The Christian’s Mission - Chapter 5

Summer 2021 Worship Theme Schedule

Material taken from “The Christian’s Mission” by Rev. Richard Schultz CPH©1970

*(Suggestions and questions at the end of each* week *refer the reader to some Scripture readings that will add depth to the* message themes. They provide points of discussion in a group setting.)

1. On Mission Beyond Local Congregation
   * 1. The Principle of Mutual Assistance
     2. Opportunities for Mission Unlimited
     3. Prepared Here to Serve there

# Bible Reading and Study

* + - 1. St Paul is sometimes pictured as a lone missionary who fought battles for Christianity all alone against the pagan world. Check the last few verses of Paul’s epistles (e.g. Rom 16) to see a number of people supplied by the churches to help him as various times. Compare this strategy with the contents of this message theme; with he practice of your congregation.
      2. Scripture abounds with all kinds of services God’s people render in His name. Read the following passages and identify the services rendered.

Job 29:15-16 -

Is 50:4 -

Prov 31:20 -

Luke 10:34 -

* + - 1. Read Acts 13:1-3. Compare the sending of Paul and Barnabas to the practice of the modern church. In what ways is it comparable to the commissioning of a missionary?

In what ways is it comparable to the sending of lay members for work in places outside the local parish?

# Problems and Projects

1. Consult a pastor of an inner-city church. Fins out what kinds of service help he could use. Are any of these available in your congregation?

If so, discuss the matter with the people involved to see what their reaction is to the suggestion that they provide such services in another perish.

1. Consult an institutional missionary or para-church ministry in your area. What kind of lay assistance could he/they use?
2. If there is a “mission congregation” in your area consult the pastor to find out if they could use the services of any people in your perish. What kind of talent does he need?
3. How can the church better learn to use its resources in a more strategic manner?

**Thinking It Through For Myself**

1. What portion of my congregation is being used;
   1. for perish business operation
   2. for teaching or mission work
   3. for service beyond the congregation?
2. What portion of the membership is
   1. inactive?
   2. attending but not used?
3. Is our perish centeredness a help or a hinderance tot eh use of God-given talents?
4. Does every church need a training program of volunteers for functions in and outside the church?
5. Can a congregation fulfill its world mission by itself? What does this imply?
6. How would a talent survey discover and lead to the greater use of more of God’s people in more places?
7. Why is the deployment of the laity more necessary in our extremely mobile society?
8. In what sense is the use of people in the church even more important than the use of their monetary gifts?
9. Which is wiser: working *with* people (to train them), or working *for* people (as their substitute)?
10. What new horizons for the church did this chapter suggest?