

## Side by Side: Walking with Others in Wisdom and Love

The Christian leader's work is, in large part, equipping others to do the work of ministry. This seminar will consider how we equip others to minister to each other in the midst of life's troubles and sins.

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### Overview

- I. We all need help
- II. We are all called to help one another
- III. Our Goal is to identify essential skills for mutual care.

### Section 1 Helpers are Needy

*I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience (Eph 4:1)*

*God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. (1 Cor 1:27–29)*

- I. Two questions
  - A. Do you say, “Help” to the Lord? (see Hosea 7:14)
  - B. Do you say, “Help” to other people?
- II. God's Words lead us into neediness
  - A. We are created, finite, limited (e.g., Job 38)
  - B. We are sinners (Rom 2:1)
  - C. We are sufferers
  - D. We are people of faith
  - E. We are created to be interdependent. (1Cor 12)

### III. Our neediness is fruitful

#### **Section 2 You are Needed**

*I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

*There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift. Therefore it says, “When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men.”*

*And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. (Eph 4:1-12)*

#### I. The essentials of face-to-face ministry

Pursue

Know

Pray

Pursue

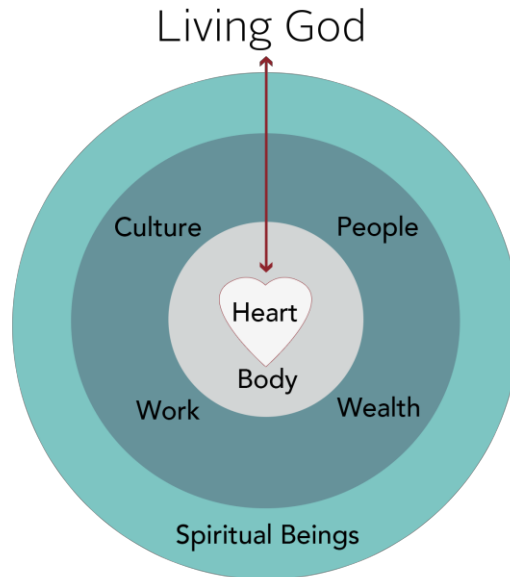
#### II. Pursue

A. God makes the first move toward us

B. We make the first move toward others

### III. Know the person

#### A. We greet warmly



#### B. We know circumstances and events

#### C. We know what is important, we know the heart

1. The heart is deep (Jer. 17 – tree and roots, Pr 20:5 – deep waters)
2. The heart desires
  - a. We hear of desires satisfied – we enjoy with them
  - b. We hear of desires hindered, dashed – we share their burdens
3. Desires set the moral direction of life (Luke 6:45)
  - a. See the good
  - b. Do something with the bad
4. Desires rest on our spiritual allegiances

### IV. Pray for the Person, Pray with the Person

### V. Pursue

***Suggested Readings:***  
*Side By Side*, Ed Welch