

## **2/9/2025—Chaplain, Evangelist, Restorer**

### **I. Preliminary thoughts**

- a. We are all called to ministry; it should be a lifestyle. If you see your life in that way it changes your focus in where you are; that place becomes more sacred; it affects the relationships you have with those people.
- b. There is much overlap between these three areas, but each has a specific focus
- c. Depending on your specific context, and how God has gifted you, you may focus more on one of these than the other two. That's okay, but you should not discount the possibility of the other two

### **II. Chaplain: intentional service to those around us (*James 1:27; Luke 10:25-37*)**

- a. Seeing the opportunity to take care of the various needs of the people whom you are called to ministry (spiritual, emotional, and physical)
- b. People in your context know that you are a Christian and that you care deeply for them; something about you stands out; you become someone they can turn to. You become the unofficial chaplain in your specific context.
- c. This will look different for different people
- d. Examples: Listening; Encouraging; Counseling; Praying; Comforting; Being present for people
- e. How can you become more of a chaplain in your workplace, school, neighborhood, family?

### **III. Evangelist: we have a message worth sharing**

- a. *1 Peter 3:15-16*—we should all be ready and eager to share
- b. This may simply be an invitation to church or a church event (*John 1:40-42*)
- c. Some things to consider:
  - i. Earn the right to be heard; don't force a conversation
  - ii. Consider using your story (stories can be powerful)
  - iii. Consider using questions
  - iv. Pray for opportunities (and be on the lookout for God answering) *Col. 4:2-6*
- d. Sharing your faith may not necessarily happen in one setting; it may be a process that happens in the midst of your relationship with someone (*1 Thess. 2:8*)

### **IV. Restorer: bringing Shalom back into the world (*Jer. 29:7; 1 Cor. 10:31; Matt. 5:13*)**

- a. Work and relationships were disrupted because of the Fall; but Christ initiated a restoration when he conquered sin on the cross. Someday when he returns, he will complete this restoration. In the meantime, we are called to try to bring this restoration to the world as a glimpse of God's Kingdom.
- b. Seeking Shalom in our contexts.
- c. In some mysterious way, our work goes with us into eternity (*1 Cor. 3:12-15; Rev. 14:3*)