

# MELVIN JOURNAL

## Melvin J. Steinbron



(week 19)

### Can Lay People Really Pastor?

*I need love with skin on*

"Mommy, I'm afraid! I'm afraid!" cried the little girl who was awakened in the middle of the night by the storm. The rain beating against the window frightened her; the lighting and thunder terrified her. "Mommy, where are you! Where are you!"

Her mother hurried into her room. She sat on the side of the bed and held her daughter tightly to comfort her. Wanting to take advantage of this teachable moment, she said, "Honey, when you are frightened like this you can know that God is with you and loves you."

"Yes, Mommy, I know that," she sobbed. "But I need love with skin on."

**WE ALL STRUGGLE:** One of the struggles every pastor faces is how he can help his people personally and directly experience the love of God. We began to realize some years ago that there was no way we could build a staff large enough to put "love with skin on" for every one of our members if we continued to proceed in the traditional way.

As we studied the Scriptures, we discovered that there is a God-given method by which His love could be given concretely, specially and continually to all of our members. That method is through raising up a sizable team of lay people who can be called forth, trained, equipped and then commissioned to that task - to be pastors.

The seminary-trained pastors are to be identified as those in Ephesians 4:11, 12 whose call from God is to equip the saints for ministry. Equipping lay people for ministry is God's plan for the pastoral care of His people.

from the book, *Can the Pastor Do It Alone?*



Especially, churches and people in overseas expressed that this concept is very attractive and gratitude to Melvin who made it. How do you see the confession of the little girl? Just like her, all Christians and people know the Bible says that Jesus loves us, but, many people need the love of skin on like little daughter! If not, are they believe that we love them?  
Byeong