

Although it should be self-evident, there is but one primary message to every aspect and dimension to every mission and ministry within the Body of Christ and that is the Word of reconciliation as it is so clearly set forth in Paul's epistle to the church of Corinth.



18 Now all things faref of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

12Co 5:18-19 NKJV

The Word of reconciliation provides the basis and paradigm of all ministry. Separation from this focus will ultimately contaminate the representation of God, stunt the growth of the church, and yield little if any true fruit that remains.

It was a pleasure to minister the subject of "The Ministry Gifts" to the second-year class of Rhema Bible Training Center Zambia. Narrowing the focus of what all ministry is about is so empowering. Too often the task at hand can seem overwhelming and intimidating. But when success is defined from God's word as the simple act of obeying what it is that God assigns us to do, nothing more and other less. Burdens are lifted and yokes of bondage removed.

The grace of God is always enough for us to fulfill our God given purpose. But often in ministry an unhealthy paradigm of comparison ensues. The effects are to either paralyze one to do nothing as one feels inadequate to someone else or to become driven in our attempts to achieve things that God never gave us to do. Both of these conditions are a departure from experiencing God's grace. The detriment of this is often not realized but the true impact is that many are negatively influenced.

12 For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

[2Co 10:12 NKJV]



The Lord did some really wonderful things in the midst of teaching. It is such a blessing to experience the work of the Holy Spirit in such a tangible way while simply doing what we know to do. Teaching the Word with boldness and "The Lord works with us to confirm His word." Thank you for your part in teaching this next group of ministers who are ministers of reconciliation.

Together we are reaching the four corners of the earth with the light of the gospel!

PLEASE CONSIDER PARTNERSHIP WITH US IN THE POWER OF GOD'S PURPOSE!

Over the past 34 years, Steve and Cindy Shoop have invested their lives in ministering the Gospel of Jesus as missionaries. Their passion for helping people has provided them with the opportunity to serve in a



variety of ministry positions, as well as the privilege of living in three different countries in Africa. Today, Steve and Cindy reside in the state of Ohio after living 25 years in southern Africa. Steve continues to express his gift in ministry both in the United States and the nations of the world. Steve has a passion in developing leaders who are established in God's love, grace and peace that comes through the righteousness of faith. Gospel Training International's vision is found in their ministry slogan,

"TRAINING FOR LIFE, TRAINING FOR MINISTRY".

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