



THE LORD'S FLOCK GROWTH DIGEST

PASTORAL GROWTH SERIES

An Unbeatable Team

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Partnership means an arrangement where parties advance mutual interests. Jesus Christ chose 12 partners to seek the lost (Jn 1: 35-51). He sent the apostles by two's (Lk 10:1). Two are better than one, so that one can assist the other (Ecc 4:9-12). When we have teamwork with Jesus, we are unbeatable. Conversely, without Christ we can do nothing (Jn 15:5). We will have success and we will be unbeatable in all situations when Jesus is our companion/partner.

1. Two ideas that are important in partnership:

1.1 **FELLOWSHIP.** They devoted themselves to fellowship and breaking of the bread. Vital relationships produce active sharing (Acts 2:42-47).

1.2 **RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD COMES FIRST.** Then, we will have relationships with others. We will love one another (Mt 22:36-40). Everyone who calls on Him will be saved (Rom 10:13).

2. What happens when we partner with Jesus?

2.1 When we team up with Jesus, we will always win in life. When we find favor in Jesus' eyes, He will prosper us. We will get promoted and the Lord will always give us favors. Joseph was favored when there was 7 years of famine (Gen 39).

2.2 As a partner of God, no one will be able to stand against us. Joshua was in partnership with the Lord. He was facing an enormous responsibility to lead the people to the promise land. God worked miracles through Joshua (Josh 1:5-9).

2.3 As partners with the Lord, we should learn to be humble. We need to listen. In the New Testament (Lk 5:1-11), four men were in partnership with Jesus in fishing: Andrew, James, Peter, John (Mt 21). Peter did not want to follow the Lord's command to go back to sea;

but, in spite being tired, defeated, he obeyed and was rewarded.

2.4 When we obey as a partner, others will also be blessed. Our blessings will be shared with others, so the Lord will be glorified. There was a miracle involving the fish. They could not carry the big haul of fish, and they called the other fishermen to also benefit from the bounty.

2.5 When we partner with Him, we will be strengthened to do his work (Phil 4:13). We will not grow weary (Is 40:30).

2.6 He is the One who directs our steps. When we face opposition to serve God, our success or failure rests on where Jesus stands in the picture.

We are all partners of Jesus. Let us be faithful partners, regardless of the struggles and the persecution. If we go with Jesus in partnership, we need to support the work of Jesus, and work harmoniously to glorify God (Acts 2). We need to help and become fishers of men (Jn 12:26-27).

Let us give so that the Lord's storehouse will be full to support His Mission (Mal 3:10). Nothing will fill us but to see Him with excitement with His glory.

Reflection:

- How will we become partners with the Lord if we are not willing to do his will?
- What is wrong in your life today? Why do you think you are in this situation?

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