

Matt 25: 32-46, Literally & doctrinally dealing with how the nations of the world have or continue to treat the nation of Israel which is the apple of his eye!

Spiritually speaking... deals with how you and I deal with our fellow man. How we care for our neighbor, those that the Lord places in our paths to make a difference in their lives.

Remember the second greatest commandment? To Love our neighbor as ourselves?

Do you remember the parable that Jesus taught when asked the question, "and just who is my neighbor?" (Luke 10: 25, Story of the Good Samaritan)

There are some enemies of the care ministry:

1. CLIQUES: We all have our little groups that we like to hang out with. You know how it is... our best friends walk in the door at church and you go running up to them and give them a big hug like you haven't seen them in 6 months! (Same care one for another... no elitists!)

We must learn to leave that and immediately welcome new visitors when duty calls!

2. CLICHÉ'S: Little repetitive sayings that you really don't mean and that people lie about every time you say them.

"How are you doing today?" DO YOU REALLY CARE? Do you have a couple of hours and I will tell you! The short version is... "Oh, I'm fine! Or I'm doing great!" When in reality you are ready to fall apart at the seams!

You quickly learn, not to ask that question around some people.

Don't be shallow when involved in the Care Ministry. We must love them and be spiritually concerned for their souls.

3. COMFORT ZONES: We are creatures of habit! We arrive at church the same time every service, usually late!

We sit in the same pew for each sermon, next to the same person. We are in our own little private world most of the time. Break out of that mode and learn to focus on others.

4. CONVENIENCE: Our time is very precious to each one of us. The care ministry might cost you some of your personal time.

Time to make a plate of cookies for the FTA. And time to visit them in their homes.

Time to make a phone call and encourage them, let them know you are praying for them.

Time to go out of your way and pick them up for church services if they need a ride.

The Care Ministry does not end on Sundays!

Col 3:23-24 And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; 24 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ.

What are the requirements that I expect from our Care Givers?

Quit frankly, no more or no less than what the Lord requires of each of us.

1. The Love of the Lord Jesus in your lives! You can show that by placing Him first in every area of your lives. Give Him the preeminence! Read your Bible; Be a prayer warrior; be faithful in church and to your church! Financially support your church!

Isn't that this the First and greatest commandment?

Jesus... Others... Yourself

2. Second one is to love thy neighbor as thyself. Be filled with the Holy Spirit! Exemplify the fruit of the Spirit in your lives.

Eph. 5: 18-21 (Filled with the Spirit) vs. Col. 3: 16-18 (Words of Christ) same affect!

Ps 119: 165 DON'T GET SO EASILY OFFENDED!!!

- 3. A commitment from you:** Teams or couples, to commit to one Sunday a month.
- a. Be in place early, stand at the door entrance or foyer until the preaching begins and greet everyone..
 - b. Smile, shake hands with everyone as they enter and zero in on FTA. (Young or Old!)
 Realize: Hugs can be uncomfortable to some & not genuine! Give them space, don't be in their face!
 Show them or escort them to the nursery, Sunday school rooms, rest rooms, help them find a seat.
 - c. Give them a visitors packet: (Explain and fill out visitors card to have a record of their visit, and a place to write down their prayer request if any.)
 - d. Be personable: Ask them their names & REMEMBER THEM!!
 - e. Ask them if there is anything in particular that we can pray for them about.
 - f. Befriend them, Be sincere, and earn the right to minister to them.
 - g. WE need to keep our church CLEAN! And looking great! "Cleanliness is next to godliness." (Book of Willie chapter 2) It is everyone's responsibility to pick up papers on floor, and hymnals picked up! (Don't tell me there are no toilet paper or paper towels in the restrooms... YOU GO GET SOME!!!
 - h. Every Visitor is to be visited! (Unless impossible... Hawaii- then I will have to go!)
 1. Within the week, preferably, in the first two days!
 2. Bring a gift! Book of Proverbs, cookies, Montana Mills Bread,
 3. Bring an extra church brochure and sit down and go over that with them.
 4. It is a soul winning ministry, "You heard the message our pastor preached Sunday, have you thought about where you will spend eternity?"
 5. Tell them you will call them on Saturday or Sunday morning to remind them and or see if they need a ride.
 6. No one should fall through the cracks!
 7. Look nice! You are representing the Lord Jesus Christ and the HCBBC.
(2 Cor. 5: 17-21) Ambassadors
 8. Dress appropriately; Breath mints; Be prayed up; read up; confessed up;
 9. Answer all their questions or promise to get back to them with an answer.
 10. Pray for them and with them.
 11. Send a thoughtful card
 12. Give them your testimony, tell them how you were saved and what the Lord has done for you in your life.
 13. Teach them about baptism, membership, discipleship
 14. Hurt? Lonely? See lessons handouts on the subjects. Tapes / videos / library

Jude 21-22 Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And of some have compassion, making a difference:

How will this affect our church?

1. You and other church members will gain more confidence to invite others to church, knowing that if they come they won't be ignored but cared for.
2. As our faithfulness to this ministry grows, so may the Lord direct more people our way.
 If we are faithful with what we are given, God will give us more!
3. People who feel like they have no talent can play a major role in the church through our Care Ministry.

4. This church should become known in the community as a church that not only cares for individual's souls, but their physical and mental needs as well.

We will take on a new personality, because we will take better care of our FTA, needy in our community (Thanksgiving baskets), regular members, our pastor, and the visiting missionaries and Evangelists!

A word about visiting Missionaries, and Evangelists

- a. Treat them as hero's... they are! They are sacrificing much for God's calling in their lives.
- b. Place to stay, meals to eat.
- c. Thoughtful fruit baskets, flowers, card etc.
- d. Food pantry; missionary closet
- e. Ask them what their needs are! (George changed a thermostat)

What people are looking for in us. This is what people need. (SEE ATTACHED COPY)

Remember the Words of our Lord?

Matt 25:34-36 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Matt 25:40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.