A BRIEF PHILOSOPHY OF PASTORAL MINISTRY
by Vincent Sawyer

Illustrations of the necessity for:
husband and wife to know their roles in marriage.
team players in sports to know their positions.
workers to know their jobs.

I. THE PURPOSE FOR GOING TO CHURCH

1. Why do we go to church? Heb. 10:24-25. Encouragement.
2. How should we go to church? Acts 2:44-46; 4:32-37. With loving unity.

II. THE PREACHER'S PRIORITIES

1. Acts 6:4 - "The ministry of the Word and prayer"
   (Satan desires to get God's man to substitute "good" things, in place of the "best" things.)

III. THE PASTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY TO THE WORD OF GOD

In the book of II Timothy, He described a steward of the Word.

1. He must keep the Word (1:14) Guard it.
2. He must commit the Word (2:2) Give it.
3. He must rightly divide the Word (2:15) Glean from it.
4. He must counsel with the Word (3:16) Guide with it.
5. He must preach the Word (4:2)

IV. THE PASTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY AS OVERSEER

I Peter 5:1-4

1. He is to shepherd the flock (v.2).
   a. By feeding, leading, and meeting the needs of the flock.
   b. By remembering that it is God's flock.
   c. By being motivated by a willingness to serve Christ.
2. He is to be an example to the flock (v.3).
   a. By not being a dictator
   b. By remembering that the flock has been entrusted (allotted) to him by "the Chief Shepherd"

V. THE PASTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY AS "PASTOR-TEACHER"

Ephesians 4:11-16

1. THE PASTOR'S JOB-(pros-"for") perfecting the saints (v.12a)
   a. The pastor is like a medical doctor - mends, restores.
   (primarily through preaching & teaching; secondarily through personal counseling)
   b. The pastor is like a coach - to equip you for the task. (by personal example as a soul-winner, leader etc.)
2. THE BELIEVER'S JOB
   a. (eis-"unto") Performing a spiritual service (v.12b)

b. (eis-"unto") Building up other members spiritually (v.12c)

3. THE CHURCH'S GOAL = **GROWTH**
(maturity (v.13), stability (v.14), unity (v.15-16)