

# Teaming With the Translocal...Power of Partnership

## ***Eph 4:1-16***

***1 As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.***

***2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.***

***3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.***

***4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called—***

***5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.***

***7 But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.***

***8 This is why it says: “When He ascended on high, He led captives in His train & gave gifts to men.”***

**9 (What does “He ascended” mean except that he also descended to the lower, earthly regions?)**

**10 He who descended is the very one who ascended higher than all the heavens, in order to fill the whole universe.)**

**11 It was HE who gave SOME to be apostles (\*GOVERN) , SOME to be prophets (\*GUIDE), SOME to be evangelists (\*GATHER), & SOME to be pastors (\*GUARD) & teachers, (\*GROUND) GIFT & GRACE**

**12 to PREPARE God’s people for works of service, SO that the BODY of Christ MAY be BUILT up**

**13 until we ALL REACH UNITY IN the FAITH & IN the knowledge of the SON of God & BECOME MATURE, attaining to the WHOLE MEASURE of the FULLNESS of CHRIST.**

**14 Then we will NO longer be INFANTS, (IMMATURITY) tossed back & forth by the waves, (INSTABILITY) "demonstrated by DEGREE of VACILLATION (WAVERING)" & blown here & there by every wind of teaching & by the cunning & craftiness of men in their deceitful scheming.**

**(IMPRESSIONABILITY)**

**15 Instead, SPEAKING the TRUTH in LOVE, we will in ALL things GROW up INTO HIM who is the HEAD, that is, CHRIST.**

**16 From HIM the whole body, joined & held together by every supporting ligament, GROWS & BUILDS itself UP in love, as EACH part does its WORK.**

***5 things God WANTS ALL of us to BE..***

***1) "EQUIPPED." (12)***

***The CHURCH is a BODY & everyone HAS a function to PERFORM, a part to play.***

***"EQUIPPING" – to PUT in PLACE, to RESET dislocated bones, to be made COMPLETE.***

***Why?***

***For the work of the ministry.***

## 2) "**EDIFIED**" (12)

**"EDIFY".. to BUILD up, to MATURE, to DEVELOP.**

**When ALL of us are doing our PART, the Church, the BODY of Christ, GROWS.**

**It GROWS..**

**.."UP" (WORSHIP).**

**.."OUT" (EVANGELISM).**

**.."WITHIN" (DISCIPLESHIP)**

*It is edified, made strong, vibrant, alive!*

*“Never confuse **MOVEMENT** with **ACTION**.”*

*Just because we are **MOVING** doesn't **MEAN** we are **GOING ANYWHERE**.*

*We want to **GO & GROW** to be the people God called us to be.*

### 3) "**EDUCATED**"(13)

*God has a "**DESTINY**", a goal at which His church is to AIM.*

*v13 "until we ALL REACH UNITY IN the FAITH & IN the knowledge of the SON of God & BECOME MATURE,..."*



*It consists of 3 parts:*

*..until we ALL reach..*

*i) Unity IN the **FAITH**, &*

*ii) in the **KNOWLEDGE** (epignosis), **FULL & EXPERIENTIAL KNOWLEDGE** of the SON , &*

*iii) a **PERFECT** (teleion), a **COMPLETE, MATURE** person.*

*God wants us to **KNOW** Him & know Him **TRUTHFULLY!***

4) "**ENLARGED**". (13)

*"attaining to the **WHOLE** measure of the **FULLNESS** of Christ"*

*God did not save us simply to take us to heaven...*

*He saved us to **MAKE** us like Jesus*

*Rom 8:29.. "For those God foreknew he also predestined to be **CONFORMED** to the **LIKENESS** of his **SON**, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers."*

*That **GOAL** will **NEVER** change.*

*Be **ENLARGED** by the model of Jesus.*

5) "**ESTABLISHED**" (14)

**CHILDREN**–(spiritually) an immature baby or child (set in contrast to the man of v13).

**The IMMATURE are NEVER SETTLED;**

**they are FICKLE, SHIFTING, not DEPENDABLE.**

**They have NO ROOTS,**

**no CONVICTIONS,**

**no COMMITMENTS.**

***When tough times come they run.***

***When a slick presentation is made they are deceived.***

***They are blown about, tricked with loaded dice, fooled by clever schemes & deceived by the plots of the evil one.***

***WE NEED to Know the Word & obey the Word.***

**PERSONS (8-11)**

**"SOME to be..**

**A) APOSTLES (GOVERN)**

**..SUPREMACY of Christ**

**"King & Kingdom"**

**..AUTHORITY of the word**

**..ENLARGEMENT**

**A) *APOSTLES* (cont)**

*..CAPACITY- always hold vision before people*

*..love for Christ/Kingdom*

**B) *PROPHETS* (GUIDE)**

*-love for HS/presence/power*

**C) *EVANGELIST* (GATHER)**

*-Love for the lost*



***D) PASTORS (GUARD)***

***-Love for the Church***

***E) TEACHERS (GROUND)***

***Truth-love for the word!***

***APOSTLES*** are motivated by ***VISION***,

***...PROPHETS*** by ***BURDEN***,

***...EVANGELISTS*** by ***PASSION***,

***...PASTORS*** by ***RELATIONSHIP***,

***...TEACHERS*** by ***REVELATION***.



***All by the SAME Holy Spirit.***

***A great team when they work together!***

***HOW?***

***Acts 14:21-28***

***21 They preached the good news in that city***

*Some Gospel "DISTORTIONS"..*

*...the "CULTURAL" Gospel:*

*"CONTEXTUALIZATION" is not "MAKING" the gospel relevant, it's "SHOWING" the RELEVANCE of the gospel.*

*..the "COOL" Gospel:*

*"MARKETING" Jesus is "CHEAP" & "POWERLESS"*

*..the "CARELESS" Gospel:*

*..we NEED the WHOLE gospel.*

*The gospel WITHOUT repentance is NOT the gospel.*

*..the "CARNAL" Gospel:*

*WHAT Jesus CAN do FOR me!!*

*HEALTH, WEALTH, always HAPPY, never HURTING!!*

*Jesus will CHANGE what you "WANT" a lot MORE than what you "HAVE"!!*

***The SELFISH gospel that PROMISES things Jesus doesn't PROMISE is a LIE !!***

***The gospel of "ME" before "JESUS" is NOT the gospel.***

***"and won a large number of disciples".***

***(\*\*followers of Jesus)***

*The Great Commission does NOT COMMAND us to ..*

*..Make "CONVERTS of CHRISTIANITY."*

*..We are to make "DISCIPLES of JESUS".*

*..**CONVERTS** change **RELIGIONS**.*

*..**DISCIPLES** change **MASTERS**.*

*..**CONVERTS** follow a **SYSTEM**.*

*..**DISCIPLES** follow a **PERSON**.*

**..CONVERTS** build **CHRISTENDOM**.

**..DISCIPLES** build the **KINGDOM** of God

**..CONVERTS** embrace **RITUALS**.

**..DISCIPLES** embrace a **WAY** of **LIFE**.

**..CONVERTS** love **CONVERSION**.

**..DISCIPLES** love **TRANSFORMATION**.

**If we are NOT contributing to the Great Commission BY making disciples, we are NOT doing the job COMPLETELY.**

***WHY churches are NOT PRODUCING disciples?***

**\*\* "IGNORANCE" of the Great Commission.**

***He said HE would build HIS CHURCH & WE are to MAKE DISCIPLES of the nations!!***

**\*\* "INADEQUACY"**

***Plenty of Leaders have NOT been disciplined themselves.***

**\*\* "INTIMIDATED" by the informal**

**We prefer PROGRAMS over RELATIONSHIPS.**

**\*\* "IMPRESSED" with size.**

**We love BIG...We love the SPOTLIGHT!!**

**We prefer ADDITION" when God desires "MULTIPLICATION"!**



**\*\* "IMPATIENT" in the process.**

*There is nothing GLAMOROUS or SENSATIONAL about discipleship.*

**\*\* "INABILITY" to get personally healed ourselves**

*We can never BRING others to SPIRITUAL maturity if we have NOT learned to OVERCOME our OWN BROKENNESS.*

*We cannot be MATURE in Christ if we are STILL bound by sinful habits.*

*Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, 22 strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. "We must go through many hardships to enter the KINGDOM of God," they said.*

*Some of The "**SIGNS**" of the Kingdom*

*# "**SOVEREIGNTY**" of Jesus*

*He is the main sign of the Kingdom because he is the King of the Kingdom of God.*

# **"SPREADING"** of Good news

*Kingdom people tell others about their king!*

# **"SIGNS"** & WONDERS

*God confirms the breaking in of His Kingdom with miracles.*

*"The Kingdom of God is NOT going to be ADVANCED by our churches BECOMING filled with MEN, but by MEN in our CHURCHES becoming FILLED with GOD." Duncan Campbell*

# "**SALVATION**" *through being born again*

# "**SUFFERING**" *by those who seek to advance the Kingdom of God*

# "**SHOWING**" *Peace, mercy to the lost & kindness to the poor are signs of the Kingdom of God.*

## # **STARTING** Kingdom communities & **MULTIPLICATION** .

**23 Paul and Barnabas appointed elders for them in each church and, with prayer and fasting, committed them to the Lord, in whom they had put their trust.**

**24 After going through Pisidia, they came into Pamphylia,**

**25 and when they had preached the word in Perga, they went down to Attalia.**

**26 From Attalia they sailed back to Antioch, where they had been committed to the grace of God for the work they had now completed.**

**27 On arriving there, they gathered the church together and reported all that God had done through them and how he had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.**

**28 And they stayed there a long time with the disciples.**

*Keep the people..*

**1) FOCUSED (King and the Kingdom)**

**2) FAITHFUL**

**3) FULL OF FAITH**

*-bigger picture*

**4) FREE**

**5) FRUITFUL**

## **6) FELLOWSHIP**

***-relationship\partnerships***

## **7) FURTHERANCE**

***• Rom 15:20-21***

***"It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation. Rather, as it is written: "Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand."***

• **2 Cor 10:15..**

**"Our hope is that, AS YOUR FAITH CONTINUES to GROW, OUR AREA of ACTIVITY AMONG YOU WILL GREATLY EXPAND, SO THAT WE CAN PREACH the GOSPEL in the REGIONS BEYOND YOU"**



## *Scope of OUR ministry..*

### **1) "FOUNDATIONS"**

*Eph 2:19-22..*

*Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, **BUILT ON the FOUNDATIONS of the APOSTLES and PROPHETS, with CHRIST JESUS HIMSELF as the CHIEF CORNERSTONE.** In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.*



2) **"REVELATION"**

*How to proceed*

3) **"FORMATION"** ..setting in order..

*Lives*

*Church Life*

*Structure*

*Decisions ...governmental /doctrinal*

#### 4) "**LIBERATION**"

*-liberty and freedom!*

***KEEP the people FREE!!***

- ***Wrong emphasis***
- ***Doctrinal off centeredness***
- ***Spiritual coldness***
- ***Incorrect practice***
- ***Legalism***



***GET Free...STAY Free...KEEP others free***

- ***FLESH***
- ***FEAR***
- ***FUTURE***
- ***FAME***
- ***FORTUNE***
- ***FINANCES***
- ***Lack of FAITH***

5) **"EDIFICATION"**

*1 Thess 3:10..supply what is lacking in your faith*

6) **"ORDINATION"**

*Acts 14:23*

7) **"TRANSFORMATION"**

*-more Christlike*

## 8) "**MANIFESTATION**"

We need "**WORSHIP**" Leaders to...

#- **Point us to JESUS.**

*We need to take care not to distract from Jesus,  
whether by **CONTENT** or **CREATIVITY**.*

#- **LEAD more than PERFORM.**

**#- Approach the worship gathering with a PASTORAL sensibility.**

**...think primarily about what the flock NEEDS more than what the flock WANTS—because they are not always the same thing!**

**#- Let THEOLOGY drive your DECISION making.**

**Too many meetings are driven by a CONSUMERISTIC or PRAGMATIC ethos.**

#- *Think about the service **BEYOND** the songs*

#- *Are **NOT** afraid of **SILENCE***

#- *Pray for real*

#- *Prioritize the Word*

#- *Lead with **SERIOUS** joy*

*when worship leaders capture both the **GLADNESS** & the **GRAVITY** of responding to the Lord's call to worship.*

*when you are both **HAPPY** & **HUMBLED** by the **HOLINESS** of God.*



9) **"MULTIPLICATION"**  
*release-increase*

10) **"FACILITATION "**  
*of kingdom partnerships!*

*Understanding "PARTNERSHIP"*

*If you wanna go FAST..go ALONE!  
but..If you wanna go FAR ..go TOGETHER!!*

*Philippians 1:3 I thank my God every time I remember you.  
4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy  
5 because of your **\*\*PARTNERSHIP** in the gospel from the  
first day until now,*

***\*\*Why is it that Paul had such joy & thanksgiving every time he  
thought of the Philippians?***

*He gave the answer here.*

*It was because of their "FELLOWSHIP" in the gospel."*

*.."fellowship" was translated Greek word "KOINONIA," & this  
Greek word means "partnership, i.e. (literally) participation"*

## i) **"RECOGNITION"**

*How we.. "ENGAGE" with partnering churches?*

*3 Ways..*

- **"GOVERNING"** (*speaking into decisions etc*)

*..Discipline*

*..Doctrine*

*..Direction*

- **"GIFT"**

- **GRACE** (all of us with all pastors)
  - **"ENCOURAGING"** & Strengthening them

**v22 STRENGTHENING** the souls of the **DISCIPLES**,  
**EXHORTING** them to continue in the **FAITH**, and saying, "We  
**MUST** through many **TRIBULATIONS** enter the kingdom of  
God."

- **"EQUIPPING"** & bringing to **MATURITY**
- **"ENVISIONING"**
- **"ENLARGING"** & **"EXTENDING"**

*ii) "REVELATION"*

*EPH 4..speaks of "UNITY" in THEOLOGY & HEART -  
"DIVERSITY" in GIFT & GRACE!*

*We must CONTEND for OUR values as VALUES not LAWS!!*

*IF we lose the HEART of what we DO..we lose EVERYTHING  
we are!!*

**iii) "RELATIONSHIP"**

**CONNECTED to Elders & leaders & church**

**iv) "RESPONSIBILITY"**

**Romans 15:20-21**

**20 It has ALWAYS been my AMBITION to preach the gospel where Christ was NOT known, so that I would not be building on someone else's foundation.**

**21 Rather, as it is written:**

**"Those who were not told about him will see,  
and those who have not heard will understand."**



***Take "OWNERSHIP" of***

***..MISSION***

***..MANDATE***

***..MINISTRY***

***..MESSAGE***

v) "**RESOURCES**" *without* "**RESERVATION**"

vi) "**REWARD**"





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