



Group Discussion and Application

1. Finish the sentence: *"The most difficult thing about ministry is..."*
2. In addition to those mentioned in the sermon, what are some common difficulties/stresses faced in ministry for Christ?
3. Give examples for each of the ministry struggles mentioned above. (E.g., what kinds of opposition/resistance might we face in ministry?)
4. How can popularity or people's desire for particular forms of ministry draw us away from Biblical ministry commitments and priorities?
5. What criteria should a person use to determine if it is wise to retreat from opposition, redirect ministry, take a brief break from ministry, etc.?
6. What happens if the pressures of ministry are not handled properly?
7. Suggest some practical ways we might help those who are suffering the pressures of ministry.
8. In addition to the lessons learned today, what other practices have you found personally helpful in maximizing and maintaining effective ministry?
9. What can we do to insure that we maintain proper priorities/focus in our ministry?



Personal Reflection and Response

1. What ministry struggles are you experiencing?
2. How do you need to apply today's study to your own ministry?
3. Who do you know who is undergoing difficulty in ministry?
4. How might you help this person handle these pressures?



Family Homework

1. As a family discuss how others have ministered to you.
2. How might you help those who have worked hard to serve you?



Maintaining Ministry

(Part 1) Mark 3:6-20

Jesus' example shows us how to maintain effective ministry.

1

_____ ministry.

Common difficulties in ministry:

A.

B.