“Excel for the Edification of the Church”

1 Cor. 14:12

Introduction:
A. God willed for Christians to work together in groups for their edification.
   1. Groups called churches. (cf. Rom. 16:16; 1 Cor. 1:1; Rev. 1)
   2. Edify means to build up - spiritually and numerically.
B. God does not like the “go it alone” attitude. (1 Thess. 5:11)
   1. Yet, each individual gives account for himself.
   2. Each responsible for his part in the action of the group.
C. This Lesson deals with 6 areas of attention to excell for edification.

Discussion:
I. Excel in Personnel. (Eph. 4:11,12)
   A. That accepts responsibility according to ability. (cf. I Pet. 5:2); Moses.
   B. That accepts limitations of ability. (Rom. 12:3-8).
      1. Seek help to determine ability. cf. 1 Cor. 12:16-18; 29-31)
      2. Limitations of time and ability. (cf. Acts 6)

II. Excel in Participation. (Eph. 4:16)
   A. In Assemblies. (Heb. 10:25; 1 Cor. 11,14).
   B. In Special Studies. (cf. Acts 15:22)
   C. In Work of church (Acts 11:29)

III. Excel in Planning. (cf. 1 Cor. 14:40)
   A. Makes for better understanding. (1 Cor. 14:7-19).
   B. Makes for better order. (1 Cor. 14:26-33).

IV. Excel in Patience.
   A. With one another. (Eph. 4:2)
   B. Especially weak brethren. (Rom. 15:1-2; 1 Cor. 8:1, 10:23)

   A. By carefully handling threats to peace.
      1. Avoid unnecessary controversy. (1 Tim. 1:4).
      2. Care with personal convictions. (Rom. 14).
      3. Care to not spread strife. (Prov. 16:9, 14).
   B. By refusing to accept a false peace. (Jer. 6:13-14; 5:30-31)

VI. Excel in Purity. (2 Cor. 13:7-10).
   A. Sharp words may be needed at times to maintain purity. (cf. Tit. 1:13; Gal. 2:5, 14ff.)
   B. Sharp actions may be needed at times to maintain purity. (Gal. 5:)

Conclusion:
Let us EXCEL unto edification.