

work during the day. She had a caseswhere members of the group, good Christian people, would get mixed up in different sorts of things and she would try to help them and she just couldn't do it, what a pastor would do. And it's strange with a fairly small group what the number of things were that she described to me that she found that came up. I suppose it's so in every group. The Lord has laid out His program for us that we shall have those who are pastors. Ephesians 4:11 stresses the note that the Lord has given, among the gifts that he has given to His church are the gifts of pastors. "He gave some Apostles and some Prophets and some Evangelists and some pastors and teachers" Now it's interesting how pastors and teachers are put together here "for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry." There are Prophets and Evangelists, then there are pastors and teachers for the perfecting of the saints, "for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ." Now some people have a gift of being pastors and don't have much of a gift of being a teacher. Some people have a gift of being a teacher and don't have much of a gift of being a pastor. But the ideal is when one can have both gifts because the one who can shepherd the flock and who can be with them in their problems, can help them in the things that come up, as my wife says, "any hour of the day or night matters arise in which people desperately need help from one who is trained to serve the Lord and who knows them and understands their problems and knows how to deal with them. And if the pastoral gift and the teaching gift can be combined in one person, which is certainly the ideal, then each gift helps the other. If you don't have of course, any teaching gift at all, it's hard to see how one can be much of a pastor. He's got to be able to take the Word of God and apply it, he's got to help them, he's got to be able to lead them. On the other hand if a person's got just a teaching gift and absolutely no gift as a pastor, no interest in the people's welfare, no heart to help them in their particular individual needs, ~~his~~ his teaching is pretty apt to be dead and cold and while it can be used of the Lord to a certain extent, it has nothing like the influence that it should have. I liked what was said in our chapel this morning - that we need to be convinced, convicted, and committed. And if you're just a teacher it's apt to be ^{just} convinced - no convicting or committing. And we could certainly use them all. On the other hand of