One important truth in life and ministry is this: you can’t do everything by yourself. God never intended for any one person to carry out His work alone.

Think about how a car is built. The person who designs the engine needs someone else to make the tires. And another expert is needed for the electrical system. A car only functions properly when many people contribute their unique skills. It’s the same in ministry.

Biblical Example: Philip, Peter, and John

In Acts 8, we see how God used different people at different stages in the lives of new believers. Philip went to Samaria and preached the good news of Jesus. Many believed and were baptized. But it didn’t end there. The apostles in Jerusalem sent Peter and John to pray for those new believers so that they would receive the Holy Spirit.

> *Acts 8:12-17*
> *“But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.*

> *...When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria.*
> *When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit,*
> *because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.”*

Notice: Philip preached and baptized, but Peter and John prayed for the infilling of the Spirit. This shows that ministry is multi-layered, and God assigns different tasks to different people. There’s no room for competition—just cooperation.

The Body of Christ

The Apostle Paul gives us a powerful theology of unity and diversity in the Body of Christ. In 1 Corinthians 12:12, he writes:

> *“Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.”*

Paul emphasizes that every member has a role, and no one should think they can—or should—do it all. This truth also shows up in how Paul describes his ministry alongside others:

> *1 Corinthians 3:6-7*
> *“I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.*
> *So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.”*

Here, Paul is saying: *“I began the work, Apollos continued it—but God is the one who brings real results.”* True spiritual growth is God’s work, even though He uses human vessels along the way.

Can You Let Others Build on What You Started?

If you’re a minister or servant of God, here’s a challenge:
Are you willing to allow someone else to continue the work you started?

This question is especially important today when many feel territorial about their ministry. But the early church worked

through partnership, not ownership. If God sends another servant—whom you know to be genuine and biblical—can you allow that person to help grow those you first reached?

Of course, discernment is important. Not everyone who claims to be a servant of God truly is (see 2 Corinthians 11:13-15). But when someone is clearly walking in truth and humility, we must be willing to collaborate, just as the apostles did.

> *Ephesians 4:16*
> *“From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”*

We Need One Another

Ministry is not a one-man show. It is the work of the whole body of Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, and directed by God Himself.

When we recognize our limits and value the contributions of others, we reflect the unity of the early church—and more

importantly, the heart of Christ.

May the Lord help us to serve with humility, to work in unity, and to celebrate the growth that only God can bring.

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