

Servants Ministry
Personal Ministry Handbook
August 2006



Servants Ministry

Personal Ministry Handbook

Written by Diana Ro, Hannah Kolk, & David Yoon

August 2006





Table of Contents

1	Introduction	3
1.1	Purpose of Document	3
1.2	Target Audience	3
2	Description of a Member	5
2.1	Reasons for Position	5
2.2	Understanding the Current Environment	5
2.3	Characteristics of the Member's Audience.....	6
2.4	Benefits of Being an Integral Part of the Body	6
2.5	Typical Responsibilities	7
3	Spiritual Mindset/Approach	8
3.1	Know Who You Are.....	8
3.2	Seek the Lord.....	9
3.3	Step Out in Faith	10
3.4	See Christ and Be Christ to Others.....	11
4	Practical Tips and Methods	12
4.1	Identifying Needs and Where to Start	12
4.2	Exploring Talents and Interests	12
4.3	Seeking Counsel and Advice	13
4.4	Communication & Partnership	14
5	Reflection.....	15
5.1	Concluding Remarks.....	15
6	Appendix.....	16
	Reference.....	16



Section

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of Document

The personal ministry handbook serves to help readers to focus on the continuous practice of *knowing who we are in God* rather than in what we do. All of the content revolves around the truth that even the practices of the member's role are to understand and reinforce the message of grace in our lives. Role does not determine who we are; it only helps us understand it more clearly. With the freedom in knowing that we are chosen by God to be saved regardless of our imperfections, we can experience the fullness of Christ in the fellowship.

This entire personal ministry handbook serves to first and foremost emphasize to the readers that the foundation of the message of grace is the most critical factor in getting excited to be a member of the body (More of this will be discussed in section 3.1). Having the foundation established, the handbook gives some guidelines and offers an account on how things have worked and hopefully to foster the truth that God is BIG and anything He has done in the past, He can one-up with ease using the reader. The Kingdom of God is not a mega-state where the member votes for a distant president; it is the domain surrounding the member's role within and outside the fellowship in which one can easily make a difference. The calling of every follower of Christ is to take part in His work here on earth and hopefully this handbook will encourage and give ideas on how to do this in the campus setting. We pray that this would point to Him "who is able to do immeasurably more than we ask or imagine, according to His power at work within us." (Eph. 3:20).

The question of "what we do" and "how we do" as members helps us better understand "who we are" in God; however, this *does not determine* who we are in God. Before going into what this position entails, it must be clear that campus ministry is a training ground and it is not the terminus; our vision is to fulfill His commission in a strategic way and this will equip us for what is to come in other stages in life. Whether in a position or not, Christ's mandate to reach out to others with His Love is something that we are always engaged in doing. This period of college is absolutely critical to grow and to lead others in the direction that will shape the rest of their lives. For many of us, the reason that we are not home with Him, is that we are called to such a time as this.

1.2 Target Audience

Unlike other positions, this portion is geared toward both the member and the small group or ministry team leader who oversees the participation or the initiative of the member. Though the term, "member," may invoke many subjective notions, for the purpose of discussion, it will refer to a fellowship member who is in a small group but does not serve as an exec team member, ministry team leader, or as a leader/assistant leader in a small group. In essence, the member is a person without title but is available to execute different arrays of tasks. Following are tools that the handbook material tries to facilitate to the readers:

- For members
 - o Understanding the spiritual foundation behind making a difference within and outside the fellowship ("organizational citizenship").
 - o Knowing the internal and external environment that demands members.



- Realigning role to the fellowship's purpose/mission.
- Recognizing necessity of their position within the fellowship.
- Becoming an individual outreach change agent/difference-maker.
- What to expect as a reward in being an active member.



Section

2 Description of a Member

2.1 *Reasons for Position*

The position exists because they provide to the body the leverage that is necessary to effectively execute various areas of the Kingdom work. Based on the leader's instructions or by individual initiative, the member engages in outreaching on an individual-level, serving his/her unit (from small group/ministry meeting preparation to near-leadership roles in 1-on-1s), or rallying the fellowship as a whole towards a pressing need/issue, etc. The member has two unique advantages in "making a difference":

1. Unlike leaders, members have less pre-established responsibilities. This results in their great versatility to reach out to service opportunities outside of the organization. Being in the boundary-spanning area of the body where the fellowship comes into contact with the world, they can quickly perceive the needs of the world (ranging from community services that address poverty issues to friends from other social circles of which the member is a part).
2. Furthermore, by informing to the body of pressing needs, the member can transfer the support of the fellowship as a whole to the concerning issue or group of people outside the fellowship. This connection and support from the fellowship to the world opens up opportunities for the fellowship to become exposed to the world and for the world to recognize that the fellowship, as a church of Christ, is an agent of grace.

2.2 *Understanding the Current Environment*

As previously discussed, the members are the cores of the body of Christ. With their versatility, they are in a perfect position to impact the pressing needs within the fellowship and to the non-believers. The success and failure of the body, the effectiveness of the fellowship to carry out the mission to the world, therefore, depends on the (1) member's willingness to make a difference ("organizational citizenship") in fulfilling the fellowship's purpose and the (2) support from the body to accentuate the member. However, there needs to be an understanding of the difficulty that a member may face within the fellowship in being effective:

With the increasing size of the fellowship, general members can have the "line of sight" issue and be hindered by potential bureaucracy.

- "Line of sight" dilemma: the member's actions have consequences that are seemingly too far away for them to make a noticeable, meaningful difference.
- In a larger fellowship, democratic citizenship ("a governing body in which the supreme power is vested in the people and exercised by them directly or indirectly") can no longer function.
- It is often difficult for a general member to petition to the fellowship as a whole with pressing needs inside and outside of the fellowship that majority of the fellowship does not recognize.



2.3 *Characteristics of the Member's Audience*

In order to become effective as witnesses to Christ, we need to be first and foremost be aware of the needs of the people to whom we serve. This is so-called the “customer-oriented approach” that focuses on analyzing the specific needs of people and providing timely help. This was the key to Christ Jesus’ ministry as He considered the interests of others and humbled and bent Himself to dig into the needs of the hearts of the people (Philippians 2:3-11). The members need to be keen observers of the environment and infiltrate into the needs of the fellowship and to the non-believers.

Though difficult to generalize, the age group in which servants ministry serves – college age students – have the energy and eagerness to make a difference not only in the lives of others but in their own lives. This is applicable to both Christ-followers and non-believers.

- College-age students are in search of the following four areas:
 - Self-fulfillment and improvement.
 - Community.
 - Commitment.
 - Contribution.
- The four needs are evident in clubs, political activist, advocacy groups, student newspaper, and fraternities/sororities commanding high participation although they do not provide income. Many students engage in such activities.
- These four needs drive not only the college students but also the highest-earning CEOs and successful businessmen. The volunteers in the U.S. are not retired, bored people; they are professionals who are well-educated, affluent, busy, enjoying their jobs. The reason for their joining communities is because they feel the need to do something where “we can make a difference.”
- Similarly, college students are busy in nature with maintaining academics and personal life. However, they have an urge to “make a difference,” hence, they report high participation in advocacy groups and communities that pursue a goal.
- To target the college non-believer audience, the members must present the message of grace (of being chosen unconditionally) in a manner that conveys to the audience that they can make a difference in their lives and furthermore, make a difference to the lives of others.
- Members have to ask the question: “what makes somebody want to join the fellowship?”

2.4 *Benefits of Being an Integral Part of the Body*

1. There can be the responsible commitment that creates an empowered member (1 Corinthians 12).
 - The member has a permanent perspective that they are important to the body and their respective roles are indispensable and incomparable in its value.



- Effort-justification theory: more contribution (effort) is highly correlated to more commitment (justification of their effort) of the general members. This means without serving others and the body, it is more difficult to stay plugged in to the body. On the other hand, if the member uses his/her talent to aid the body, then, he/she is more likely to experience a sense of community within the body.
2. There can be the sense of satisfaction and pride that comes from making a difference (Ephesians 4:11–13).
- The fellowship appeals to the member because it has the economy of scale (bigger size creating bigger impact) to make the difference that the member by himself/herself cannot have if were a single force. Members recognize that one of the fellowship's missions is to reach out to the non-believers in various ways. Understanding that many within the body are interested in the real world issues, members may have the incentive to gather support from the organization. Many initiatives that can reach out to the world to witness to others (ex. Human rights issues, famine aid) may be amplified by the fellowship's support.
 - The satisfaction and pride in making the difference, however, is not the goal in itself. It is a mirror that helps us to understand the "*who we are*" question. It is only one of the many ways we "attain to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ (v.13)."

2.5 Typical Responsibilities

The central tenets to the responsibilities of the members are creativity and responsiveness. First of all, they play different roles in small groups, ministry teams, and community service initiatives that match their interests and passions (creativity). Second, they locate different needs within the body and to the non-believers and exert their efforts (responsiveness). Though these roles are adaptable to the different situations of the campuses, some of the main roles of the member would include the following (note that these are arbitrary categorization; the beautiful part is the potential of expanding these areas):

Outside the fellowship:

- Mobilizing and drawing the attention of the body to participate in outreach events, community services, and pressing issues.
- Outreaching to larger Community through Christ centered activities & community service.
- Witnessing to the college campus on individual-level.

Inside the fellowship:

- Partnering with small group leaders and others to do follow-up.
- Assisting the needs of the small group in daily needs (ex. preparing snacks, giving rides, etc.).
- Investing in relationships to build up the Body of Christ.



- Engaging in ministry teams that fully utilize the member's talents.



Section

3 Spiritual Mindset/Approach

This portion is the most important aspect of this handbook. This portion can apply to anyone within the body, whether serving or not, but the importance of it is far reaching and is critical for the body of Christ and for staying *active* in God's work no matter where you may be in life. This part is one that you do not want to skip.

3.1 *Know Who You Are (Romans 3:22-24)*

This is a generation where both Christ-followers and unbelievers have equal access to different world religions and ideas. One can grocery shop for religion or for any medium that can quiet the spiritual hunger. Speaking strictly in marketing terms, Christianity has stiff competition as with everyday passing by, there are new entrants into the market that compete against Christianity. They often imitate or even resemble what seemingly are most uniquely Christian; there are other religions that report different instances of gods appearing in human form. Is the "resurrection" an inherently exclusive "Christian truth?" Unfortunately, other religions have accounts of return from death. The concept of eternal life exists in other religions, whether it is in the physical form or in the abstract. Christianity as the "nice-people production factory" fails as Islam promotes hospitality and courteousness to strangers and Buddhism encourages modesty and harmony with others; oftentimes, Christians seem to be on the verge of extinction in terms of ethical performance. Then, what is the competitive advantage of Christianity in a world of imitations? What distinguishes Christ-followers from these generic products? The questions address our identity, of who we are; these questions address our foundation. As members, we need to know why we "purchased" or selected our product; we need to know why this product is different and why others need to buy this product. As members, the priority is to answer these questions.

At a British conference on comparative religions, C.S. Lewis responds to Christianity's unique contribution among world religions in a simple sentence: "Oh, that's easy. It's grace." Only Christianity dares to make God's love unconditional. There are no strings attached and this idea emphasizes to the recipient that he/she is *chosen*. As a member, then, the question soon becomes a delightfully formulaic statement: "I am *chosen* to" Grace, or simply put, the status of "currently holding an invisible ticket to heaven with waiting time" becomes the member's foundation. A member absolutely must understand the "*who am I*" before venturing into the idea of "what is my role in the body." In the face of bulwark enemy force, the ancient Chinese strategist, Sun Tzu, writes in the *Art of War* that each individual soldier has to have comprehensive training both physically and mentally that results in him knowing the strengths of the enemy but most importantly, the strength of himself. Without foundation, the works of the member quickly deteriorates into the traps of obligation, means of approval to God, and loss of interest.

Therefore, our foundation is in the verse, "[we] are *justified freely by his grace* through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus (v.24)." The impact of this verse is put simply in one sentence: *we are free to live for Him*. The impact of this message of grace is the beginning of a new life overflowing and this truth is what the member's service strives to accentuate even more.



3.2 **Seek the Lord (Psalm 27:4)**

By now you are probably convinced that being a member can possibly entail more than you can handle. The truth is it can get overwhelming, but it doesn't have to be. Now we're going to talk about from where the power to do anything within ministry comes. All effective work for the Kingdom comes from the overflow of *seeking the Lord*.

King David, a man after the heart of God, knew what this meant and cried out that this was the "one thing" above all else that he sought. In Psalm 27:4, He longs to be in the *presence* of the Lord, to seek and to simply look upon His King. David understood that he had to invite the reign of his God into his life if he was to be victorious in battle and to survive. Even Jesus, the Son of Man, who was fully God knew his dependency was upon the Father was critical, and he daily sought to meet His Father in the morning (Luke 22:39). One of the last things that Jesus tells His disciples before going to the cross is that they would *abide* in Him saying that "apart from me, you can do nothing" (John 15:5). This idea continues in the next chapter as Jesus prays that we would be *one* with Him and the Father as they are *one*, and by *this* "the world may believe..." (John 17:21).

How to seek the Lord

To cultivate this *abiding* in God we must "seek first His Kingdom" (Matt. 6:33) and this means to invite the Lord's Reign into our lives. This idea is also captured in the statement that the "chief end of man is to glorify God by enjoying Him forever" (Piper, 15). We can do this by following the example of our Lord Jesus: by praying, such as offering the first fruits of our day *and* by being devoted to knowing and applying the Word of God. Temptations and testing come for all who call themselves believers, and Jesus showed us that the only way to intimidate and claim authority over the devil was speaking the powerful words of God Himself (Luke 4:1-13). Be careful to not let these activities become a source of self-righteousness, like the Pharisees, who Jesus rebuked. But first in view of His love, seek to offer yourselves to do His work, never the other way around.

Warning signs & encouragement

On this side of heaven, no one escapes hardships in ministry/life because these struggles are common to those who are a threat to the evil one. But we can fight them, and from personal experience the indications of when the member's service and ministry are in danger are as below:

1. When loving the Lord your God comes second to serving/loving others.
2. Feelings of obligation to serve rather to enjoy.
3. Finding "should's" and "have-to's" in our vocabulary.
4. When our heart's motive is for self-glory and is not the Glory of God.
5. When you make yourself the standard of what others should be.
Feelings of being burnt-out and serving out of our own strength.

Knowing our imperfect selves, at some point of our service, we will show one of these symptoms. The first, and probably the hardest step, is to identify and acknowledge the weakness. This is also known as "confession." Oftentimes, these warning signs are normally marked with not finding time to meet with God. The second step is to have "faith." As His child, you can always start over and have faith that God is in control even of our weaknesses; faith is He will change our hearts and shower his goodness upon you (Hosea 10:12-13). The last step is to obey. Now that we have identified these weaknesses, prayed to be refreshed of His sovereignty, this is when one must choose to obey in the way that we choose to think and act, and seek the Lord and invite his truth to bring light to where we've gone astray.



God also brings desert times into your life and ministry, because he wants to draw you into deeper intimacy with him (Deut 8:4-5). These can be times characterized by times when God puts you on the shelf and you are not serving or in difficult work/school/faith-testing settings. But during this time of discipline, he prunes us to shape us more into the image of his Son. Because these trials test your faith and character, this is also a time when abiding in the Lord is your greatest weapon.

Ultimately, until Christ returns, it is God's will that we become sanctified by his truth and that we are shaped more into the likeness of His Son. So whether you are on the mountain tops or in the valleys in your life, God calls us to *fix our eyes on Jesus* and to follow the road that he has blazed for us (Hebrews 12:1-3). And take heart! Because He has not left us in this world alone, but he has given us His Spirit who *lives* in you and this is an unailing promise of Love (Rom. 5:2-5).

3.3 Step Out in Faith (Hebrews 11:6)

Concerning our life in God, how do we get started? How do I know this is the right way? These might be some of the questions you may ask. When it comes to following God in or outside of the name of ministry, there is no cookie-cutter method to the way that he chooses to work. The power of our God can be seen in the fact that though He does not change, the ways that He reveals Himself and His plan are *dynamic* and *unique*. What we do should not defy God's Lordship over our lives and it needs to be biblical, but it also requires our faith. Hebrews 11:6 says that without *faith* we cannot please God. But in addition to this we are called to live by faith and not by sight and we can daily following in His footsteps through our *obedience*. Life is full of a series of doors and when we choose to trust God, *faith* takes us to the threshold of the door we cannot see past, and *obedience* is how we unlock that door. Our obedience comes from our faith which believes in following Him according to God's heart which is revealed to us in the word (Romans 1:5).

When Abraham left the familiar settings of his family and town to go where the Lord was telling him to go, He did not know what God had in store for him there, and though he met some hurdles along the way, He continued to trust God and obeyed Him at His word. And the Lord kept his end of the promise to bless him and make him into a great nation (Romans 4:20-21). Similarly, Jesus knew that His obedience led to the cross and His faith in God who conquered the grave was what gave Him the name above all other names (Phil. 2:1- 11).

Many opportunities in ministry are like this, and as our Counselor, God promises that He will take us one step at a time when we fix our eyes on him. These risks normally look like a choice that will stretch us or get us out of our comfort zone, but the blessings/rewards from them are worth far more than the cost of our obedience.

Let us believe in the greatness of our God who is able to do even more than our idea of "big things" on our campuses. For example, William Carey sought the Father's heart and ended up being one of the first to bring the gospel to India, even though he faced much opposition. May we take leaps of faith, trusting that God has the power to change that one important life through you.

"Expect great things from God; attempt great things for God."- William Carey



3.4 See Christ and Be Christ to Others (Matthew 25:31-46)

In the modern world, "being unwanted is the greatest disease of all."- Mother Teresa

To see genuine love in action is a great need among both believers and non-believers who live in this performance-driven society (1 Peter 3:18). As Christ as our example who died for us "while we were yet sinners" (Rom.5:8), on a daily basis we must not forget our calling to be Christ to others until He returns. As we know, the first commandment of our God to love Him with all our heart, soul, mind and strength and this is closely followed by the second to love our neighbors as ourselves. As modeled by our Savior, we must not forget that the second commandment only comes from the overabundance of the first commandment. But we must see that the presence of both is critical and this is evident when Jesus says "whatever you do for the least of my brothers of mine, you did for me." He calls us to have His unconditional love for our fellowships, our campuses and our communities and in doing this, we obey and love Him. In seeking to know and to have this desire of our Lord, we will be led to the needs where God will be delighted to help us in the work.

The Fellowship

This especially includes seeing Christ in the members of the body. It is still evident today that what is poisoning our churches are sins of jealousy, strife, and division that we fall into so easily, but the effects are that they are causing us to be ineffective at fulfilling our commission as the church of Christ (1 Cor. 3:2,3). God's word calls us to maturity and to build one another up in truth and in love. And this is our Hope, that the living God who has the power to raise the dead to life, lives in each one of us (Colos. 1:27) and *will* be glorified in the work that He does in us. Knowing this, we can push each other toward our God the Potter and love one other through the struggles of growth and ministry as God molds us to be more like Him.

The Lost

However, at times it is difficult to see that God's Kingdom encompasses more than believers in our small groups and fellowships. As our call to be Jesus' disciples (Luke 9:23), we can seek to have his heart to love whoever He might bring into our path, whether it is a classmate, roommate, or stranger. We begin to see that His kingdom purpose starts here on a smaller scale: *in relationships*. We are called to be *in* the world, and not of it and as Jesus was a man who ate among sinners and prostitutes, he has shown us that with His power living in us, we can be more than just church-goers, but rather like Him, be soul-winners for His Kingdom. Becky Pippert puts it nicely when she said:

"Jesus welcomed and loved sinners; he did not drive them away by too much affectation of righteousness. He showed genuine compassion for people, but he was also direct and uncompromising in denouncing sin. Jesus has compassion, but there was toughness in his love. He won them without sacrificing the purity of His life." (Pippert, p.78)

The only way to really be able to show this kind of love is through *real* friendships. This call that God gives us to relationships *is* an investment, but what else is worth investing in than what will last for eternity? Like a pastor said once, "the only things eternal beyond this world is our relationships with God and people." Let's not lose heart in the relationships that He has given us as we fix our eyes on an unseen eternity that awaits us. (2 Cor. 4:16-18).



Section

4 Practical Tips & Methods

4.1 Identifying Needs and Where to Start

Where do we begin? Like a wound that cries out for an agent to help heal it, our Lord Jesus was called to remedy the deadly sins of our dying world. This is the way we should approach meeting the needs of our campuses. We need to be an extension of Christ to heal and to bring life to dead places. When we look at God's motivation of ministry it was because "For God so *loved* the world,... he gave His only Son." It was God's heart and desire for His Glory that caused him to send His Son, and in the same way we should begin with our hearts when it comes to the starting or sustaining our ministry that He has given us. This means that when we encounter brokenness or personal pains, people's desires to use it for God's glory can very possibly bear fruit. He is a Redeeming God and desires to make "beauty from ashes." On a practical level, seeing these needs we can.

Invite His **Lordship**: ask His will to prevail, asking ourselves "am I willing to do his will no matter what it may be?"

Turn to His **Truth**: to be the lamp of direction, "what scripture (commands, principles...) could apply to this decision"?

Pray: that His Spirit would give us understanding and wisdom. Do I have constant peace as I consider the scripture basis of these decisions?

God places different visions and desires upon people's hearts that long to glorify Him, to allow us to uniquely meet the needs of the time, place, and people he has put in our lives. You as one person really can't do very much, but the good news is we do not have to do this alone. Knowing that the members of the body are called to work together is a starting point of ministry, and should serve as an encouragement to you. Mother Teresa put it best when she said...

"You can what I cannot do. I can do what you cannot do. Together we can do great things."

How your ministry will look will differ from place to place, but there are a few roles as a member that you can or may play that will help build up the body in the area of your service. Whether or not you feel that you have the abilities to be the following or to even do ministry, it is on God's heart to grow you and to empower you to do His will. Even if you may make mistakes, trust Him that He has not given up on you and that He trusts you. "So if you err, err on the side of faith" (Beth Moore). Let's believe Him to be Mighty!

4.2 Exploring Talents and Interests

This definitely is an area that you can grow into and that God would want all His followers to exercise more. In general, God calls His children to be leaders in the world and for those that seek to be difference-makers are going to have to be an initiator and choose to follow in His steps.

On the very basic level, when it comes to relationships, you will have to initiate. If you are as shy as I used to be then I pray that you would claim the truth that God has not place in you a "spirit of timidity, but one of power, love and self-discipline (2 Tim 1:7). The kind of outreach that we are to follow has to do with being open to love those that are of "kindred spirits" to those that are unlovely. So whether God calls you to begin a seeker's bible study or to simply greet people during gatherings, do courageously that which is on God's heart.



The possibility of your service is almost infinite, whether it is within the fellowship or to the world. As you pray to God for His Spirit to guide you in your quest to find your post in our offensive on the evil, keep in mind to be (1) honest and (2) exploratory. Honestly evaluate your strengths and weaknesses, your interests and passions, and have an exploring attitude that is thankful of the talents that God has given you. There is a sense of freedom as you remember that there are no superior or prestigious positions in the eyes of God (1 Corinthians 12); in summary, you are free to roam around to find the role that God has called you to play. Remember that whenever God gives you a role, He *always* equips you with what is necessary for you to accomplish the role. Borrowing from Rick Warren's *The Purpose Driven Life*, consider the following categories to find the place God wants you to serve:

1. **Spiritual Gifts:** Special God-empowered abilities for serving him that are given only to believers. God gives *every* believer these gifts and they cannot be earned or deserved (hence, "gift"). (Ex. Message of wisdom, message of knowledge, gifts of healing, prophecy, etc.; for more information, refer to 1 Corinthians 12:4-11).
2. **Heart:** Collection of desires, hopes, interests, ambitions, dreams, and affections. Often *emotional* "heartbeat" that races when you think about the subjects, activities, or circumstances. (1) Enthusiasm and (2) effectiveness are characteristic of serving God from your *heart*. (Ex. Heart for newcomers, passion for the children, sympathy for refugees, etc.).
3. **Abilities:** Natural talents you were born with. (Ex. Speaking, teaching, making music, driving, running, moving heavy furniture, making money, etc.).
4. **Personality:** There is no right or wrong temperament for ministry; however, your personality will affect *how* and *where* you use your spiritual gifts and abilities (Ex. Introverts vs. extroverts, thinkers vs. feelers, choleric vs. melancholic).
5. **Experience:** Incidents, circumstances, time period that shaped your life. God uses experiences to equip you for ministry to others (Ex. Family, education, vocation, spirituality, ministry, pain, etc.).

If you are honest, and you do not feel like you have a desire to serve, then seek His Spirit who is the Counselor to reveal His will in your life. Life has many stages and there are moments when you are led to stay still before the Lord in solitude. However, if you understand that factors such as laziness or lack of motivation are the sources that keep you away from serving, ask God for clarity as He promises to give the heart to you if you earnestly seek Him (1 Jn. 5:14-15).

4.3 Seeking Counsel and Advice

Seeking Counsel

For many especially those on a larger scale for the body, it is wise to also seek the counsel of those that are older such as pastors and leaders. *Be a Learner*. This is probably the most rewarding advice that you could get, learn from those that have gone before you, because heeding their instruction is always prove to be wise (Prov.12:15).

In addition, similarly, submission to authority and learning to bear with one another in love, are constant testing grounds within ministry, but to those who chose not to follow this wisdom suffer. As we can see in the case of Rehoboam, the son of Solomon, he rejected the advice of the elders



and the Israelites came to resent his authority and caused Israel to be in rebellion against the house of David for generations (1 Kings 12:1-24).

Advise

This section should be taken with a grain of salt. Seeing what this document has entailed so far, the depth of involvement in ministry can range from something small to bigger than you could imagine. Some sound advice for anyone would be: *seek God's honoring priorities and know your limits*. Michael LeBoef said that "Devoting a little of yourself to everything, means committing a great deal of yourself to nothing." Secondly, but not any less important, is to remember your priority to be a student as this should not be ignored. We should not forget that we are part of the small percentage in the world that has this privilege; and it would be a shame to not be faithful with this gift that God has given you. Lastly, it is also true that being faithful in the small things, will give God reason to put you in charge much more (Matt. 25:23).

4.4 Communication and Partnership

Just as communication is important in relationships, so it is with ministry and this is where *partnering* begins within and outside the body, which is critical to the effectiveness of the member's service. To be able to see where different areas of need could be filled will be determined by whether or not you can communicate it and listen from others.

Within the body, acquainting yourself with the different bible study leaders and ministry team leaders would allow you to be in a better position to serve your respective unit or to even materialize your initiative. Furthermore, it is also beneficial to establish partnerships with different campus and community organizations. Though these connections may start through acquainting members already having connections with them, really seek to see how the Lord to lead you to which ones to partner with because it is not good to be affiliated with too many. Some examples of partnerships are: local Salvation Army, Nursing Home, United in Christ- campus-wide fellowship events, Liberty in North Korea (LiNK) and other Christian organizations on campus.

Lastly, remember that you are not perfect, so don't try to pretend. Whenever in ministry, you must not be so caught up in it, that you lose yourself and keep your struggles from fellow brothers and sisters. Communicate to others your needs by being vulnerable with people you trust and being honest with yourself and to others (Eph 4:25).



Section

5 Reflection

Concluding Remarks

This handbook hopefully encourages you to question the foundations of the message of grace and what it means to you to be a child of God. Also, we wish that as a member, you would be excited at this opportunity to grow and to strive higher to achieve the vision God has placed upon our hearts for our campuses. By no means is this handbook a textbook; however, it served its purpose if it inspired you to think creatively on how you can make a difference today.

*"My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast;
I will sing and make music.
Awake, my soul! Awake, harp and lyre!
I will awaken the dawn."
Psalms 57:7-8.*



Appendix

References

- Drucker, Peter F. *Essential Drucker: The Best of Sixty Years of Peter Drucker's Essential Writings on Management*. New York: Harper Collins Publisher Inc., 2001.
- Hybels, Bill, & Lavonne Neff. *Too Busy Not to Pray: Slowing Down to Be With God*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1998.
- "Knowing God's Will." *Topical Memory System: Life Issues*. Colorado Springs: Nav Press, 1992.
- Piper, John. *Desiring God: Meditations of a Christian Hedonist*.
- Pippert, Rebecca Manley. *Out of the Saltshaker and Into the World: Evangelism as a Way of Life*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1999.
- Sanders, J. Oswald. *Spiritual Leadership: Principles of Excellence For Every Believer*. Chicago, Moody Press, 1994.
- Sun Tzu. *Art of War*.
- Warren, Rick. *The Purpose Driven Life: What On Earth Am I Here For?* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002.
- Yancey, Philip. *What's So Amazing About Grace?* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1997.

* Special thanks to Christina Yoon for her emotional and spiritual support as well as her help in editing the handbook.