



#6 Ministry

Consider...

Gospel Community (GC) churches are a bit different to other churches in that for us, most of church life takes place in small focussed communities, rather than larger events and programs. This does however raise the question, who will do the ministry? It is certainly not possible for the pastor to be in all of these communities to do the Bible teaching, pastoral care, mission work, follow up, discipleship and youth ministry.

So if he cant be there to do it, who will?

The answer to that question is simple. YOU! Whist each GC does have a leadership team, they rely on *all* of their members to be involved in ministry to one one another and this session shows us why we want to empower every single Summerleas member to be active in ministering to the rest of their GC.

Read...

1. Read Ephesians 4:11-16. What is the role of the pastor in this passage? How is this different to the stereotypical understanding of a pastor's role?

2. a) According to Ephesians 4, who does most of the ministry in the church?

b) What is the result when the *whole* Church gets involved in ministry?

2. Look back over the 'One Another' passages we looked at in session #3. What kind of ministries are we *all* called to be involved in?

Romans 12:10; Galatians 5:13; Galatians 6:2; Colossians 3:16; James 5:16; 1 Peter 4:9

Think...

How do the above passages shape a person's response to the following thoughts / temptations?

'Discipling people, and caring for others is just not something I want to get involved with. I'd rather just rock up to meetings.'

'This church is no good at caring for people, because the pastor and the elders don't visit me regularly, or even check in on me very much!'

'I can see all sorts of problems and issues with the church, why won't someone do something about them!'

'I'm just not equipped to do the kinds of things those 'One Another' passages call me to.'

'I've got a lot to offer but no one has asked me to do anything, so I won't.'