



# Teaching on the Lay Pastors Ministry with PACE for the PIS student, Nagaland India [March 2025]

## Commissioning in public

There was some mistake that didn't work in the church. I have trained laypeople at one church which actually I belong to. While I was there as an associate pastor, and because I have just translated Dr. Melvin's the first book, *Can The Pastor Do It Alone?* Into Korean. Our senior pastor told me to train the laypeople, so it was announced in public, then around 19 people were gathered at training session. It was very first experience for my ministry. I trained them, and developed the system of Lay Pastors Ministry in the church, and they, lay pastors, mobilized to care for their peers as the textbook has taught, then what happened was that they mobilized but mobilized too much, too high, I mean the church never mobilized before, so it was really new experience for them and the pastor himself. He, the pastor, was a little uncomfortable and afraid of their mobilization.



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Another thing we made mistake was that when we finished its training, it should be Commissioning Service there, and have to give them Certificate of being a lay pastor in public on Sunday or any occasion, it should be in public event, by the way, our senior pastor has decided no Commissioning Service in public, so it was given them privately, call them individually at his office and gave them. What an interesting scene, isn't it!

I understand why he did just like that. Probably he worries those who are not trained and not being lay pastors, maybe they feel some disappointment because they are not selected. It means the pastor also was thinking, understanding this is not the ministry gifted to the people, and also probably this is one of those ready-made-programs, so he didn't think of it seriously. So those lay pastors couldn't continue their ministry properly because they are not appointed in public, in the end they couldn't do this ministry in public, so it didn't work and close down very soon.

Those people there are still regretting that it closed down too early, and they believed God gave the moment to them to change, to promote the church, but they missed the opportunity, so no more opportunity came to them since then. God gives us sometimes, not every time, so when it comes to us, we shouldn't miss it but grab the opportunity.

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Another mistake happened at other church. I have trained so, they are motivated and ready to take action, jump into ministry, but pastor is not ready to commission them, he said, after going to prayer mountain and pray for commission, he will do that, he promised just like that. One month later I called him to know if he has commissioned them, he said still praying for that, another one month passed by, I called, he is still praying, in the end they never commissioned them. They are ready, but no door was opened. So, they missed its opportunity.

May God bless you!

-by Byeong