Acts 6:3

I am going to continue my series about concert ministry, I did something like this back in 2020, but really felt stirred to teach & reteach the various aspects of this worthy ministry. Last lesson we looked at The Primary Purpose which is Evangelism... today we are going to think about Concert Ministry Results-Involvement/Development/Discipleship.

Acts 6:3 Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of *good* reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business;

I INVOLVEMENT:

- A- One of the things we see in our text is that church ministry isn't just for the Pastor-
- 1. Some believers can approach church as- The pastor does... EVERYTHING and ANYTHING that has to do w the church and it's operations.
 - a. And (in our fellowship) if he can't do it all, then give it to the Concert Director.
 - i. Because they represent the church... they don't have anything else going on... They exist solely for this-
- 2. But our passage shows us that the Apostles (Pastors), they get others involved in ministry.
- a. V3 seek out from among you... IOW from the BODY of believers get them involved in this ministry.
- 3. This is one of the distinctive's of our fellowship; We have <u>lay</u> workers that function in ministry.
- a. People from within the body that make a decision to get involved!
- i. Not paid, not formally trained, not titled... but involved in the work of God & the church.

B- Involvement is healthy for the believer... WHY?

- 1. Connection: When you get involved you become connected to your church... Relationships are built through ministry.
- a. People I have met and connected with that I would've never before outside of ministry... and it connected me.
- 2. Participating in Redemption: In ministry; You begin to be part of soul winning... which is what all are called to do!
- a. We have have been called to reach the world for Jesus... Ministry involvement facilitates that!
- 3. Ownership: When you are involved this becomes your church, your ministry, this changes your attitude to ownership.
- a. There are things I didn't have a care for, until I got involved... I saw needs I could meet!
- 4. Involvement is a result of concert ministry... people begin to let their lives be used in a way they never saw before.

II DEVELOPMENT:

- A- People begin to develop when they get involved-
- 1. The men in our story were saved, filled with the HG, good with people, they had wisdom...
- a. But this ministry involvement was going to develop and increase what was already at work
- 2. I have seen people get involved that you see things that are in there, but ministry helped to develop it.
- **B** Lets think about what this looks like practically; Development happens through...
- 1. Expectation: We have the Vows of exampleship... This is a starting point for you to begin to build convictions
- a. The elevated lifestyle makes you accountable... This can help people develop convictions-
- i. I have done both honor and dishonor the vows... nothing developed when I dishonored the vows!
- 2. Character Develops: You begin to realize certain character flaws... maybe your bad time/commitment... or too legalistic
- a. Ministry helped make me become a better Husband/Father/worker/christian...
- b. Ministry also helped me with grace/patience/seeing people's potential...
- 3. Development through Conflict: Ministry will Sand our rough edges... we will sand others rough edges
- a. It teaches you how to problem solve, forgive, see the bigger picture (SOULS!)...
- b. Much of my conflict resolution skills came out of concert ministry!

III DISCIPLESHIP:

- A- Concert ministry has a discipleship dimension.
 - a. That is what we see in this passage: These men distributing bread were not waiters or servers... They were disciples!
- 1. Through Concert ministry that has lasted 53 years! We have some amazing leaders that were prepared for Pastoral Ministry
- a. Pastor Greg/Pastor Cox/Pastor Aulson/Pastor Payne/Pastor Warner/Pastor Foley/Pastor Rubi...
- b. So many lessons and skills learned in the natural and in the spiritual!
- 2. Because ministry is people! Concert Ministry places you with people. Its hands on training. Its on the job & in real time!
- a. <u>Disciples can practice people skills</u>: Nobody likes you because your mean! People avoid you because you are consuming...
- b. Disciples can practice Preaching: I never preached a formal sermon until I went to SF and preached that Sunday night
- i. BUT; I learned how to preach and contend for the spirit of God in concert ministry for 2-1/2 years through Altar Calls!
- 3. <u>Disciples can develop dominion</u>: You learn how to contend for a night or special event... You wrestle through response or barrenness