

# THE STEWARDSHIP OF TEAMWORK

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## Teamwork

Teamwork produces the harmony and beauty of music. Consider an opera production involving conductor, musicians, singers and stage hands, each performing their individual duties. When done well according to the genius of the composer, the resulting sounds delight the ear. Should some performers refuse to cooperate in fulfilling their specific tasks, the result is noise instead of music. In sports teamwork is essential. Basketball players, functioning together harmoniously like poetry in motion, win games. Without the teamwork of fellow players, LeBron James of the Cleveland Cavaliers would have difficulty maintaining his claim to fame.

## Teamwork in the Family

Teamwork helps produce happy families. Family stability and tranquility is enhanced when family members fulfil their specific responsibilities. In their role as providers, parents should wisely use their time, talents and resources as good stewards. Proper money management is essential. Wasted, misspent money coupled with enormous credit card debt disrupts marital and family tranquility. Children should be assigned duties to help them gain a sense of responsibility, belonging and the satisfaction of accomplishment. Allowances? Yes - if they are connected to the performance of family chores and duties. Money from allowances or outside jobs should be theirs to personally manage. Parental suggestions, however, regarding banking, church support and money management will help ensure future financial stability. *Selfishness* is a killer of stability. Family members, caught up in a “*Me-Me-Me*” mind set, upset domestic peace. Husbands, wives and children, who unselfishly offer themselves in service to each other, nurture tranquility. The example of Jesus, the perfect servant, should be a family’s inspiration for a “*What Can I Do for You?*” mind set. Jesus said, “*I am among you as one who serves.*” (Luke 22:27) “*The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve.*” (Matt. 20:28) The word, “stewardship”, means *manager/caretaker*. It is the responsibility of each family member to be a caretaker of the family through unselfish, loving teamwork.

## Teamwork in the Church

One characteristic of growing churches is the teamwork of members accomplishing the will of Christ. Compared to an orchestra, Christ is the composer; the pastor, the director; the members, the musicians. Functioning together in harmony, they produce beautiful music to the glory of God. 1 Cor. 12:12 compares the Christian Church to the human body with each part functioning in behalf of the others. The brain, heart, lungs, stomach, mouth, eyes, ears, arms, fingers, legs, etc. - amazing teamwork! St. Paul writes. “*Now you are the body of Christ and each of you is a part of it.*” (1 Cor. 12:27) “*There should be no division in the body ... its parts should have equal concern for each other.*” (1 Cor. 12:25) Love should be the binding factor. Jesus commanded, “*A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.*” (John 13:34-35) The world quickly notices loving teamwork in action.

## Church Team Players Differ

Congregational team players individually differ from one another. Their talents, personalities, education, interests, experiences, etc., vary. This is an asset since the functions within a congregation are multi-faceted, involving worship, education, stewardship, evangelism, missions, charitable endeavors community service, fellowship, etc. Every church member should engage in a personal church activity. Studies have shown that if a new member is not incorporated into the framework of church activity within six months, the member will lapse. New members should be incorporated as team players in the stewardship of the Church as quickly as possible. Help should be given to make them aware of their specific spiritual gifts and talents. A resource to accomplish this is “*Spiritual Gifts*”.

RESOURCE TO HELP INCORPORATE  
MEMBERS INTO CHURCH ACTIVITIES

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Stewardship - Pastoral Helps  
“*SPIRITUAL GIFTS*”