



“Ministry”

The Keys
II Corinthians 8:16-24

Ministry flourishes through:

I. Calling – “God which put the same earnest care” (vs. 16-18)

Our calling is:

- A. Caring** – “earnest care into the heart”
- B. Compelling** – “of his own accord he went unto you”
- C. Conversions** – “his praise is in the gospel”

II. Character - “to prove” (vs. 19-22)

Our character leads to being:

- A. Drafted** – “but who was also chosen of the churches”
- B. Deflective** – “administered by us to the glory of the same Lord”
- C. Diligent** – “whom we have oftentimes proved diligent”

III. Cooperation – “supply for their want” (vs. 23-24)

Our cooperation is linked to:

- A. Credibility** - “whether any do enquire of Titus”
- B. Compassion** – “the proof of your love”
- C. Confidence** – “our boasting on your behalf”

Sentence Sermon

“The true character of ministry is having a servants heart that is passionate about leading others to Jesus.”

Additional Verses

- *Proverbs 30:7-9*
- *II Corinthians 12:18*
- *Acts 16:11, 17; 20:6*
- *Proverbs 3:4*
- *Ephesians 2:10*
- *Galatians 2:10*
- *I Corinthians 9:19-23*
- *Colossians 3:23*
- *Luke 16:10-12*

Questions to Ponder

1. What are the key words or phrases in this passage?
2. Who are the central characters of the passage?
3. What people group has God placed an earnest care into your heart for?
4. What are some ways we can show ministry initiative like Titus did?
5. Why did Paul talk so much about the reputation of the “brother?”
6. Does it really say something if you are chosen to do an important task?
7. What things can we learn about handling money from this passage?
8. How would you define “character” using some of the words of this passage?
9. Why does Paul have such confidence in the Corinthian church?
10. Is it right or healthy to “boast” of fellow believers? Why or why not?
11. How would describe your passion for ministry?
12. What do you do to maintain a healthy perspective of ministry?

