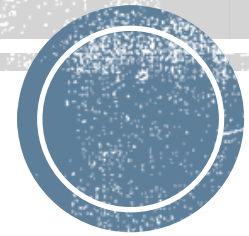


The Ministers of the Church

New Testament Church
Studies



Terms used

- **Preacher** = a herald or proclaimer of the truth
- **Minister** = a servant
- **Evangelist** = a preacher of the gospel



Preacher

- **Romans 10:14** How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And **how are they to hear without someone preaching?**
- **1 Timothy 2:7** For this I was appointed a **preacher** and an **apostle** (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a **teacher** of the Gentiles in faith and truth.
- **2 Timothy 1:11** for which I was appointed a **preacher** and **apostle** and **teacher**,



Evangelist

- **Acts 21:8** On the next day we departed and came to Caesarea, and we entered the house of **Philip the evangelist**, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him.
- **Ephesians 4:11** And he gave the apostles, the prophets, **the evangelists**, the shepherds and teachers,
- **2 Timothy 4:5** As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, **do the work of an evangelist**, fulfill your ministry.



Minister

- **Romans 15:16** to be **a minister of Christ Jesus** to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.
- **Ephesians 3:7** Of this gospel I was made **a minister according to the gift of God's grace**, which was given me by the working of his power.
- **Ephesians 6:21** So that you also may know how I am and what I am doing, **Tychicus the beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord** will tell you everything.



Minister

- **Colossians 1:7** just as you learned it from **Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ** on your behalf
- **Colossians 1:23** if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which **I, Paul, became a minister.**
- **Colossians 1:25** of which **I became a minister according to the stewardship from God** that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known,



Minister

- **Colossians 4:7 Tychicus** will tell you all about my activities. He is a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord.



Timothy chosen as minister

- **Acts 16:1** Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. A **disciple** was there, named **Timothy**, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek.
- **Acts 16:2** He was well spoken of by the brothers at Lystra and Iconium.
- **Acts 16:3** **Paul wanted Timothy to accompany him**, and he took him and circumcised him because of the Jews who were in those places, for they all knew that his father was a Greek.



Timothy appointed by the elders

- 1 Timothy 4:14 Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophecy **when the council of elders laid their hands on you.**



Barnabas and Saul chosen

- Acts 13:1 Now there were in the **church at Antioch** **prophets** and **teachers**, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.
- Acts 13:2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the **Holy Spirit said**, “**Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.**”
- Acts 13:3 Then after fasting and praying **they laid their hands on them and sent them off.**



Ministers working together

- **1 Corinthians 14:27** If any speak in a tongue, **let there be only two or at most three**, and **each in turn**, and let someone interpret.
- **1 Corinthians 14:28** But if there is no one to interpret, let each of them keep silent in church and speak to himself and to God.



Ministers working together

- 1 Corinthians 14:29 Let two or three prophets speak, **and let the others weigh what is said.**
- 1 Corinthians 14:30 If a revelation is made to another sitting there, **let the first be silent.**
- 1 Corinthians 14:31 **For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all be encouraged,**



Ministers working together

- 1 Corinthians 14:32 and **the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets.**
- 1 Corinthians 14:33 **For God is not a God of confusion but of peace.**



Paul was a Preacher – Apostles - Teacher

- **1 Timothy 2:7** For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.



Preach the Word

- **1 Timothy 4:1** I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom:
- **1 Timothy 4:2** **preach the word**; be ready **in season** and **out of season**; **reprove**, **rebuke**, and **exhort**, with complete patience and teaching.
- **1 Timothy 4:3** For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions,
- **1 Timothy 4:4** and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths.



do the work of an evangelist

- **2 Timothy 4:5** As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, **do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.**



the Lord's servant

- 2 Timothy 2:24 And the Lord's servant **must not be quarrelsome** but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil,
- 2 Timothy 2:25 **correcting his opponents with gentleness.** God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth,
- 2 Timothy 2:26 and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.



Examples of preachers

- **Acts 8:4** Now those who were scattered went about preaching the word.
- **Acts 8:5** Philip went down to the city of Samaria and proclaimed to them the Christ.
- **Acts 8:6** And the crowds with one accord paid attention to what was being said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs that he did.



Examples of preachers

- Acts 13:1 Now there were **in the church at Antioch prophets** and **teachers**, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.
- Acts 13:2 While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “**Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.**”
- Acts 13:3 Then **after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them** and sent them off.



Philip the evangelist

- **Philip Traveled to Preach**
 - **Acts 8:5-25:** Preached the gospel in Samaria
 - **Acts 8:26-40:** Preached the gospel to the Ethiopian treasurer
- **Philip was settled in one place for while** (Acts 21:8)
 - **Note:** Philip is still in Caesarea about twenty years after his encounter with the Ethiopian treasurer (Acts 8:40)



Examples of preachers

- **Acts 11:19** Now **those who were scattered because of the persecution** that arose over Stephen traveled as far as Phoenicia and Cyprus and Antioch, speaking the word to no one except Jews.
- **Acts 11:20** But there were some of them, **men of Cyprus and Cyrene**, who on coming to Antioch **spoke to the Hellenists** also, **preaching the Lord Jesus.**
- **Acts 11:21** And the hand of the Lord was with them, and a great number who believed turned to the Lord.



Titus chosen

- Titus 1:4 To **Titus**, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior.



Preachers working together

- 1 Corinthians 3:5 What then is Apollos? What is Paul? **Servants through whom you believed**, as the Lord assigned to each.
- 1 Corinthians 3:6 **I planted, Apollos watered**, but God gave the growth.
- 1 Corinthians 3:7 So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only **God who gives the growth.**
- 1 Corinthians 3:8 **He who plants and he who waters** are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor.
- 1 Corinthians 3:9 **For we are God's fellow workers.** You are God's field, God's building.



Preachers working together

- **Acts 17:14** Then the brothers immediately sent Paul off on his way to the sea, but **Silas and Timothy** remained there.
- **Acts 17:15** Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens, and after receiving a command for **Silas and Timothy** to come to him as soon as possible, they departed.
- **Acts 18:5** When **Silas and Timothy** arrived from Macedonia, Paul was occupied with the word, testifying to the Jews that the Christ was Jesus.



Preachers working together

- **Acts 11:30** And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of **Barnabas and Saul**.
- **Acts 12:25** And **Barnabas and Saul** returned from Jerusalem when they had completed their service, bringing with them John, whose other name was Mark.



Preachers working together

- **Acts 13:1** Now there were in the church at Antioch **prophets** and **teachers**, **Barnabas**, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and **Saul**.
- **Acts 13:2** While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me **Barnabas and Saul** for the work to which I have called them.”



Preachers working together

- **Acts 15:35** But **Paul and Barnabas** remained in Antioch, **teaching and preaching** the word of the Lord, with many others also.
- **Acts 15:36** And after some days **Paul** said to **Barnabas**, “Let us return and **visit the brothers in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord**, and see how they are.”



Preachers working together

- **Acts 15:40** but **Paul** chose **Silas** and departed, having been commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord.
- **Acts 16:25** About midnight **Paul and Silas** were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them,



Preachers working together

- 2 Corinthians 8:23 As for **Titus**, **he is my partner and fellow worker for your benefit.** And as for our brothers, they are messengers of the churches, the glory of Christ.



Preachers working together

- **Philippians 2:25** I have thought it necessary to send to you **Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier**, and your messenger and minister to my need,
- **Philippians 4:3** Yes, I ask you also, **true companion**, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together **with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers**, whose names are in the book of life.



Must know God's word

- **2 Timothy 1:5** I am reminded of your sincere faith, **a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice** and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well.
- **2 Timothy 3:14** But as for you, **continue in what you have learned** and have **firmly believed**, knowing from whom you learned it
- **2 Timothy 3:15** and how **from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings**, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.



Must know God's word

- **2 Timothy 2:15** Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, **rightly handling the word of truth.**



Refute False teaching

- **1 Timothy 1:3** As I urged you when I was going to Macedonia, remain at Ephesus so that you may **charge certain persons not to teach any different doctrine,**



Teach on matters related to worship

- **1 Timothy 2:1-15**
- **For example:** Male led worship
- **1 Timothy 2:8** I desire then that in every place the **men** should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling;



Teach on the organization of the church

- 1 Timothy 3 (Qualifications of Elders and Deacons)
- Titus 1:5 This is why I left you in Crete, so that **you might put what remained into order**, and **appoint elders in every town** as I directed you—



Teach sound doctrine

- Titus 2:1 But as for you, **teach** what accords with **sound [healthy] doctrine**.



Teach Christians of diverse demographic and socioeconomic statuses

- Titus 2:1-10: Men and women - young and old - slave and free



Teaching

- 1 Timothy 4:11 Command and **teach these things**
- 1 Timothy 4:13 Until I come, **devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture**, to **exhortation**, to **teaching**.
- 2 Timothy 2:2 and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses **entrust to faithful men** [males and females], **who will be able to teach others also**.



Preach with authority

- Titus 2:15 Declare these things; **exhort** and **rebuke with all authority**. Let no one disregard you.



Be An example

- 1 Timothy 4:12 Let no one despise you for your youth, but **set the believers an example** in **speech**, in **conduct**, in **love**, in **faith**, in **purity**.



Rebuke elders who sin

- **1 Timothy 5:19** Do not admit a charge against an elder except on the evidence of two or three witnesses.
- **1 Timothy 5:20** As for **those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all**, so that the rest may stand in fear.
- **1 Timothy 5: 21** In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels I charge you to **keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality.**
- **1 Timothy 5:22** **Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands,** nor take part in the sins of others; keep yourself pure.



The laborer deserves his wages

- 1 Corinthians 9:4 Do we not have the right to eat and drink?
- 1 Corinthians 9:5 Do we not **have the right to take along a believing wife**, as do the other apostles and the brothers of the Lord and Cephas?
- 1 Corinthians 9:6 Or is it only Barnabas and I who have no **right to refrain from working for a living**?
- 1 Corinthians 9:7 Who serves as a soldier at his own expense? Who plants a vineyard without eating any of its fruit? Or who tends a flock without getting some of the milk?
- 1 Corinthians 9:14 In the same way, **the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel.**



Conclusion

- The aim of preachers is to evangelize (preach the gospel to the lost) and edify the body of Christ.
- They are to teach and seek to organize the congregation as outlined by Scripture - **working with the elders** (if they are in place).
- Preachers should be compensated for their spiritual work.

