

# MINISTRY FOUNDATIONS

MINISTRY FOUNDATIONS 101

*Preparing the Saints for the Work of the Ministry*



**BEN R. PETERS**

*Rooted in Love. Fully Empowered. Effectively Sent.*  
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## STUDY GUIDE

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## Ministry Foundations 101 Assignment Sheet

Assignments	Date Assigned	Date Completed	Leader Initial when Complete
Assignment 1: Pure Hearts and Pure Motives  Read "Humility and How I Almost Achieved It" by Ben Peters. Answer Study Guide Questions			
Assignment 2: The Importance of Unity  Read "God's Favorite Number" by Ben Peters Answer Study Guide Questions			
Assignment 3: Understanding our Role As Kings  Read "Kings and Kingdoms" by Ben Peters Answer Study Guide Questions			
Assignment 4: Knowing our Destiny  Read "Finding Your Place on Your Kingdom Mountain" by Ben Peters. Answer Chapter Questions and Study Guide Questions			
Assignment 5: Understanding Your Ministry Gifts  Read "Folding Five Ministries into One Powerful Team" by Ben Peters Answer Study Guide Questions			
Assignment 6: Prophetic Ministry  Read "Prophetic Ministry - Strategic Keys to the Harvest" By Ben Peters Answer Study Guide Questions			
Assignment 7: Understanding some Basic Christian Doctrines  Read "Holy How" by Ben Peters Answer Study Guide Questions			
Assignment 8: Ministry Resume  Create your personal ministry resume as outline on the Study Guide.			
Assignment 9: Take Personality test  Go to <a href="http://www.colorcode.com">www.colorcode.com</a> and take the free personality test. Learn how your personality type interacts with others.			

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Leader Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# MINISTRY FOUNDATIONS 101

## PREPARING THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF THE MINISTRY

### Overview

The goal of this study is to help you be the best possible stewards of the gifts, talents, knowledge and experience that God has given to each of you. We invite all those who want to be faithful servants and working members of the body of Christ to join us in a journey of discovery. We want to discover how and where we fit in His body so that together we can more efficiently build His Kingdom.

The journey will last about 9 weeks, if you do one lesson per week. In the first seven lessons you will be asked to read one short book and respond with some comments. For the 8<sup>th</sup> lesson, you will complete a personal, spiritual and practical resume. For the 9<sup>th</sup> lesson you will be given a personality test, which will help you to better understand yourself and those you live and work with.

This realignment for reassignment will help us all to find our place and do for Jesus what He has called and equipped us to do. Identifying and walking in the gifts and talent you have been created with will help you take your place in the body of Christ, on the mountain of society that you have been called to.

We know that in the past it has been common in churches to fail to recognize some of the gifts and talents that God has given people. There are many reasons for this, but we want to do things better than the church has done in the past. We, being His body, owe it to our Lord Jesus Christ to not waste His gifts, but to use them for His glory.

At the same time, we know that many church leaders have struggled finding qualified people to fill positions and when they do find people with the proper gifts, they often realized that the people with the greatest gifts often have the greatest personal conflicts with others on the team.

This course is designed to be a major source of help to both church leaders and the saints who want to serve the Kingdom of God as good stewards of God's grace.

## LESSON 1: PURE HEARTS AND PURE MOTIVES

Many people seek position in the church with mixed motives and impure hearts. As Jesus said, "Every man seeks his own glory."

Although we will always have to deal with flesh and pride, our goal is to die daily to our own selfish ambitions and become true and humble servants in the body of Christ.

Please read, "HUMILITY AND HOW I ALMOST ACHIEVED IT."

Answer the following questions after reading the book:

1. Were you impacted by the importance of humility as revealed in the Scriptures? If so, how?
2. What promised blessing of humility appeals the most to you?
3. Can you think of any examples when you were rewarded for humbling yourself?
4. How have you learned humility through failure? Can you give a brief example or two?
5. Which of pride's accomplices have you had the most trouble with, including any that might not have been mentioned in the book? You can mention as many as you think apply.
6. How would you handle someone being given a position which you believe should have been given to you?

## LESSON 2: THE IMPORTANCE OF UNITY

One of Satan's favorite tools to destroy the church is division and strife. Jesus knew His disciples would face this, so He prayed fervently in John 17 that they would all be one. He told them why it was important and where the unity would come from. No church can properly proclaim the love and goodness of God without true unity.

Please read, "GOD'S FAVORITE NUMBER." Then answer the following questions.

1. On a scale of 1 – 10, where 1 is almost no value and 10 is very high value, how much value has the church placed on unity compared to the value Jesus and Paul placed on it? How much value have you personally placed on unity? What actions have you taken that back up your answer?

2. Can you remember any situations in church where the enemy was able to bring division? Briefly mention what comes to mind.

Can you think of how this could have been avoided?

3. As a member of the body of Christ, and part of His ministry team, how committed are you to pursue a "spirit of unity?" What would that look like in your life? What would unity look like in the group or church you are working with?

4. Why is humility such an important ingredient in unity?

5. Has wanting to be right hindered your own unity with others? If so, can you give an example?

## LESSON 3: UNDERSTANDING OUR ROLE AS KINGS

If we begin with the foundation of humility and a passion for unity, we can move on to understand how Jesus wants us to function as kings under the King of kings. We have a high calling and need to understand our place in the palace if we are going to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Please read, "KINGS AND KINGDOMS." Then answer the following questions:

1. What were the biggest differences between King Saul and King David?
2. Have you ever limited yourself because of lack of education, self-confidence, etc.?
3. Are you willing to pursue a higher place for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven on earth?

How will this look for you?

What is your biggest dream for your future in the Kingdom?

4. Will you commit to helping others get to a higher place on their mountain? What will this look like?

## LESSON 4: KNOWING OUR DESTINY

Now that we have a better understanding of how God has called us to be kings on the mountains of society, we could probably use some help in finding out where we might fit the best.

Please read, "FINDING YOUR PLACE ON YOUR KINGDOM MOUNTAIN."

Use the study questions in the book to help you learn more about your calling and destiny. Be ready to discuss those questions with your group if you are participating with a group.

1. Briefly sum up what you learned about yourself while reading the book.
2. Which Kingdom Mountain(s) are you drawn to and why?
3. What steps could you take to either become involved on that mountain or, if you already are involved, further pursue that kingdom?
4. What kinds of things could you do to better equip yourself for ruling on that mountain?
5. Draw up an action plan to accomplish your goals. It can be a general or as specific as you feel led to do.



## LESSON 5: UNDERSTANDING YOUR MINISTRY GIFT OR GIFTS

There are several listings of gifts in the New Testament. These are found in Romans 12, I Corinthians 12 (one near the beginning and one near the end) and Ephesians 4. All are important, but we want to focus now on what we call, the Five-Fold Ministry gifts. These are not just meant for top leaders, but for everyone who wants to serve God.

Please read, "FOLDING FIVE MINISTRIES INTO ONE POWERFUL TEAM." Then answer the following questions:

1. What are the most important facts about the apostle?
  
2. What is the role of the prophet?
  
3. What does the evangelist do best?
  
4. What describes a true pastor?
  
5. What is most important to the teacher?
  
6. What would be your strongest gifting of these five? What do you see in your life that causes you to chose that gifting?
  
7. What is one negative result of the church not understanding these special gifts in the body of Christ?
  
8. Which of the following would be your strongest gifts from Romans 12? You can choose more than one.
  - a. Prophecy
  - b. Serving
  - c. Teaching
  - d. Exhorting
  - e. Giving
  - f. Administrating
  - g. Showing Mercy.

List the strongest in your life in order of strength.

First \_\_\_\_\_

Second \_\_\_\_\_

Third \_\_\_\_\_

9. Which of the following would be your strongest gifts from I Corinthians 12? You can choose more than one

- a. Word of Wisdom
- b. Word of Knowledge
- c. Faith
- d. Healings
- e. Miracles
- f. Prophecy
- g. Discerning of spirits
- h. Tongues
- i. Interpretation of Tongues

List the strongest in your life in order of strength.

First \_\_\_\_\_

Second \_\_\_\_\_

Third \_\_\_\_\_

10. Knowing your giftings, how could you, or have you, use them in the Kingdom Mountains you feel called to?

11. How could you use them in your daily life?

## LESSON SIX:            PROPHETIC MINISTRY - STRATEGIC KEY TO THE HARVEST

1.        From the Preface of this book, what can we learn from natural harvest time that we can apply to the spiritual harvest of souls?

2.        Why do you think the church has not pursued God's power?

3.        How does prophetic ministry prepare the way for the more dramatic miracles that cause people to become believers?

4.        What was your reaction to the information on the Day of Pentecost in Acts 2?

What are the Four Results of the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2?

What are the two results of Prophetic Ministry in Acts 2?

5.        What would you say to someone who believes that prophecy is not for today?

6.        What are some of the wrong motivations for prophetic ministry?

7. What are the right motivations for prophetic ministry?
  
8. What should you do if you have a PMO (Prophetic Ministry Opportunity) and you are fearful or nervous about sharing with someone?
  
9. In what endeavor does Paul instruct us to pursue excellence?
  
10. What is prophetic ministry "not about?"
  
11. What is the best way to multiply prophetic ministry?
  
12. What impacted you the most reading this book?

## LESSON 7: UNDERSTANDING SOME BASIC CHRISTIAN DOCTRINES

Most Christians are still living under the influence of dark ages thinking, without realizing it. In this lesson, we want to challenge you to embrace a happier, and more motivating understanding of some very important Christian truths.

Please read, HOLY – HOW?

1. What aspect of holiness discussed in this book blessed you the most?

2. Do you have any argument with the author on holiness?

If so, share it.

3. What keeps you from feeling that you are holy?

Can you overrule your feelings and accept the fact that you are called and enabled by God to be holy?

4. Do you agree with the author's understanding of the Sabbath and the First Day?

What practical ideas do you have to make it meaningful to you?

5. What did you think of the author's interpretation of the significance of Communion?

Will it change the way you receive or serve communion in the future?

6. What do you think of the meaning of baptism the author puts forth?

Had you ever thought of the idea that Jesus was a disciple of His Father? Would that help you understand why Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist?

7. What are the 5 applications in Chapter 8 that sum up what was learned in the book?

What did you take away from each one?

## LESSON 8: YOUR PERSONAL MINISTRY RESUME

Create your personal ministry resume.

Include your spiritual experiences, training, disciplines and accomplishments.

Then include your life experiences, such as where you worked and what practical skills you have learned to this point.

Include your vision and dreams for the future.

What brings you the greatest joys in life, and what causes you the most pain?

## LESSON 9 : YOUR PERSONALITY TEST

Go to [www.colorcode.com](http://www.colorcode.com) and take the free personality test.

We recommend that you invest in the more detailed explanation of your personality, which will cost a little, but should be worth it, especially if you can do it as a group and discuss the differences together.

1. How does your personality type interact with others?

2. What are the main personality traits of your personality type?

3. If you paid for the complete personality test, what were your two other highest scoring personality colors? How does knowing these sub traits help you to understand how you interact with other personalities?