

How to Exterminate Church Mice:

(or, Creating a Church Where Ministry is Learned, Practiced, and Exported)

“Quiet as a church mouse”: Very quiet.

[<http://www.clichesite.com/content.asp?which=tip+1065>]

Many churches, because of various reasons, do not have much ministry going on among the members when they meet together. Consequently, the church/fellowship is usually quiet and there is not a peep of ‘noise’ to be heard, except for the Pastor delivering a sermon to the hungry flock.

In Corinth, the people in the congregations were ministering to each other with the spiritual gifts so much, Paul had to encourage them to minister “decently and in order.” What’s interesting is that he didn’t tell them to quit!
(1 Corinthians 14)

Whatever happened to the ‘noise’ of ministry in the churches? It seems that most members and attendees of church gatherings are as quiet as church mice (a malady I call “**churchicus mice-icus**”).

The cause of this malady may be as varied as the churches themselves. However, churches/fellowships should be places where ‘body ministry’ goes on, and if things get a little ‘noisy’, so be it.

I believe the church’s leadership can cure this malady by employing a method I call, SCREAM.

S: Stir up the church members/attendees to want to be used by God in ministry.

C: Connect with the members to discover the giftings that each member can function in, as led by God.

R: Ratify (approve) the culture of the church fellowship to accept body ministry as normative.

E: Equip/Educate the members of the church to function in their individual roles, gifts, and callings.

A: Activate the church members and their ministries by giving them opportunities to function in the context of a church fellowship, where taking risks is not *too* risky.

M: Motivate the members of the church to move out of their comfort zones and into ministering wherever they are.