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Last week I received an email from one of our pastors. Slightly paraphrased, he said “Kevin, I heard one of our sister churches is going through a difficult time. Is there anything we can do as a church or as a Fellowship to help?” I have received similar questions many times over the years, and in my opinion, this heart to serve our fellow churches defines our ministry.

The FEBC mission is “Joining our hands to strengthen His church.” We are about strengthening one another. But this organization has many similarities to a local church ministry. Just like a local church, we have made our organization more effective and efficient by hiring men to lead our ministry. Just like a local church, it is tempting for the members to become less engaged once said men are in place. And just like the local church, this disengagement is not healthy.

When joining the FEBC, our member churches agreed to provide mutual support and encouragement to one another. This support and encouragement can certainly be provided by those of us who were hired to serve the Fellowship, but we cannot lose track of the fact that it is ultimately the responsibility (and privilege) of the member churches to provide that care.

I am so grateful for every moment that someone says: “Hey, how can we help?” I am so grateful for those of you who faithfully support our ministry through your giving, your concern, your prayers, and your encouragement. God has blessed our Fellowship in many ways, and he continues to provide well beyond what we could have imagined even a couple of years ago.

Along with prayer, encouragement, giving, and keeping an eye out for needs that may need to be met, engagement includes a few things that may seem less spiritual. Be sure your church sends delegates to Connect (register here: www.fellowshipforward.org). This is one of the main ways we stay connected and encourage one another. Be sure to consider whether someone in your church would do well in FEBC leadership and nominate them accordingly.

Above all, pray earnestly for our ministry. The power of prayer cannot be overstated. We see it clearly in so many answered prayers over the past few years. God is amazing!

“...The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.” (James 5:16, ESV)

Thank you,

Kevin Stone – President
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Visit us at FellowshipForward.org