Introduction:

A. A valid question for apostles to ask.
   1. People tried to worship them as gods: Why? By what authority?
   2. People needed to think on this question?

B. A good question for anyone to ask. (cf. 1 Pet. 3:15).
   1. Have asked: Why do Anything in religion?
   2. Have asked: Why worship God as we do?
   3. Will ask: Why organize in religion as we do?
   4. Are Asking: Why work in religion as we do?

C. Our lesson: 3 areas of works assigned in Bible

Discussion:

I. The Works We Do to Become Christians.
   A. Salvation is not without works of any kind. (Eph. 2:8-10; cf. Jn. 6:28,29).
   B. Salvation is by a working faith. (Gal. 5:6; Mk. 16:15,16; Acts 2).

II. The Works We Do as Individual Christians.
   A. Domestic duties. (1 Tim. 5:8; 2 Thess. 3:10; Eph. 6:1-4).
   C. Humanitarian duties. (Eph. 4:28; Gal. 6:10; Jas. 1:26,27).
   D. Spiritual duties. (Acts 8:4; Gal. 6:6).
   E. Economic duties. (Eph. 4:48) — Needed to fulfill other duties.

III. The Works We Do as a Church (Congregation).
   A. Evangelism—gospel preaching.
      1. Involves teaching the lost everywhere. (1 Tim. 3:15; Phil. 4)
      2. Involves edifying the saints. (cf. 2 Tim. 4:1-5)
         a. Through a good teaching program.
         b. Through worship activities.
   B. Benevolence toward needy saints. (Act 6:11; 11:27-30; 1 Cor. 16:1; 2 Cor. 8&9).
      1. What about general benevolence?
      2. Why is it not the same as individual benevolence? (1 Tim. 5:16).
   C. Unauthorized works many local churches do.
      1. Social meals and activities. (cf. 1 Cor. 11:22,34).
      2. Social and secular educational services.
      3. Recreational activities.
      4. Youth directors, etc.
      5. Some do it overtly, other covertly.
      6. What is wrong with such works?
         a. Where is the Scripture? (cf. 2 Tim. 3:16).
         b. Must find the work or the worker in scriptures.

Conclusion:

A. Let us do God's work.
B. Let us do it God's way.