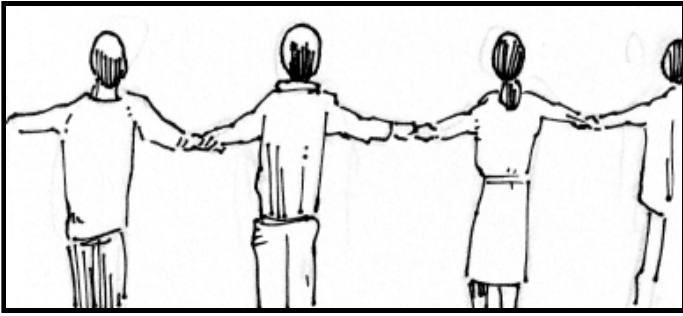


Maybe, if we all joined our hands and worked together we could really get the Gospel done.



But we'll never find out, if we just keep things the way they are--!

WHAT IF----INSTEAD OF---
"going" to church---we really were
the church!.....WHAT IF?

What if..... Instead of.....



This is the church---or is it?

"Prophets" ---people who pray and receive God's instructions to further the Gospel.



"Pastors"-----people who guide others personally to God---specifically to find their own ministry.



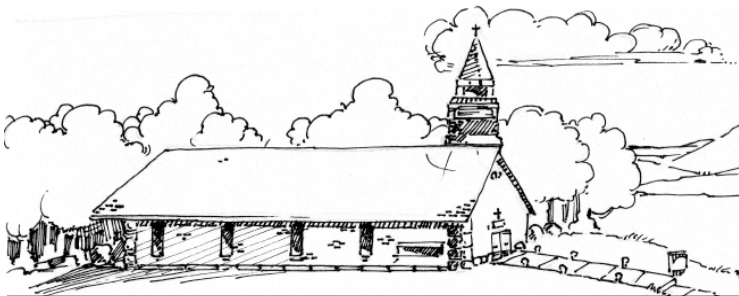
(By the way--"Evangelists" are folks that do the same stuff that apostles do--they just work alone.)



As brothers and sisters we give thanks--and rightfully so-- to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We worship God our Father--we receive the empowerment of the Spirit. We "experience" God.

"All be seated"--
--Comes the command of the format.





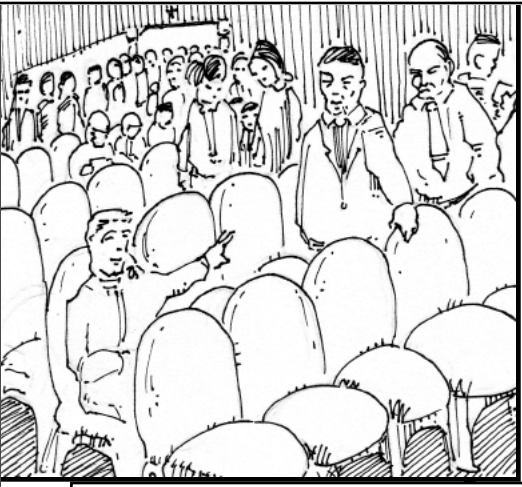
"Teachers"-----people who teach others the word of God---simply---directly---personally.

The building we have built---yet is it just for us---or for the service of the Lord? Perhaps we recognize that this---is the church---the people inside.



But are we really the church? Are we really BEING the church?

What do we DO---as the church? Does it look something like this?

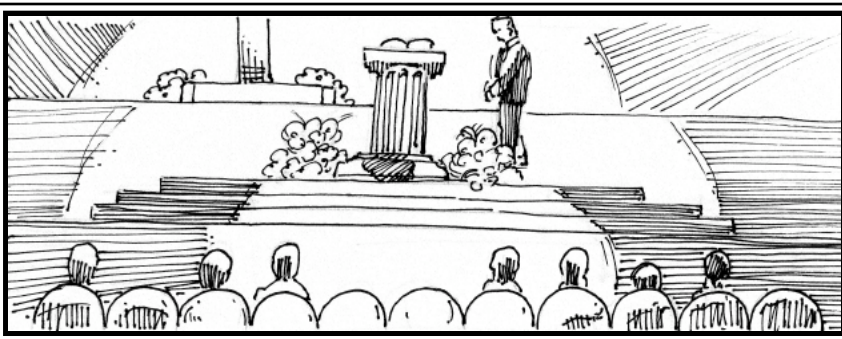


We file in.....we all know our place.

2

A group of teachers in the church? Makes sense, doesn't it? In school--didn't you have many teachers that each specialized in a different subject? What makes us think there ought to be only one teacher for all the church? Well, in the dark ages, the priest of the local parish was usually one of the few people in town who knew how to read. He was called a "clerk"---which later became the word "clergyman". The word "clergy" is not found in the Bible, yet we operate the church through the concept of "clerical authority". Why? Instead, the Bible says we all ought to be teachers. (Hebrews 5:12)

23



The gifts of ministry in "every one of us".....

"But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;"
(Ephesians 4: 7,11)

Now the sheep must be fed. The "man of God" will now speak. The "minister"--the "pastor"---the "priest"-----the "servant of the church"-----the "official" minister-----the "main man"---you know who I mean---right? The Roman column speaks---the authority rules. Now all silent.....

The example we just used demonstrated all the ministry gifts working together--in one place--in many people--which is what the Bible describes....watch.....



"Brothers and sisters in Christ. The Lord has put upon my heart a message---a question for us...."

4 21



"Apostles"---the people who are "sent" out to the world with the Gospel (those are the folks who drive the bus).