

THE MINISTRY OF HELPS

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

1. To understand the supernatural gift of Helps
2. To learn the diversity of gifts involved in the Helps ministry
3. To study the spiritual attributes of a servant of God
4. To study the impartation that comes to a Helps minister
5. To help each believer find their own unique place of service
6. To learn how to avoid burn-out in the Helps ministry

SESSION 2: QUALIFICATIONS OF A HIGH CALL

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I. *The Ministry of Helps - A High Call*

A. **God has a different view of helping than we do.**

1. God is our helper. He has a ministry of helping us.

Behold, God is my helper: The Lord is with those who uphold my life (Psalm 54:4 Nkjv)

2. Of the 116 times the words "help" or "helper" appears in the Old Testament, the vast majority refer to God helping, saving, or delivering.

B. **Jesus has a different view of helping than we do.**

1. He said He "came to s e r v e".
2. Note that Jesus' first miracle was not healing, but helps. At the marriage supper in Cana, He solved a natural problem (a shortage of wine) in a supernatural way.

C. **The Holy Spirit has a different view of helping than we do. In fact, Jesus called Him "the Helper."**

D. **Helping and serving others is the foundation for all ministry.**

1. In the New Testament, there are several Greek words translated "minister" - they all mean "servant."
2. It's an old saying, but true: "Ministry is spelled: W-O-R-K!"
3. No matter how God 'promotes' someone, they never grow beyond serving in the **Ministry of Helps**.
 - a. Most start there; some stay there; some have other jobs added.
 - b. For example, although a pastor is classified as a five-fold ministry gift, he also serves in the Ministry of Helps. He serves everyone!
 - c. Actually, we are all servants - at different levels of authority.

4. In the passage below, Paul uses the analogy of the human body to show that no ministry gift is more important than another. We are all in this together!

I want you to think about how all this makes you more significant, not less... If Foot said, "I'm not elegant like Hand, embellished with rings; I guess I don't belong to this body," would that make it so?... If the body was all eye, how could it hear? If all ear, how could it smell? As it is, we see that God has carefully placed each part of the body right where he wanted it.

But I also want you to think about how this keeps your significance from getting blown up into self-importance. For no matter how significant you are, it is only because of what you are a part of. An enormous eye or a gigantic hand wouldn't be a body, but a monster. What we have is one body with many parts, each its proper size and in its proper place. No part is important on its own (1 Corinthians 12:14-24 MSG).

- E. Jesus will always serve as our greatest example of servanthood.
- I. Jesus showed us through word and deed the heart or attitude one must have to succeed in God's work.
- a. He taught His disciples that the Kingdom of God operated by ways that seemed 'up-side down' from the way the world worked.

But Jesus called them to [Him] and said to them, You know that those who are recognized as governing... the Gentiles... lord it over them [ruling with absolute power, holding them in subjection], and their great men exercise authority and dominion over them.

But this is not to be so among you; instead, whoever desires to be great among you must be your servant,

And whoever wishes to be most important and first in rank among you must be slave of all.

For even the Son of Man came not to have service rendered to Him, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many. (Mark 10:42-44 AMP).

"You've observed how godless rulers throw their weight around," he said, "and when people get a little power how quickly it goes to their heads. It's not going to be that way with you. Whoever wants to be great must become a servant. Whoever wants to be first among you must be your slave" (Mark 10:43-43 MSG).

- b. Jesus also demonstrated servanthood.

⁵ After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel with which He was girded.

¹² So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you ^{1a} know what I have done to you? ¹³ You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. ¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. (John 13:5, 12-15)

- 2. These are vivid and powerful statements of God's opinion on service.
 - a. If you desire to do great things in the Kingdom of God, you must be a servant.
 - b. A leader serves those assigned to him.
 - c. The spirit of servanthood is the Spirit of Christ.

F. The Gift of Serving

- 1. Even though all believers are called to serve, there is also a gift of serving ("ministry").

⁶ Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; ⁷ or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; ⁸ he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. (Rom 12:6-8 Nkjv).

- a. Just as we are all called to evangelize, but there are some who will have the gift of evangelism.
 - b. Believers who have been called to the Ministry of Helps will find that God has given them the desire to help as well as abilities and talents which enable them to accomplish all necessary tasks.
 - c. Before the foundation of the world, God knew you would be there, living during this generation. He placed within you the gifts and talents you were to have for such a time as this.
- 2. The gift of serving is not something that you choose to have. You discover the gift.

- a. God places desires into your heart. Desire is a compass in your heart that points you in the direction of God's will.

For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure (Philippians 2:13).

[Not in your own strength] for it is God Who is all the while effectually at work in you [energizing and creating in you the power and desire], both to will and to work for His good pleasure and satisfaction and delight (Philippians 2:13 AMP).

- b. The hand of God plants the desire into the garden of your heart.

For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. (1 Corinthians 3:9 Nkjv).

For we are fellow workmen (joint promoters, laborers together) with and for God; you are God's garden and vineyard and field under cultivation, [you are] God's building (1 Corinthians 3:9 AMP).

But thanks be to God Who planted the same earnest zeal and care for you in the heart of Titus (2 Corinthians 8:16 AMP).

- c. When your heart is involved, it is very easy to serve and to give your all; when your heart is not involved, it is hard and difficult.

- 1) Jonathan's armorbearer - 1 Samuel 14:1-5

- a) Jonathan had a vision and a plan that he shared with his armor-bearer. The plan was not easy; the plan was difficult and risky.

- b) The armorbearer's response:

"Do what you think is best," the armor bearer replied. "I'm with you completely, whatever you decide." (1 Samuel 14:7 Nlt).

- c) The armorbearer did not consider himself, but was willing to do whatever was necessary to get the job done. This is Helps Ministry.

- i) You put yourself under the vision of another.

- ii) Your words will reveal the intent of your heart. (If your heart is not in the thing, then you will not last.)

11. *The Qualifications for the Ministry of Helps*

A. **Faithfulness: The Crowbar of God**

- I. How do you break lose something that's stuck?
 - a. You use a lever - a crowbar.
 - b. Leverage multiplies the force you can exert on an object.
2. Faithfulness - that never-quitting attitude - is the crowbar that enables a Helps minister to complete his assigned tasks.
 - a. If you don't quit, you can't lose!
3. Faithfulness is the ingredient we bring to the Ministry of Helps, and even that comes from God as a fruit of the Holy Spirit.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22).

4. According to Buddy Bell, there is a 'pool of anointing' for Helps ministers. Whenever you are *tired* and discouraged, make a demand on this vast supply - by faith. It works!
5. Faithfulness means being entirely reliable.
 - a. Be there every time you are scheduled. Be on time. Always find a way to finish what your leader assigned you to do – your leader is depending on you!

¹⁰ "If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones. But if you are dishonest in little things, you won't be honest with greater responsibilities. ¹¹ And if you are untrustworthy about worldly wealth, who will trust you with the true riches of heaven? ¹² And if you are not faithful with other people's things, why should you be trusted with things of your own? (Luke 16:10-12 Nlt).

- b. Some people want the XYZ ministry, but they don't do the ABCs of faithfulness.
 - 1) You will never start out in your ultimate place of ministry.

- 2) What you do with the small is what you will do with the big.
6. God knows who has passed the test of faithfulness. Once we show ourselves faithful, God gives us supernatural ability and anointing.

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has granted me [the needed] strength and made me able for this, because He considered me faithful and trustworthy, putting me into service [for this ministry], (1 Timothy 1:12 Amp).

And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also (2 Timothy 2:2).

7. A good and faithful servant: the parable of the talents - Matthew 25:19-29
- a. To the faithful servant who invested his talent:

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful and trustworthy over a little, I will put you in charge of many things; share in the joy of your master.' (Matthew 25:23 Amp).

- b. To the unfaithful servant who buried his talent:

²⁸ So take the talent away from him, and give it to the one who has the ten talents.' ²⁹ "For to everyone who has [and values his blessings and gifts from God, and has used them wisely], more will be given, and [he will be richly supplied so that] he will have an abundance; but from the one who does not have [because he has ignored or disregarded his blessings and gifts from God], even what he does have will be taken away. (Matthew 25:28,29 Amp).

- 1) Why would someone hide their talent? They are afraid because they have a wrong picture of God.

"The servant given one thousand said, 'Master, I know you have high standards and hate careless ways, that you demand the best and make no allowances for error. I was afraid I might disappoint you, so I found a good hiding place and secured your money. Here it is, safe and sound down to the last cent.' (Matthew 25:24-25 MSG).

- 2) When you take a step of faith, it can be scary! Trust God to help you: both with the task *and* with your fear of messing up!

That he would grant unto us, that we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies might serve him without fear, In holiness and righteousness before him, all the days of our life (Luke 1:74-75).

- c. A principle of the kingdom of God: Use your talents, and they will grow. Hide them and they will be taken away. Use all the abilities God has given you and be joyful!

B. Loyalty : A matter of the heart

1. A Helps minister must have a deep-down sense of respect for his leader.
 - a. Accept and be tolerant of his personality and way of doing things .
 - 1) 50% of the time his way will differ from yours.
 - 2) If the end result is to build God's kingdom -- does it really matter whose method is used?
 - b. Let him know you are not there to argue with him or change his decisions, but to work with him in achieving his God-given objectives.
2. A Helps minister must walk in agreement with and submission to his leader.
 - a. All authority is ordained of God - Romans 13:1-2.
 - b. Don't set your eyes on the man - he will make mistakes - but respect the office and the call of God on his life.
3. A Helps minister must begin to understand his leader's thoughts.
 - a. Discover and confess your agreement: "In Jesus' name, I understand how my pastor thinks and I flow with him in the spirit of understanding."
 - b. In time, God will impart your pastor's spirit to you.
4. In serving a man of God, you pick up the anointing that's on him.
5. A Helps minister must make the advancement of his leader's vision his most important goal.
 - a. Our prayer: "God, please help me do this the way my pastor would do it if he had time."
 - b. God can do tremendous things through someone who only cares that Jesus gets the credit!
6. Loyalty sometimes requires you to be silent.
 - a. It is an art to know when to speak and when not to.

*When there are many words, transgression and offense are unavoidable,
But he who controls his lips and keeps thoughtful silence is wise. (Proverbs 10:19
Amp).*

7. Practical advice on how to support your leader

²² Servants, in everything obey those who are your masters on earth, not only with external service, as those who merely please people, but with sincerity of heart because of your fear of the Lord. ²³ Whatever you do [whatever your task may be], work from the soul [that is, put in your very best effort], as [something done] for the Lord and not for men, ²⁴ knowing [with all certainty] that it is from the Lord [not from men] that you will receive the inheritance which is your [greatest] reward. It is the Lord Christ whom you [actually] serve. (Colossians 3:22-24 Amp).

- a. Follow orders immediately and correctly.
- b. Write everything down.
- c. Ask your leader to explain anything you don't understand.
- d. Treat his orders as your highest priority.
- e. Supporter means "That which supports or upholds; a sustainer; a comforter; a maintainer; a defender."

What kind of a believer will you be?

1. Believer A:

- a. A person who is looking for a ministry position but is filling his or her time serving in whatever capacity is needed.
- b. Says, "Pastor, whatever you need me to do, I'll do."
- c. Expect the supernatural anointing as he or she ministers.

2. Believer B:

- a. A person who is looking for a ministry position but never volunteers to serve as they are waiting on God to open a ministry position.
- b. Says, "Lord as soon as You open a door, I will begin serving."
- c. Waits.