

Partnering With God

3 Key “Partnerships” in Scripture..

...Our “GOD” Partnership

...Our “GOSPEL” Partnership.

**Phil 1:3-6, Paul reminds us of this great PARTNERSHIP
(Fellowship)**

**“KOINONIA,” Greek word means “(literally)
PARTICIPATION”**

...Our “GROUP” “GATHERING” “CHURCH” Partnership.



The Early Church..

... were a "**FAMILY**" in **RELATIONSHIP**

... were "**FRIENDS**" in **FELLOWSHIP**

... were "**FOLLOWERS**" of **CHRIST** in **PARTNERSHIP**

Genesis 1:26-28

26 Then God said, “Let US make MANKIND in OUR IMAGE, in OUR LIKENESS, (reflecting our nature) so that they may rule (can be responsible) over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

27 So God created mankind in his own image, (Godlike, Reflecting God's nature.) in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

28 God BLESSED them and said to them, “Be FRUITFUL and INCREASE (MULTIPLY) in number; FILL the EARTH and SUBDUE it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.”

God created us with a 5 fold PURPOSE..

1) "RELATIONSHIP"

He doesn't just want to COMMUNICATE with us ..He wants to commune with us

"In the EFFORT to get the WORK of the Lord DONE we often LOSE CONTACT with the LORD of the WORK". AW Tozer

2) **"REFLECT"** Him

v26 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image (selem), in our likeness (kid·mu·te·nu) ..

Selem (image) means "an image, a likeness, a statue, a model, a drawing, a shadow"

Image Bearer

*Make your **"LIFE"** about Jesus & your **"MINISTRY"** will FOLLOW!!*

3) **“RESPONSIBILITY”**

Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of Earth.”

4) **“RULE” & “REIGN”**

26..and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.”

FROM victory Or FOR Victory

What's The "DIFFERENCE"??

*...When you fight **FOR** victory you are at a risk of LOSING.*

*...When you fight **FROM** victory you cannot LOSE.*

*...When you fight **FOR** victory the FEAR of LOSING can cause you to QUIT.*

*...When you fight **FROM** victory your CONFIDENCE will drive you to FINISH the enemy off.*

*...When you fight **FOR** victory, you must also deal with your own **PRIDE**.*

*...When you fight **FROM** victory self-pride is **REPLACED** with **WORSHIP & GRATITUDE**.*

5) **"REPRODUCE"**

v28..God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it.

"Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge!"

Joshua 5:13-15 The Fall of Jericho

Ex 3 Burning Bush

Is 6 “In the year king Uzziah died I saw the Lord”

Matt 28:16-20 The Great Commission

16 Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go.

17 When they saw him, they **WORSHIPPED** him; but some doubted.

When we LOSE the Divine element of what we are a part of..

..Mans NEEDS become more IMPORTANT than God's glory

***..OUR strategy becomes the result of human
OBSERVATION rather than Divine REVELATION***

..we begin MAGNIFY the minister rather than the MASTER!

..our MISSION has NO roots,no LASTING fruit!

We GET to PARTNER with "GOD"

If God be your PARTNER ..make your PLANS LARGE

*If you partnering with God, you **CANNOT** be..*

*Self “**SUFFICIENT**”!*

or

*Self “**CONSCIOUS**” !*

Mark 6:30-44

30 The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught.

31 Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.”

32 So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place.

33 But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them.

34 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

35 By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. "This is a remote place," they said, "and it's already very late.

36 Send the people away so they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat."

37 But He answered, "You give them something to eat." They said to him, "That would take eight months of a man's wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?"

PARTNERSHIP

***38 “How many loaves do you have?” he asked. “Go and see.”
When they found out, they said, “Five—and two fish.”***

PROVISION

***39 Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down
in groups on the green grass.***

40 So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties.

PATTERN ..Strategy

41 Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves.

PRAISE ...THANKFUL

Then he gave them to his disciples to set before the people. He also divided the two fish among them all.

PURPOSE

42 They all ate and were satisfied,

43 and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish.

PERSONAL

44 The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

Some Lessons

1) “*COUNT*”..A LITTLE with God Is MUCH

“What do you have?” Jesus asked (v.38).

5 loaves of bread & 2 fish does not look like much but with God it equals UNLIMITED potential.

NB..God does NOT ask us to give what we DO NOT HAVE, but He does ask to give what we do have.

Sometimes having TOO much is a HINDRANCE to God working.

God often does His best work when we give Him our little.

2) **“COST”**...*That which Is Given to God Is NEVER Lost*

SACRIFICE involves **LOSS** but actually you **NEVER** lose what is **GIVEN** to God.

We GIVE only WHAT God has ALREADY given.

We fear being fully devoted to God because we fear losing something, yet just the opposite is true.

By GIVING our life AWAY we GAIN it.

Instead of LOSS, there were LEFTOVERS.

3) **“CAUSE”**...*You Don't KNOW WHAT You HAVE until You USE It*

The miracle, the potential is unseen until the disciples use what they have.

Faith is seen in the act of giving to God our little.

Only then does God work with what we have given to Him.

What AREAS or OUR lives does God WANT to do something EXTRAORDINARY?

He's WAITING for us to give Him our LITTLE.

Where do you desire God to work in your life?

That is the area that you need to give to God.

It's AMAZING how God works in RESPONSE to our GIVING to Him.

God accomplishes the most, NOT when we work FOR HIM, but WHEN we are FAITHFUL & OBEDIENT enough for HIM to work THRU us.

Response..

1) Look to the "PERSON" of God

Heb 13:8

Jesus is UNCHANGING

Dan 11:32..those who KNOW their God shall be strong & DO GREAT EXPLOITS for Him

2) Look to the "**PRESENCE**" of God

Guarantees SUCCESS

3) Look to the "**PROMISES**" of God

•• **FEAST** on the Scriptures

..Daily food of promise

FEED your FAITH & your FEARS will STARVE to DEATH!!

•• **FOCUS** on Prophetic words

4) Look to the "**POWER**" of God

5) Look to the "**PROVISION**" of God.

Where God guides, God Provides!

6) Look to what "**PLEASES**" God

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