

## How to grow in your ministry gift

God distributes spiritual gifts in seed form, undeveloped. Having the gift and knowing how to use it are two different things.

### **Identify your gift**

Most people in ministry have more than one gift but one will be outstanding, such as preaching or teaching for example. This may take time and experimenting, but one particular gift will soon dominate.

### **Find a mentor or model**

Is there an experienced minister in your life who can guide you in developing your gift? If not, find a model through the Internet or literature. Is preaching your gift? Find a preacher you admire and mimic his style.

Don't worry. You will not become a clone. As you practice your gift, you will feel uncomfortable acting exactly like your model. This is normal as you develop your own style.

### **Study your gift**

We live in an age that would make scholars of centuries past drool with envy. Resources abound on every subject; how to preach, teach, counsel, administer, or any other area of ministry. Books, articles, and media provide more than we could ever consume on any gift.

### **Practice boldly**

Practice generates confidence. Fear of failure can stifle your development. You will make mistakes whether you fear them or not. Get them over with boldly. The Lord will cover for you.

Before long, you will find that others are adopting you as their model.