

MELVIN JOURNAL

Melvin J. Steinbron



(week 10)

There are four phases

from where I was to where I need to be

Because of the growing number of lay people pastoring, I find I am having to do more and more planning, administrating and supporting and less and less pastoring. But what a joy! Seeing people in significant ministry, and knowing people are being cared for more like God intends, gives great satisfaction and fulfillment. As I see it, there are four phases to my journey:

1. **Lone Ranger.** Doing all the pastoring myself, trying to be a superstar, I neglected many people because of time and energy limitations; I had failed.
2. **Calling People to Ministry Without Providing Structure.** Although I was preaching and teaching the theology of lay ministry (calling people to discover their gifts), I didn't provide the necessary discipling or providing the necessary structures for them to be able to minister.
3. **Providing Structures.** I began to practice what I was preaching (learning from others). I began to create equipping opportunities and develop structures to follow.
4. **Continuing to Grow.** I have grown in equipping skills and have learned about working with lay people as equals. My journey has been neither rapid nor easy. My former "lone ranger" ministry style gives way stubbornly to the new. I have discovered that I revert to the former style rapidly if I am not careful.

Because of what I am experiencing in this journey, from where I was to where I need to be, I enthusiastically endorse the following four principles formulated by one whom I call a "super pastor," Dr. Jerry Kirk, co-pastor of CHPC:

1. The pastor must become convinced that equipping lay people is God's call and priority for his ministry.
2. The pastor tastes how wonderful it is to be used by God. He sees what happens when lay people get a taste of God touching another through him.
3. The pastor must be sincere in this priority because only then will he be able to convince the congregation that he is not seeking to dodge his responsibilities but to provide better care in the long run.
4. The pastor must lead the congregation to give and receive ministry from one another. He models this by receiving ministry from the laity: their prayers, care, counsel, correction and encouragement.

from Can the Pastor Do It Alone?



How about pastor's job form no. 1-4 at second part? Do you need a new ministry framework to win the soul, as it exists in the out of church today?
Byeong