Five-Fold Ministry Functions from Ephesians 4

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|  | **Unique contributions** | **Biblical example** | **Secular example** | **Key partners** | **When a group is lacking…** | **When used immaturely…** |
| **Apostle** | Visionary, pioneering, always pushing into new territory, leading into change. | Paul, Priscilla | Entrepreneurs | Listen to prophets to keep them from “empire building.” | Stale ministry, lack of direction or passion. | Too much change, lack of focus. |
| **Prophet** | Have a picture of what is happening, see problems and underlying connections that others don’t. | Anna and Simeon | Artists | Rely on shepherds to stay connected with felt needs of a community. | Drift away mission, drift into ethically gray areas. | Overly critical, complaining. |
| **Evangelist** | Love to bring and share good news/things to others, effective communicators and inviters. | Philip (Acts 8), woman at the well | Salespeople | Partner with teachers who help build maturity with new believers. | Group becomes exclusive, too in-ward focused. | Group becomes shallow, “mile wide and an inch deep”. |
| **Shepherd**  **(Pastor)** | Cares for others with a tender heart, provides comfort and encouragement, empathetic. | Barnabas, Mary of Bethany (John 8) | Social workers, counselors | Need evangelists to help move beyond borders of current community. | Cold, uncaring, sterile. | Only the “squeaky wheel gets the grease.” |
| **Teacher** | Looks for ways to explain, enlighten, and apply the truth, has passion/excitement for helping others learn. | Apollos and Priscilla (Acts 18) | Teachers | Work with apostles to ensure discipleship is based not just on information, but obedience. | No grounding in Scripture, no institutional memory. | Overly academic, lack of balance, of “hearing” and “doing.” |

More resources:

* <http://www.fivefoldsurvey.com/>
* <https://www.fivefoldministry.com/>
* <http://www.releasetheape.com/the-five-fold-symphony-how-the-gifts-work-together/>