Connect 301 – Week 7

The True Purpose of the Church

Bible text to read & study:

___ Ephesians 4:8, 11-12   ___ Luke 9-10   ___ Exodus 18:13-17, 18-27
___ Acts 6:1-7   ___ Matthew 28:18-19   ___ Luke 24:49

A. Why did God give apostles, prophets, pastors, evangelists and teachers? (Eph. 4:8, 11-12)
   1. For the perfecting of the _____.
   2. For the work of the _____.
   3. For the edifying of the Body of Christ (the Church).

B. What is the main goal or purpose of the Church?
   1. To make _____ (Matthew 28:19).
   2. The New Testament pastor is to be an _____ of the saints so that they can do the work of the ministry.

I.   JESUS

A. Forty times in His high-priestly prayer He mentioned the men He had gathered around himself and equipped to do the work of the ministry. (John 17)

B. The Church's product is _____, not merely decisions at the altar.

II.   MOSES

A. Strong people that want to be a disciple _____ _____ _____.

B. Three problems Moses faced (Exodus 18:13-23):
   1. Moses was wearing himself out.
   2. The people's needs were not being met.
   3. No one was being trained to do what Moses did.

C. Solution:
   1. Educate people.
   2. Make _____.
   3. Then delegate (set them up).

III.   THE WAY MOST PASTORS TRY TO BUILD THEIR CHURCH

A. Without education and delegation, the pastor holds the church up. The church grows, the load gets heavier, and the pastor collapses.
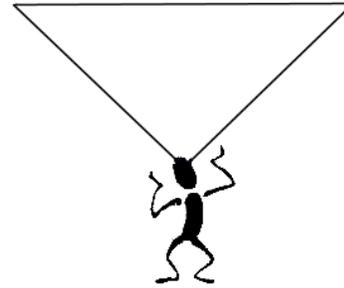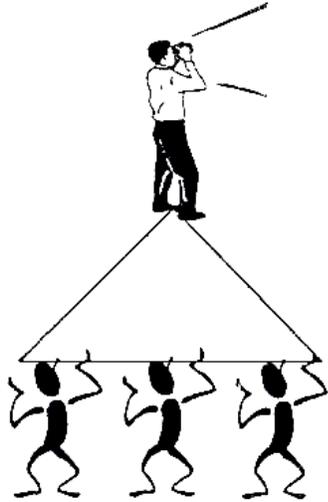
B. With education and delegation, a church can grow to an unlimited size. (The triangle should have the base at the bottom. The pastor should be the overseer, equipping saints to do the work of the ministry.)

C. The success of a ministry is education and delegation.
1. Select _____, capable people from your resource pool.
2. Invest time in these people, training them (Luke 9-10). Jesus did this.
3. Give them authority over routine matters (Acts 6:1-7).

D. Why some people don't delegate:
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

E. Result of Moses' effective delegation (Exodus 18:23-27)
1. The leader remains _____.
2. He developed a good mobilized team of delegates and extended his outreach as a result.
3. All the people's needs are _____.

Reflection & discussion:

➢ Please define how this message speaks to you, and what you're going to do to apply it in your day-to-day life, beginning now.