even when later on in the second missionary journey of Paul, Barnabas suggested to take Mark, but Paul denied that request because Paul was afraid that Mark will do the same as before, *"37 And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark. 38 But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work."* (Acts 15:37-38 KJV) But thanks be to God, later on, Mark repented and came back to the work of God, and was recommended even by Paul to get

involved in the ministry as we read here: *"11 Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry."* (2 Timothy 4:11 KJV) **Therefore, be obedient to instruction, so you will be useful in the ministry.** Lord I pray for all those who left the ministry like Mark bring them back and make them useful once again in Jesus name, Amen.

**B. Diakonia can mean the ministry of those who by the command of God proclaim and promote the Word of God among men:** The example of that is what we read here, *"25 That he may take part of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place."* (Acts 1:25 KJV) Here the Apostles who were commissioned directly by Jesus to spread the Word of God and to make disciples, they needed to elect another person to do the work instead of Judas Iscariot who betrayed the Lord and went to where he belonged. **\* The ministry should continue in whatever way. Upon the decision of those to leave the ministry, God will use others so the ministry of spreading God's Word will continue. God had called us to go and bring the ministry of reconciliation to others. \* All the church ministry is simplified in this statement: "18 And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation."** (2 Corinthians 5:18 KJV) **\* The ministry of reconciliation, in which, we are called to preach the Word of God, and to confront the world with their sins and give them the solution to repent and to come back to God through faith in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.**

**C. Diakonia can mean the service or ministry of the office of the apostles and its administration:** *"4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word."* (Acts 6:4 KJV) Here the apostles gave themselves to the ministry that God had called them to do; for prayer and to teach God's Word. **Sometimes trials and pressure of ministry may try to take us away of what God had ordained for us to do, but we need to be careful not to be drift away. We need to be alert and determine to complete the ministry that God had ordained for us to do.**

The example of Apostle Paul is a good example for us today; he was determined to complete the ministry that he had received from the Lord inspite of all troubles, hardships and the persecutions that he was passing through, *"24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God."* (Acts 20:24 KJV) We should do all what we can to bear all struggles to finish our ministry and do that with joy, and to testify about the gospel of the grace of God to all the people, those who are around us, and those who are in far places.

**Ministry is a privilege and a mercy from God; therefore we need to be encouraged and be strong and not to give way to faint during trials and oppositions.** *"1 Therefore seeing we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not."* (2 Corinthians 4:1 KJV) Persecution may come to hinder us to present an acceptable ministry to our Lord God, but we need to be firm to continue the ministry that God entrusted to us.

**Devil will always try to present us ugly before people. But having ministry is the mercy of God that will enable us to endure persecution. Therefore we need to persevere, completing our ministry and not to give up doing it until God would come and deliver us completely.**

**As God delivered Paul from those who did not believe in Judaea, and helped him to present an acceptable ministry to the saints in Jerusalem, He will also help us and will enable us to testify**

as Paul testified: “31 That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in Judaea; and that my service which I have for Jerusalem may be accepted of the saints.” (Romans 15:31 KJV)

**D. Diakonia can mean the service or ministry of the Holy Spirit in the offices of the prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers:** Let us read, 2 Corinthians 3:7-9, “7 But if the ministration of death, written and engraven in stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not stedfastly behold the face of Moses for the glory of his countenance; which glory was to be done away: 8 How shall not the ministration of the spirit be rather glorious? 9 For if the ministration of condemnation be glory, much more doth the ministration of righteousness exceed in glory.” (2 Corinthians 3:7-9 KJV) We need to be led by the Holy Spirit in whatever gift we receive to serve and perfect the saints. “11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; 12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,” (Ephesians 4:11-12 KJV) We need also to be careful not to do offences and not to repeat wrong things that will cause the ministry to be blamed. “3 Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed.” (2 Corinthians 6:3 KJV)

To do all these requirements it mean willingness from our side to suffer and to endure hardship whenever we are called to do the ministry, as well as this include to maintain evangelism and to give the full proof of our ministry as in the instruction of Paul to Timothy: “5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry.” (2 Timothy 4:5 KJV)

**E. Diakonia can mean the service or ministry of those who prepare and present charities as food and other necessities:** These are the offices of the Christian ministry of those who give to others their needs. They are those who help to meet the needs of others, by either collecting or distributing charities.

Let us read and meditate on the following Scriptures to understand further about this kind of service or ministry:

1. “19 I know thy works, and charity, and service, and faith, and thy patience, and thy works; and the last to be more than the first.” (Revelation 2:19 KJV) God called us to have good works, to offer service and charity to the brethren.
2. “29 Then the disciples, every man according to his ability, determined to send relief unto the brethren which dwelt in Judaea.” (Acts 11:29 KJV) God call us to give or to send relief to our brethren who are in troubles and to those who are in need.
3. “4 Praying us with much intreaty that we would receive the gift, and take upon us the fellowship of the ministering to the saints.” (2 Corinthians 8:4 KJV) As we pray to receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we need to be ready with the responsibility to serve others, especially those of the family of faith as we can read here: “1 For as touching the ministering to the saints, it is superfluous for me to write to you. 12 For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God; 13 Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ,

and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men;” (2 Corinthians 9:1, 12-13 KJV)

4. “8 I robbed other churches, taking wages of them, to do you service.” (2 Corinthians 11:8 KJV) We should not exempt some brethren and put more burdens on others in doing the ministry. We should put burden and responsibly for each and every member of the church. Everyone should know his or her assignment, and be diligent to do them. We should be sure that everyone do his service toward God in a proper way.

**F. Diakonia can mean the service or ministry of the office of the deacon in the church:** “15 I beseech you, brethren, (ye know the house of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have addicted themselves to the ministry of the saints,” (1 Corinthians 16:15 KJV) The house of Stephanas were the first convert in Achia. Paul was pleased and impressed with them because they were addicted to serve and wait on the needs of the people in the church at Corinth. \* God called us to serve His people and to disciple them and to meet their needs, but not their wants. \* Ministry needs perseverance, as well as needs discernment that we should discern what is good and proper that we need to do. As well as we need to be addicted to do what is good, beneficial and needed to the brethren.

**My dear and beloved:** “1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.” (Romans 12:1 KJV) As you read or listen and enlightened with God’s Word, commit your life to the ministry of God, submitting yourself to serve God with the guidelines that the Word of God is teaching us today, so that the salvation of God and His Word will spread to others and enriched God’s church and the saints. Let us pray . . . .

**My Prayer:** Father God, I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word that made me understand your will. Lord thank you for considering me faithful and calling me to serve you.

Let us confess and renounce our sins. Confess and renounce your selfishness, your worldliness and your love for material things. Confess and renounce your non willingness to serve and suffer for Christ and help the family of faith. Confess and renounce your lack of love and compassion to reach the lost souls and give them the gospel. Confess and renounce your disobedience and your non willingness to follow instructions. Confess and renounce your yoked with non believers and wasting your time on the Media, News and games. Confess and renounce your bad stewardship and your bad example to others. Lord I repent, forgive me the following sins \_\_\_\_\_.

Lord I commit myself to the principles that I learned from your Word. Lord I am offering the parts of my body as a living sacrifice to serve you and do the work of yours in full as you ordained it to be. Lord fill me with the Holy Spirit and give me the spiritual gifts that I need in my life to go on and serve you and spread your Word and do the ministry that you wants me to do.

Lord give me good health; strength and perseverance to continue to be fruitful and effective till you come and take me with you. Lord I thank you and praise you for you had called me to serve you. Lord I thank you and praise you for all the good things that you had done in my life.

Lord I pray for my Brothers and Sisters who committed their lives to serve you and to live according to what we had studied in your Word. Lord give them boldness and sustains them to proclaim your Word and your will to the people that you are sending them to. Lord protect them and provide their needs. Lord fill them with the Holy Spirit so they can go and evangelize and make disciples. Lord let their lives and testimonies attract others to bring them into your Kingdom.

Lord bless us as a church and bestow on us the spiritual gifts that we need to go on and make disciples of all nations. Lord enable us to declare your Word in full to those whom you are sending us to. Lord enable us to evangelize and to reach the lost and new areas with the Gospel of Jesus. Lord helps us to plant new Bible studies, new congregations, and to raise more disciples and workers to serve you. Lord continue to protect us and provide all our needs. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

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