



All ministries whether Laity or Clergy are all spiritual work - begins with God. Without a proper relationship to God no one has any hope of realizing success in his or her ministry. He or she must have a call, a mission, and must be obedient, attentive and committed. The pastor should be divinely called to preach and teach the gospel. Paul tells us in Ephesians 4:11 that the Lord has set in the church; *"some apostles, some prophets, some evangelist, and some pastors and teachers"*.

So the New Testament church did have those who were set apart, and sent out as full time ministers of the gospel. Paul himself, one of the all-time great preachers, knew he was called and ordained of God. In 11 of the 13 epistles he wrote, he began with such statements as *"Paul a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God, etc."*

The Pastor/minister have a divine mission, To faithfully proclaim Christ, To faithfully teach Christ in every facet of the church, and To develop and establish every believer by teaching and training him, thus building God's Church. and To lead people into a

consciousness of the presence, power, and purpose of God, into an intimate and glorious fellowship.

The Bible tells us that one condition for a proper relationship with God is obedience to his word. Our very salvation is in obedient to God, and if we are to have God's blessing and God's best, now and for eternity, we must be obedient to Him. The Bible offers us many blessing and promises, promises of an abundant life, promises of victory over sin, etc., - but all of these promises are conditional, in that we must be totally committed and obedient to God.

Total committed means the act pledging one's self completely to a cause. Without commitment on the part of pastors and laity, little or no growth can occur in the church, numerically or spiritually. It is important for every member of the church be involved in the work and ministry of the church. Church activities are not for spectators, but for participants. Often time commitment requires sacrifice, requires 100% effort, requires courage, faith, and determination

To fulfill our commitment to God, we must break through the barrier of indifference, of worldliness, of pride. We must break through any obstacle that hinders us in our service to God. We must realize that we have a high and holy calling, to consecrate fully our time, our talent, our treasure, to God and His church. We must be committed and able to say as the apostle Paul said, *"I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith,*



The Lay Ministries in the Local Church

The Lay Organization
Training Sessions
Frank In graham
Director, Lay Activities

