## PROFESSIONAL, VOCATIONAL & MENTORING CONSULTANTS

"So Christ himself gave [ascension gifts] the **apostles**, the **prophets**, the **evangelists**, the **pastors** and **teachers**, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." Ephesians 4:11-12

## BECAUSE JUST AS WE NEED DISCIPLING SPIRITUALLY, WE NEED DISCIPLING PROFESSIONALLY. AND BECAUSE WE ALL HAVE A CALLING, THAT MAKES US ALL CONSULTANTS!

According to Ephesians 4, Christ gave specific roles to the church body for the works of service so that we might be built up via what has been commonly referred to as the "5-fold ministry" gifts of ascension (Eph. 4:8). Given this essential truth, it begs the question, have we been putting these roles or gifts into practice to effectively equip & disciple the body of Christ?! If the answer is yes, is there still room for improvement? If the answer is no, what can we still do about it?

As we were meant to be equipped so that we may pay it forward and live out our 5-fold ministry gifts within whatever role or sphere of influence we have been called to, whether it be within the body or in the marketplace, following is what it can practically look like both *spiritually* & *professionally* **TO BE THE CHURCH INSIDE** & **OUTSIDE THE CHURCH**. For this is truly the way we were intended to do church as the *ekklesia or "called out ones."* 

## *Note:* The following can either be an actual **role or strength** within part of the function one does.

- > APOSTLES the visioneer or leader who establishes, operates & stewards the vision
  - & Roles Church Planter, Administrator (spiritual); CEO, Founder, Entrepreneur (professional)
- > PROPHETS speaks insight into the vision with perception, intuition & creativity
  - A Roles Spiritual Advisor/Director (spiritual); COO or CFO, Company Consultant (professional)
- **EVANGELISTS** promotes and proclaims the vision in a winsome & convincing manner
  - \*\*Roles Preacher, Missionary (spiritual); Sales & Marketing (professional)
- > **PASTORS** tends to the needs of those who have received & accepted the vision
  - Roles-Christian Counselor, Shepherd, Discipler (spiritual); HR, Business/Project Manager (professional)
- > TEACHERS trains & instructs according to the message of the vision
  - Roles Theologian/Biblical instructor (spiritual); Business Trainer, CPA, Bookkeeper (professional)

As you put into practice what you have been given, other believers are able to glean from & become equipped to do the works of service they have been similarly designed to do. It is one generation passing it down to the next. This is truly the whole church participating and functioning as it should. It is recognizing that we have not been called to simply warm up pews once a week on a Sunday morning & disassociate the work of God from the work of our hands for the rest of the week, but rather we were meant to integrate both the spiritual & professional/vocational for sustainable, lasting kingdom work!

## IT'S ABOUT THE FATHER'S BUSINESS THAT PAYS IT FORWARD...

As Jesus was always about his Father's business, the "5-fold ascension gifts" were strategically given so that we might continue to steward the Father's business well. Ironically, any successful business model will reveal how the world has adopted this "Jesus model" more readily than the church itself. As the 5-fold identifies all the main occupational functions or roles within any given workplace, may we become ascension hubs for the kingdom as we put our gifts to use wherever we are & help to continue building the family business so that no one stays behind, but rather others would want to get in on it too!

SO WHAT'S YOUR ROLE OR MINISTRY GIFT?
& HOW CAN WE HELP YOU PUT IT TO KINGDOM USE TODAY?