"Helpers" are also needed in the church family. Again, that's by God's design. And again, the world is wanting to convince us that God's ideas for His church need updating and innovation. But what God set in motion in the 1st century is still the absolute best in the 21st century. Jesus built the church just the way he wanted it; the way he built it not even Satan can destroy it (*Matthew 16.18*). Consistent with himself, he designed his church to be made up entirely of helpers, of servants. "And Jesus called them to him and said to them, 'You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10.42-45 – emphasis mine).

It's true that there are leadership roles in the church (*Ephesians 4.11*), but the purpose of these roles is not for "lording it over" (*I Peter 5.3*), but to help the church to grow and "attain to the unity of the faith ... to mature manhood" (*Ephesians 4.13*). Leaders are called by God to help each part of the body function properly (*Ephesians 4.16*). Christians are often compared to parts of our physical bodies (i.e., *I Corinthians 12.12-20; Romans 12.3-8*). The point in both of these passages is that, like our physical bodies, when each part does its part, the body (church) will function best. So, regardless of what God has gifted you to do in the church, you are simply a helper for the whole body. Instead of being jealous of others or prideful of ourselves, we should be thankful for the help others can give us and, in turn, help them as well – and all to the glory of God!

The bottom line is that we are called to be helpers and servants because we are called to be like God. God is our Helper (*Psalm 124.8*). The Holy Spirit is called a Helper (*John 14.26*). And, of course, Jesus is a Servant/Helper. So, let's all humble ourselves and commit ourselves to be more like God.

Joe Chesser

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