

MY ROLE AS AN ASSOCIATE MINISTER

SERVANTS OF GOD AND
THE SENIOR PASTOR'S
ARMOR BEARERS



*"As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend."
Proverbs 27:17*

DR. JOSEPH R.
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My Role As An Associate Minister Servants Of God And The Pastor's Armor Bearers Joseph R. Rogers, Sr. D. Min.

Associate Minister Contents

I. Dedication-----	4
II. Introduction-----	7
III. Chapter One-----	14 What Is An Associate Minister
A. From The Biblical Perspective	
B. From The Church Perspective	
IV. Chapter Two-----	20 (Duties Of An Associate Minister)
A. The Lord's Expectations	
B. The Senior Pastor's Expectations	
C. The Church's Expectations	
V. Chapter Three-----	29 (Examples Of Associate Ministers)
A. Joshua/Moses	
B. Elisha/Elijah	
C. Solomon/David	
D. Timothy/Paul	
E. The Author/His Pastor	
VI. Chapter Four-----	72 (Tidbits For The Associate Minister)
A. Do's	
B. Do Not's	
VII. Chapter Five-----	75 (Conclusion)
VIII. Chapter Six-----	79 (Selected Bibliographies)
IX. Chapter Seven-----	81 (The Associate Minister's Code Of Ethics)
X. Qualities Of A Godly Leader---	88
XI. Notes-----	92
XII. The Author's Contact Information-----	93
XIII. The Author's Other Works---	95

Associate I. Dedication_{Minister}

This work is dedicated to those hard working Disciples of Christ in the local church who may sometime feel as though they are not appreciated and are not getting their fair share of accolades.

In thirty years of pastoring I have to work with and support many ministers, men and women, whom the Lord has called into the gospel ministry. I have found pastoral ministry to be a very important in the frame work of the local church.

I am sharing this information to encourage those who sometime feel that their gifts and talents are not use to the maximum of their ability.

The Role of the Associate Minister may differ in each local church setting, yet is important to understand the positive affect you can have on the local church family for which you are affiliated.

The Associate Minister must understand and accept the fact that you're not the pastor and have you no inherited pastoral authority and should never attempt to assume the pastor's role.

In this book I will share with you my knowledge as well as some of my on personal experiences. I have served as and Associate Minister, as well as Assistant Pastor.

I believe I have a wealth of information that will help you as you move forward in the anointing and ministry for which the Lord has assigned you.

Your role as an Associate Minister will be one first of learning and second, ministering to the needs of others. Without a doubt it will be rewarding as well as a maturing experience—be encouraged!

Joseph R. Rogers, Sr., D.

Min.

Pastor/Teacher

Associate

Minister II. Introduction

An Overview of the Associate's Role

All Ministries are rooted in Jesus Christ and evolved as a response to the clarion call to service within the body of Christ and the local church.

The Associate Minister can be someone who is a son or daughter of the local church or someone who has transplanted from another church or geographical location.

In many churches usually the duties of this ministry is assigned by the Senior Pastor i.e., such as participating in worship, preaching and assisting in other areas of the church outreach ministry.

Additional responsibilities will vary according to the pastor's vision, the needs of the church and the ability of the Associate.

The Associate Minister is also expected to serve in areas of the pastoral ministry such as teaching, visitation, evangelism and administration.

The Associate Minister may also represent the church in civic and other related activities that the church is involved in, but only at the call of the Senior Minister.

The Associate Minister is accountable Senior Minister and indirectly to The Board (deacons, directors) and the local church congregation.

The Associate Minister is also required to meet regularly with the Senior Minister to discuss matters of interest and responsibilities and to address any emerging issues that relates to the development of the church family and maturity of this office (associate minister).

All Ministers including Associate Ministers need to have a *heart for God and for people*. He or She must have compassion that will allow them first and foremost to hear and to heed God's call and the vision of the Senior Minister and Church Family.

An Associate Minister has gifts and talents that should be stirred up, used and nurtured by the Senior Pastor and the local church Family. God has designed all of us for specific roles in the body of believers.

☐ Everyone cannot be eyes!

☐ Everyone cannot be ears!

☐

Everyone cannot be mouths!

Each of us, as well as the Associate Minister in particular, can be all of that God has call you to be. (See 1 Corinthians 12.)

The nature of supporting the Senior Minister requires skills, gifts and talents that sometimes go beyond assembling a Sunday school ministry or performing worship on Sunday morning. An Associate Minister will need the ability to gel with the local congregation in communication and personality.

He or she will need to be humble and exemplify the character and integrity of an Aaron, as he work with Moses. Associate Ministers will have to accept God's choice of headship (Senior Pastor) in their lives and do all you can to enrich that relationship.

The Associate Minister will need to exhibit loyalty and obedience, so when called on by the Senior Minister they will be ready physically, mentally and spiritually.

Those relationships cannot function well with a headstrong person who has a problem with being submissive to leadership.

The Associate Minister will have to keep his/her personality in check.

- ☐ Personality is how God made you!
- ☐ Character is who you are!
- ☐ Integrity is character in action!
- ☐

Attitude is how you choose to act!

The Associate should have practical experience in taking someone else's vision and work toward helping bring it to fruition.

Associate Minister

III. Chapter One What Is An Associate Minister

A. From The Bible's Perspective

Associate Ministers are called by God and appointed by the church to be set apart for ministry. The call is what gives you meaning and purpose for your lives.

The Associate Minister even though is called of God to preach, teach and minister; yet is not self called to any particular church. The Associate Minister is not a called office in the church setting as the Pastor and Assistant Pastor.

The Pastor (Senior) is the under-shepherd, chief spiritual leader, nurture, guide, helper, exhorter, disciplinarian set in the church by God.

The Assistant Pastor simply executes the above listed duties, at the called of the Senior Pastor in His/Her absences or as designated by the Senior Pastor.

Jeremiah 23:4 - “ And I will set up shepherds over them which shall feed them: and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall they be lacking, saith the LORD||.

1 Peter 5:2—Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind||.

Always remain faithful, committed and humble to the Lord and when the time comes for a Pastor or Assistant opportunity to be filled you will have favor with the Lord.

B. From The Church's Perspective

The church is looking for people to support the Senior Minister in leadership who have a deep sense of commitment, loyalty, character, integrity and compassion.

The Local congregation as well as Senior Minister is in need of committed, dedication persons who are willing to give of themselves to ministry.

Never come to a church for the purpose of under minded the Senior Minister or Assistant Pastor for your own personal gain.

If you're a son or daughter of the church do not feel less than a minister if sometime the congregation call you by your first name or do not recognize you or address you as Reverend, Minister, Doctor or Elder.

They are not disrespecting you; that just life. The bible says that a —... prophet is with honor in is own country||.

St. Matthew 13:57b—...A prophet is not without honor, save in his own country, and in his own house||.

Simply put, if Jesus had problems with people that he grew with...you're not above the same.

There are many roles that the Associate Minister can assist the Senior Minister. Here is a sample of them:

- ☐ Worship Assistance
- ☐ Outreach Ministry
- ☐ Educational Programs
- ☐ Church Sunday School ☐ Mentorship
- ☐ Visitation
- ☐

Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

As an Associate Minister you will be expected to serve as a Role Model, Encourager, Counselor and/or in any other capacity in the Church to promote unity, but only at the call of the Senior Minister.

Associate Minister

IV. Chapter Two Duties of Associate Ministers

A. The Lord's Expectations

An Associate Minister is in the position to have great influence on the work of the Senior Minister as well as the local congregation.

As an integral member of the ministry team, the Associate Minister should promote Gospel values and foster growth in biblical facts as it relates to discipleship, stewardship, commitment and holiness.

The Associate Minister should have biblical knowledge and understand biblical Principles and have a strong ability to communicate and relate God's word effectively. He or she should have a strong prayer life and demonstrate God's word in daily activities of life.

Frederick Buechner wrote, —The place God call you to is a place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet.‖ The voice of God speaks to us and through us to minister to others.

An Associate Minister is called of God and should always promote **godly living** (by your lifestyle) and **Gospel Message** (by expounding the Word).

You're anointed of God and even though you will **disagree** with the Senior Minister as well as the local congregation; yet you must at all time control your temper.

Your climb up the spiritual ladder and your ability and willingness to be pruned and developed with determine how far you will advance in the gospel ministry.

Always view every challenge and task as a stepping stone toward God destiny for your like. If you do so, your walk with the Lord will be one of joy and happiness and you will be a welcome asset to the local church you serve.

Remember the Apostle Peter said, —Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf‖. (1 Peter 4:16)

The Lord expect for you to work and make full proof of your assigned task.
(2 Timothy 4:5)

B. The Senior Pastor Expectations

The Associate Minister should work closely with the Senior Minister as he/she plans the church's direction and fulfills its ministry as a whole.

The Associate Minister will be ask in some settings oversee specific programs that the Senior Minister will make him or her responsible for.

When the Senior Minister is absent, the Associate Minister will work together with other leaders (Assistant Pastor, Elders, Deacons, Presidents or Chair Persons) in carrying out the vision of the church and its programs.

When the Senior Pastor or in some cases the Assistant Pastor places you to handle some of the duties, never over step your bounds.

You're the Associate Minister, not the Pastor or Assistant Pastor and you have no inherited responsibilities or authority.

Be grateful that you have been asked to assist and never do anything that the Pastor has not approved you to do.

Never over step the agenda or set rules and then tell the Pastor that the Lord told you to do it that way—that disrespect!

I have learn over the years that as an Associate Minister, one must never try to rearrange some else furniture (the pastor's vision and church's mission or program).

If you follow these few examples, I will assure you that you will be appreciate by the Pastor and He/She will do all that they can you help you mature and be all that God has destined you to be.

Make you Pastor and Church proud of you!

The Church's Expectation The congregation needs passionate, joy-filled people who want to bring healing and hope to their local assembly. No congregation wants persons who are constantly starting fires (causing problems) in their church.

The needs of the congregation may change from times to time, but the Associate Minister must walk in a manner that will not cause discord. You may have a pressing issue about how something is to be done—always bring it to the ear of the senior and never try to implement something on your own.

I ask you to be prepared to face the challenges that will surely come your way. Even though you will have personal situations to arise, never allow them to flow over into the church setting and cause problems.

Listed below are some things that will be helpful in assisting you in your role: You must

- ☐ Aid the congregation to understand their gifts and to put them to use to serve the Lord.
- ☐ Mentor the young believers and leaders in their walk.
- ☐ Assist in developing and organizing programs that fulfill the Senior Minister's vision.

It is important that the Associate Minister be present, if possible at all church events. This will enable you to understand the vision of the Pastor, the church's direction and how you must gel with them all.

Associate Minister V. Chapter Three Biblical Examples Of Associate Ministers

A. Joshua - Moses

The story of Joshua is a very powerful and dramatic bible story. God chose Joshua to be the leader before the Nation of Israel entered into the Promised Land.

Joshua had a full faith and belief in God that He could defeat all of their enemies. He was one of the two spies that went over into the Land to search it out under the leadership of Moses.

The example of Joshua is a rich one and if you will read it in depth, it will give you some spiritual gems and insights that will help you be a better associate minister.

Joshua teaches you that even though the task with the natural eye may seem unconquerable; yet with the Lord nothing is impossible.

Some of the spies (10) were afraid of the "giants" they saw in the land that they were supposed to possess and they did not have enough faith in God to press forward and conquer.

Joshua and Caleb exhibited the faith that they had learned under the leadership of Moses. For this reason you must listen very attentively to your leader and heed his/her advice.

Look at how God move with Moses so that their would be fortified. God in his power...

- ☐ Delivered the nation out of slavery!
- ☐ Fed them quail and manna!
- ☐ Given them fresh water!
- ☐ Protected them in the desert!
- ☐ Defeated their enemies!

The in Joshua in his quest with God knew that the same God that was with Moses was with him and that no weapon that formed itself against him would prosper.

Joshua 1||1-4—Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying, Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this

people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel. Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses. From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast||.

This example should teach you as an Associate Minister that it is important to learn all you can from your pastor and to always support and follow the leadership God has placed you under.

Joshua saw his call completely through and when he died, he died a man with his call and mission from God fulfilled.

The two keys to Joshua's success was his ***strong faith*** in God and the fact that he had always ***"wholeheartedly followed God."***

The Bible says that the Holy Spirit will "guide us into all truth and teach us all things." If you follow God's specific instructions and the wisdom of the Pastor your walk with the Lord will be one of power, success, joy and conquering.

Joshua's story is a perfect example to help the Associate Minister understand the importance of listening, learning and applying.

I ask you to beware of the "giants" and "strongholds" that will assuredly come against you. Remember the story of Joshua! In one sense he saw the same "giants" and "strongholds" you are seeing, even now—fear not and be a conquer!

You can either let fear and panic rules you as it did with the ten (10) spies or you and rise up and be a pace setting like Joshua.

As a final testament to the this man's story, God saw fit to name one of the books of the Bible after him - "The Book of Joshua" which is a very fitting

ending to what this man
accomplished—after being nurtured by Moses.

Be A Joshua In Your Experience With God. Joshua 25:14c- “...but as for
me and my house, we will serve the LORD||. B. Elisha - Elijah
The Prophet Elisha is

another classic example of what it takes to be a good Associate Minister. To
become a great associate you must sit at the feet of a great teacher, as did
Paul, Peter and John.

If you expect to learn good qualities and insights, you must spend time with
those whom the Lord as anointed.

Such was the case with Elisha. He stayed on Elijah heels like baby chicks
with a mother hen. He watches every move that he made and he listened to
every word that the Prophet Elijah uttered.

Elisha was right there with Elijah as the Lord used him to:

- *Causing the rain to cease
for 3 1/2 years.
(1 Kings 17:1)

- *Being fed by the ravens. (1 King 17:4)

- *Miracle of the barrel of meal and cruse of oil. (1 Kings 17:14)

- *Resurrection of the widow's son.
(1 Kings 17:22)

- *Calling of fire from heaven on the altar.
(1 Kings 18:38)

- *Causing it to rain again. (1 Kings 18:45)

- *Prophecy that Ahab's sons would all be destroyed. (1 Kings 21:22)

- *Prophecy that Jezebel would be eaten by dogs. (1 Kings 21:23)

*Prophecy that Ahaziah would die of his illness. (2 Kings 1:4)

*Calling fire from heaven upon the first 50 soldiers. (2 Kings 2:10)

*Calling fire from heaven upon the second 50 soldiers. (2 Kings 2:12)

*Parting of the Jordan. (2 Kings 2:8)

*Prophecy that he (Elisha) should have a double portion of his spirit (2 Kings 2:10)

*Being caught up to heaven in a whirlwind.
(2Kings 2:11)

Yes, fourteen (14) times the Prophet Elisha watched God use his Mentor‘ Elijah in a mighty way. As his mentor was graced to do fourteen (14) miracles; the Lord allow Elisha to do twenty eight (28) miracles; that is twice the number (1 Kings 2 – 2 Kings 13) of his mentor, Elijah.

What does this tell you? Well, if you allow the more experienced and seasoned Senior Pastor to teach, nurture, exhort and admonish you, you to will receive a higher anointing than your mentor.

In the process you will experience growing pains. The rewards are well worth it! Growth is always exciting, even with its flash of the eye pains.

As an Associate Minister, never allow success to be the measuring stick that you‘re in the Lord’s Will and you‘re everything right.

The world’s success measuring stick will always cause you to be lifted up in pride and selfishness; which will always lead to defeat and destruction.

You must guard yourself against the success of men and always remember that the Lord has called you to be faithful and committed in your efforts and walk with Him.

The strength and value of any local church is never measure by its discipleship size, budget depth, methodology or mass

facility. And yours will not be measure by personal effort and accomplishment.

What counts with the Lord is, the message being proclaimed and the biblical change takes place in the character and integrity of you and the people

As an Associate Minister, you must remember that these historical accounts of Elisha and Israel are a part of God's way of trying to encourage you to trust in Him and never lean upon your own understanding.

The purpose of the ministry and miracles of Elisha is to authenticate that the messenger was one who truly carry the message of God and one who was a great associate with Elijah, before being elevated to the role of Prophet. A good follower will be a good leader.

What can you learn from this? You can learn that if you're faithful, committed and trustworthy—God will increase your knowledge, wisdom and power. It does not matter what the enemy does or others say, —God Is With You||.

Psalm 27:1-3— *The Lord is my light and my salvation; Whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defense of my life; Whom shall I dread? 2 When evildoers came upon me to devour my flesh, My adversaries and my enemies, they stumbled and fell. 3 Though a host encamp against me, My heart will not fear; Though war arise against me, In spite of this I shall be confident”.*

I only ask you to remain under/in the anointing (protection) of the Holy Ghost. It is in the Lord's hands that we have protecting, comfort, peace and joy.

As an Associate Minister there will be day that the clouds with hang low, storms will rise and rage, valleys will be lonesome, and mountains will appear to be high.

Proverbs 3:5, 6—Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall

direct thy paths||.

In this walk, the Lord will provide protection for you.

Psalm 15:1-3—Lord, who shall abide in thy tabernacle? who shall dwell in thy holy hill? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart. He that backbiteth not with his tongue, nor doeth evil to his neighbour, nor taketh up a reproach against his neighbour”.

In Elisha experience as and Associate Minister he remained calm, relaxed, and confident, not in himself, of course, but in His God.

Elisha as he had be taught be is mentor Elijah, knew the God that was able to be a solution to all of his challenges.

Elisha sought to convey the same truth that Hezekiah communicated to his people in 2 Chronicles 32:7-8.

—Be strong and courageous, do not fear or be dismayed because of the king of Assyria, nor because of all the multitude which is with him; for the one with us is greater than the one with him. 8 With him is only an arm of flesh, but with us is the Lord our God to help us and to fight our battles.|| And the people relied on the words of Hezekiah king of Judah||.

How can you minister to the fears of people? You need to show faith and confidence in God’s word; of which we know will never fail. The Word

☐ *Alive!*

☐ *Powerful!* ☐ *Sharp!*

In your ministerial walk with/in the Lord always keep in mind the example of Elisha as he walk with Elijah.

C. Solomon - David

The story of Solomon is another classic example of an Associate Minister walking in the Lord as he is taught and nurtured by another.

My friend it does not matter what kind of environment you might have come from, the Lord has the power to turn your situation around.

I want you to know that not pass experience can nullify want God as destined for you, as was done for Solomon is a classic example.

His family may have been somewhat dysfunctional at times; yet God is able to break the generational curse and declare them as He will to you, —God children are blessed and highly favored||.

Solomon was the son of King **David** and Bathsheba. Solomon was not the oldest son of David, but David promised Bathsheba that Solomon would be the next king.

When David's elder son Adonijah declared himself king, David ordered his servants to bring Solomon to the Gihon spring where the priest anointed him while David was still alive. Solomon inherited a considerable empire from his father.

Solomon accumulated enormous wealth. He controlled the entire region west of the Euphrates and had peace on his borders.

Although Solomon was young, he soon became known for his wisdom. The first and most famous incident of his cleverness as a judge was when two women came to his court with a baby whom both women claimed as their own.

Solomon threatened to split the baby in half. One woman was prepared to accept the decision, but the other begged the King to give the live baby to the other woman. Solomon then knew the second woman was the mother.

People from surrounding nations also came to hear Solomon's wisdom. He composed 3,000 proverbs and 1,005 songs. He wrote the Song of Songs, the Book of Proverbs and Ecclesiastes.

Solomon says to you that even though you might inherit great riches, never allow them to over take your thinking and your relationship with the Lords.

Riches, in spite of there influence on and in the world are but only temporal and are never totally satisfying, even in the physical world.

What was it that Solomon asked the Lord? He said give me the wisdom and knowledge to lead your people as He would have them the go.

In I Kings 3, Solomon had a dream in which God prompted him to "Ask for whatever you want me to give you." Solomon asked for wisdom, God was pleased, Solomon got his wish and more - riches and fame were given as side orders.

Solomon's kingdom was the greatest kingdom ever known and its influence was very broad. While there have been kingdoms that were much larger and more powerful in subsequent times, it seems that none have matched the splendor of Solomon's kingdom.

His kingdom had the most far-flung influence of any kingdom of ancient times and may have even rivaled the great empires that appeared thousands of years later.

Solomon did not conquer through military strength, but by his great wisdom. Through the wisdom that God put into his heart, Solomon ruled over all of the kingdoms in a large area although they had their own kings.

As an Associate Minister, always to the best of your ability attain the wisdom that it takes to do the job well.

takes to do the job well.

—Because this was in thy heart, and thou hast not asked riches, wealth, or honor, nor the life of them that hate thee, neither yet hast asked long life, but hast asked wisdom and knowledge for thyself, that thou mayest judge My people, over whom I have made thee king; 12 wisdom and knowledge is granted unto thee, and I will give thee riches, and wealth, and

honor, such as none of the kings have had that have been before thee,
neither shall there any after thee have the like.||

As part of the magnificent royal spender of Solomon's kingdom, certain visual symbols were developed that served a variety of functions and were derived from multiple sources.

Solomon, the favored son of Bathsheba began to follow in his father's steps, loving the Lord. The Lord saw the sincerity of Solomon's heart and granted him his wish - to rule the people with wisdom.

God responds to us when we pray according to His will, even if we don't yet "have it all together". Solomon's prayer was heard because he was willing to identify his need. He said, "I am only a little child and do not know how to carry out my duties."

In so doing, he demonstrated some of the very substance he craved, wisdom. Solomon understood the principle of James 1:5: there must be an awareness of a "lack" before one would "ask of God."

As an Associate Minister the ability to become a respected Minister is within reach. It is God's will that you grow in wisdom. When asking for wisdom, we must believe that God will provide the wisdom we seek.

You must trust Him to do it in His own way, which usually means that you will be in partnership with Him.

God did His part, but Solomon also did his. Later he would write, "I devoted myself to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under heaven." (Ecclesiastes 1:13)

As an Associate Minister, your role is to follow instructions and vision from the Senior Minister. If you do not, there will be consequences, for which you will not want to experience.

D. Timothy - Paul

The last example that I will use is that of the *Apostle Paul* son in the minister, *Timothy*. Here we find another classic example of one who followed the leading of a seasoned Apostle.

While the Apostle is not known for pastoring churches, he is known for establishing them and placing Senior Pastors in them.

Such was the case with Timothy, even though he was a young preacher and a inexperienced pastor; yet the Apostle took the time and effort need to teach, train and nurture this young preacher giving him the skills it took to accept and develop the responsibility of leading a congregation.

What an example this is for you. What does it teaches? Never think that your age disqualify you when it comes to being an Associate Minister. Never allow fear to rule nor govern your mind and heart.

Why? 2 Timothy 1:7 says, —For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind||.

It would be to your advantage to always have a spiritual father; for this will help you develop into the person (Christian, Leader) that the Lord would have you to be.

This example with Timothy and Paul shares with you great insights. Every time Timothy would get in tough situations, the Apostle would always send letter or word of insight and encouragement to him—that would give instructions and build his faith!

A good example of that is the Apostle letter to another son, Titus. He writes and say to him:

Titus 1:4,5— To Titus, mine own son after the common faith: Grace, mercy, and peace, from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ our Saviour. For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:

As it was with Timothy and Titus, so will it be with you, God's words are clear for those who Minister. As an Associate Minister it is important to know what your instructions are and to be prepared and ready to implement them.

As a good mentor will do, the Apostle Paul warned Timothy not to allow foolish arguments to upset him. He admonished Timothy to refuse to do evil deeds and be a good and patient teacher.

The Apostle Paul warned him also that things would get worse and worse as a whole. False teachers would lead weak people away from the truth. His job was to remain steadfast, unmovable always abounding in the work of the Lord.

The Apostle Paul also reminded Timothy about his own faith and great difficulties. Paul knew that God would reward him for his deeds.

There are times when as an Associate Minister that you must be prepared to suffer difficulties and setbacks.

They come with the territory of being in the leadership role.

An Associate Minister must be good and patient and not allow yourself to get into the garbage, side bars, and any other ungodly activities that grows out of foolishness. Keep yourself pure of ungodly activities.

E. The Author - His Pastor As I share with you my own experience as an Associate Minister, I am happy and delight to give you some insight that I know will raise your level of understanding and give you a greater determination to make full proof of your ministry.

My role as an Association Minister began in 1976 as an Associate Minister at my home church (Stokes Chapel Missionary Baptist Church). My Pastor was James T. Dunston of Durham, NC. (deceased)

I was a young lad, just recently married with one child, living in Raleigh, NC. I had not experience in public speaking and I was very introverted and

shy. I knew at the age of 5-7 years old that God wanted me to preach the gospel.

I was the first minister called under his ministry and I counted that as a great honor and privilege.

I had learn from observation and parental instruction that you always respected the —House of God||, as well as the people of God; especially the Pastor.

In my role as an Associate Minister, I did only what my pastor asked me to do and I never tried to challenge his authority as Senior Pastor.

I will never forget that he told me that even though you have been called to preach, don't stop doing the other ministries that you were doing prior to being called—that resonated with me greatly.

Let me tell you why. If you were an usher do not stop ushering just to sit on the pulpit—keep ushering.

If you were singing with the choir or even serving as a praise team leader or singer, do not stop doing that.

Why? Because when you're called in the preaching ministry, you do not have a pulpit for which to preach every Sunday.

If you do not have a place to preach (pulpit)—you will become stagnate if you stop doing other things that you were doing.

What will this do? It will take some of the pressure off the Senior Pastor. He might in some cases, feel somewhat guilt for not allowing you to preach.

The congregation has called the pastor to preach and looks forward to hearing the pastor preach on Sunday morning, not the Associate Minister.

Never ask your pastor to allow you to preach, read the scripture, prayer or teach bible study—such request is high out of order. Just do what you are ask to do and be satisfied.

I was always respectful to my pastor even though as a called preacher, I wanted to preach every Sunday. There is nothing wrong with that—it just you do not have a church to preach to.

If you want to develop your minister—go to the rest home, evangelistic field, prisons and let the Lord use you!

Never allow anyone, (especially your family and friends) to cause you to challenge the pastor during study time, just for the sake of trying to point out his/her errors—that is not good to do.

I would suggest that during church business time remains silent on all issues. If you want to speak, is my experience to always speak in a positive manner.

The Senior Pastor needs your help in carrying out the vision for the church. You will disagree with the Pastor, but never display this in the public.

What you need to do is build all of the confidence and trust you can in working with your pastor—on day you will need his reference!

Different Senior Pastors are going to have different leadership styles—always try to adapt to whatever style that is present.

In working with all of the pastors that I had the privilege to serve with—all of them called me back to preach at their churches!

There is not greater feeling than for your Pastor to called and ask you to preach an evening service or revival service.

If you ever have to leave the church, always leave in good standing and on good turns—if you don't it will haunt you wherever you go.

I am grateful to God for the privilege to serve not only as Associate Minister, but also as Assistant Pastor and now Pastor.

That learning process very instructional, rewarding and humbling—I will never get them! I only as you as I have heard over the years, —Learn All You Can And Can All You Learn||.

Now that I have my own church, I have learn that all that you can learn while you are serving in the Associate or Assistant Role will help you serve, even greater as a Senior Pastor.

Associate Minister

VI. Chapter Four Tidbits For The Associate Minister

The Do's Of An Associate Minister

The Associate Minister's list of Do's will vary from church to church but should include some of the following:

☐ Participation in Worship

Services

☐ Assist with Planning and Teaching Christian Education ☐ Visitation of those in the hospital or shut in.

☐ Assist the staff and other church leaders.

☐ Assist the Pastor in weddings and funerals by request.

☐ Be available to assist with any part of church life. ☐ Follow the Vision of the Senior Minister and help carry out his/her wishes. ☐ Routinely give encouragement to the church family

☐ Assist with Community Ministry.

☐ Participate in conventions, associations, events and outreach activities.

The Don'ts Of An Associate Minister

The Associate Minister's list of Don'ts could best be categorized by saying do not: ☐ Show that you cannot care or empathize with your fellow man.

☐ Show that you cannot listen to or communicate with others.

☐ Go against the vision of the Senior Minister.

☐ Show that you cannot follow directions of the Senior Persons in charge or show that you cannot be helpful to anyone who may need your assistance.

☐ Ever argue with the Senior Pastor.

☐ Try to show off you intellect (bible).

☐ Show up late to grand stand your presence.

☐ Ever over step the bounds by trying to give instructions to the Pastor.

☐ Preach or prayer too long.

Associate Minister VII. Chapter Five Conclusion

As I conclude this needed material, it is my prayer that I have shared with you some great insights that will help you as you walk in the body of Christ, your local church and as an Associate Minister.

It is important to be aware that the guidelines within this book may vary from church to church. Applying or implementing these principles in your local church is always the call of your Pastor-always respect that fact!

If you stay with the framework of the bible and allow the Holy Ghost to guide you, it is without question, you will be a great asset to your local congregation.

I want to encourage you that your role as associate minister is worthwhile, needed and appreciated. It has not gone unnoticed.

Romans 5:1-5—Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us”.
(KJV)

Keep up the good work—the Lord sees everything you’re doing and His rewards are great. You will never know how much you are appreciated when it comes to helping the Pastor and local congregation fulfill its mission.

As the Apostle Paul stand to his son Timothy in the minister, I say to you also, “But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry”. (1 Timothy 4:5)

Joseph R. Rogers, Sr., D. Min. A Co-Laborer For Jesus Christ Associate Minister VIII. Chapter Six Selected Bibliographies

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Associate Minister IX. The Code of Ethics
Of The Associate Minister
The Preamble

As a minister of Jesus Christ, being called by God to proclaim the gospel and gifted by the Spirit to assist the Pastor of this church, I duly dedicate myself to conduct my ministry according to the ethical guidelines and principles set forth by the Scripture (Bible), to ensure that my effort are acceptable to God, beneficial to this church and a testimony to the surrounding community.

A. Responsibilities to Self I will maintain my physical and emotional health through regular exercise, good eating habits, and the proper care of my body.

I will nurture my devotional life through a regular time of prayer, reading of the Scriptures, and meditation.

I will continue to grow intellectually through personal study, comprehensive reading, and attending growth conferences.

I will manage my time by properly balancing personal obligations, church duties, and family responsibilities.

I will be honest and responsible in my finances by paying all debts on time, giving generously to worthwhile causes, and living a Christian lifestyle.

I will be truthful in my speech, never exaggerating the facts, misusing personal experiences, or communicating gossip.

I will seek to be Christlike in attitude and action toward all persons regardless of race, social class, religious beliefs, or position of influence within the church and community.

C. Responsibilities to Family

I will be fair to every member of my family, giving them the time, love, and consideration they need.

I will understand the unique role of my spouse, recognizing his or her primary responsibility is as marital partner and parent to the children, and secondarily as church worker and assistant (associate) to the pastor. (If Applicable)

I will regard my children as a gift from God and seek to meet their individual needs without imposing undue expectations upon them. (If Applicable)

D. Responsibilities to the Congregation

I will seek to be a servantminister to the senior pastor and

church by following the example of Christ in faith, love, wisdom, courage, and integrity.

I will faithfully discharge my time and energies as associate minister through proper work habits and reasonable schedules.

In my administrative and associate duties, I will be impartial and fair to all members.

In my ministerial responsibilities that are given by this church family, I will give adequate time to prayer and preparation, so that my efforts will be biblically based, theologically correct, and clearly communicated.

In my counseling, as directed by the senior pastor, I will maintain strict confidentiality, except in cases where a disclosure is necessary to prevent harm to persons and/or is required by law.

In my evangelistic responsibilities, I will seek to lead persons to salvation and to church discipleship without manipulating converts, proselytizing members of other churches, or demeaning other religious faiths.

In my visitation and counseling practices, I will never be alone with a person of another sex unless another church officer/disciple is present nearby.

E. Responsibilities to Colleagues

I will endeavor to relate to all ministers, especially those with whom I serve in this church, as partners in the work of God, respecting their ministry and cooperating with them.

I will seek to serve my minister colleagues and their families with counsel, support, and personal assistance.

I will refuse to treat other ministers as competition in order to gain a church, receive an honor, or achieve statistical success.

I will refrain from speaking disparagingly about the person or work of any other minister, especially my pastor.

I will enhance the ministry of my pastor by refusing to interfere in any way with the church matter that should be handled by him/her.

F. Responsibility to the Community

I will consider my primary responsibility is to be pastor of my congregation and will never neglect ministerial duties in order to serve in the community.

I will accept reasonable responsibilities for community service, recognizing the minister has a public ministry.

I will support public morality in the community through responsible prophetic witness and social action.

I will obey the laws of my government unless they require my disobedience to the law of God.

I will practice Christian citizenship without engaging in partisan politics or political activities that are unethical, unbiblical, or unwise.

This ‘code of ethic’ is but brief guideline that I feel should help point you in the direction that will sharpen your spiritual tools and help you understand the important of integrity and character, as it relates to the —Your Roles As An Associate Minister||.

Note: The material in above code of ethics are the material of —The Christian Ethics Today Foundations||. (Grand Rapids, MI) Associate Minister X. Qualities Of A

Godly Leader

1. Discipline:

The ability to operate or function within the framework of certain guidelines. Without discipline all of the other gifts that one may have will remain as dwarfs: they cannot grow. Before you can conquer the world, you must first conquer yourself.

2. Vision:

Visionaries are ‘seers’ of the future. These people see more and farther than others—person of faith!

3. Wisdom:

Wisdom is the faculty of making use of knowledge: a combination of discernment and judgment of life’s situations.

4. Decision:

The Ability to make a clear judgment based upon sound premises.

5. Courage:

Courage is the quality of mind which enables one to encounter danger or difficulty firmly, without fear or discouragement.

6. Humility:

Humility is the ability to show modesty and meekness. Having the ability to be loveable in words and deeds.

7. Integrity:

Integrity is being honesty about one's life. Having the ability to follow principles in truth, with the correct motive and method.

These are but a capsule of what it takes to be a godly leader. You must understand that no one is perfect, that is does everything to the letter, but you should strive to be.

It is obvious you will be challenge in your endeavor as Associate Minister, just remember that the Lord has promised that He will be with you, always, even until the end of the age (world).

Associate XI. Notes Minister

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4. Author's Books My Be

Purchased online at: Ormanpress.com
<http://www.greaterphiladelphia.webs.com>
Minister Other Works

Walking In Your God-Given Purpose



**An Autobiography
of
The Life and Thoughts Of
Joseph R. Rogers, Sr., D.Min.**

Overcoming Life's Odds

The Servants of God And The Local Church
Equipped And Empowered For Kingdom Building Service

Evangelism 101

(Key Components)

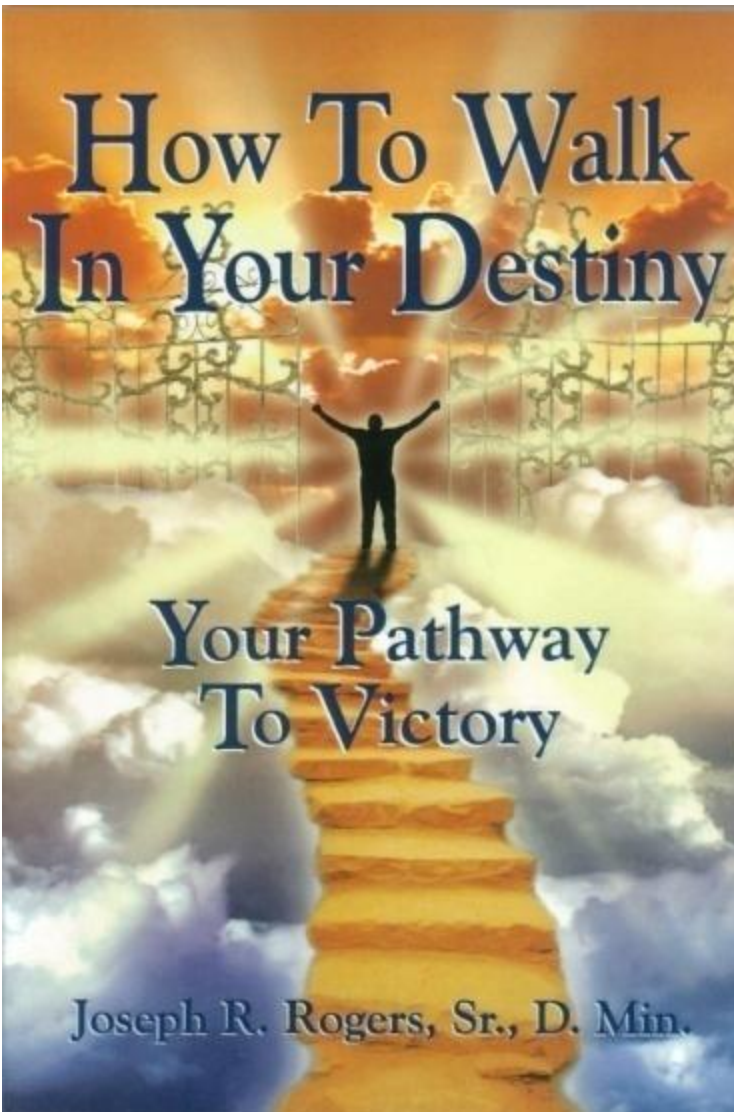
*Pulling Down Strongholds
And
Tearing Down The Kingdom of Darkness*



By
Joseph R. Rogers, Sr., D.Min.

Foreword by
Lola V. Rogers

Witnessing For
Kingdom Building/Pulling Down Strongholds

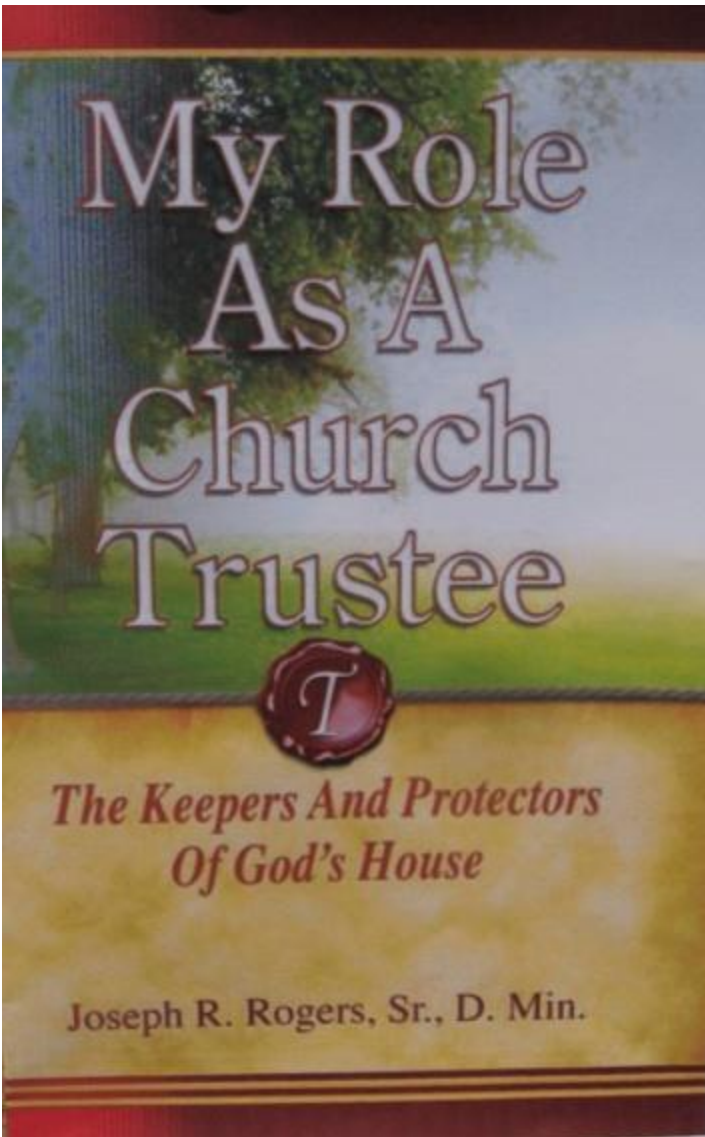


Understanding God's Plan

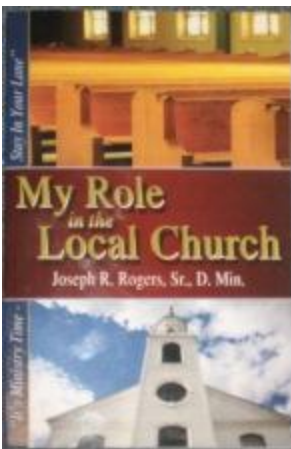
For Your Life

The African American Experiences/Achievements How To Maintain An
Healthy Marriage

Aging With The Grace of God The Two Biblical Officers Of The Church



The Church Trustees' Duties



The Member's Role In The Local Church