

THE JOURNEY *Part 2*

Ecclesiastes 4:9–10

⁹ Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. ¹⁰ For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up.

This verse warns us of the importance of never going on a journey ALONE. Having said that, it's equally important WHO we take with us on our journey!

Amos 3:3

³ Can two walk together, except they be agreed?

Amos 3:3 New American Standard Bible

³ Do two men walk together unless they have made an appointment?

If two people are going to walk (or journey) together, they'll probably do so having had a *mutual* arrangement or agreement. If they don't (if they have COMPETING assignments), they'll either have to abandon their assignment or the relationship!

Genesis 12:4

⁴ So Abram departed, as the Lord had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran.

When Abraham set out on his journey, Lot went with him. Unfortunately, the journey eventually revealed how they had competing assignments/visions.

Genesis 13:10, 11, 14, 15

¹⁰ And Lot lifted up his eyes, and beheld all the plain of Jordan, that it was well watered every where, before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah, even as the garden of the Lord, like the land of Egypt, as thou comest unto Zoar. ¹¹ Then Lot chose him all the plain of Jordan; and Lot journeyed east: and they separated themselves the one from the other. ¹⁴ And the Lord said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: ¹⁵ For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever.

Rather than abandon HIS vision, Lot chose to abandon his relationship with Abraham. (Whenever two people have competing visions/assignments, someone will have to abandon their vision for the sake of the relationship.)

How can we make sure that the person traveling with us on this journey is the right partner?

THE RIGHT PARTNER WON'T COMPETE WITH YOU

Genesis 13:5–7

⁵ And Lot also, which went with Abram, had flocks, and herds, and tents. ⁶ And the land was not able to bear them, that they might dwell together: for their substance was great, so that they could not dwell together. ⁷ And there was a strife between the herdmen of Abram's cattle and the herdmen of Lot's cattle: and the Canaanite and the Perizzite dwelled then in the land.

Why were they not able to dwell together? Because they were fighting for the same space! The RIGHT partner won't compete with you for the same space or role. Instead, the right partner will try to complement you.

Genesis 2:18

¹⁸ And the Lord God said, It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him an help meet for him.

We should point out that prior to this God brought all the beasts of the field to Adam. However, none of them was found to be a “help meet” (suitable partner) to the man. Why? Because not every companion is a suitable partner. In order to be a suitable partner you must do more than merely contribute. You must be a complement.

Genesis 2:18 *Holman Christian Standard Bible*

¹⁸ Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper as his complement.”

The reason Eve was a *complement* to Adam is because she could do what no animal (nor man) could do—assist Adam in carrying out his mission (“be fruitful and multiply”)!

Now, not every assignment requires one to have a marriage partner or spouse. However, every assignment WILL require you to have somebody (a partner)!

THE RIGHT PARTNER WILL BE COMMITTED TO YOU

2 Corinthians 6:14

¹⁴ Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness?

Being “yoked” together with someone means to be a committed, and *not* just to the assignment (or PURPOSE). It also means being “yoked” to the PERSON!

2 Corinthians 6:16

16 And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? for ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Notice, God didn’t simply promise to be their God. He ALSO promised to dwell with them (to commit Himself to them)!

The key to being a good partner is a commitment to being present. Again, this takes us back to our ORIGINAL point. The reason the Bible says, “Two are better than one” is NOT because they have more resources available to them. The reason “Two are better than one” is because THEY ARE NOT ALONE.

Never forget this: partnership doesn’t guarantee that we’ll never experience trouble. Partnership guarantees that we never have to experience trouble alone!

THE RIGHT PARTNER WILL ALWAYS HELP YOU

Joshua 1:12–16

12 And to the Reubenites, and to the Gadites, and to half the tribe of Manasseh, spake Joshua, saying, 13 Remember the word which Moses the servant of the Lord commanded you, saying, The Lord your God hath given you rest, and hath given you this land. 14 Your wives, your little ones, and your cattle, shall remain in the land which Moses gave you on this side Jordan; but ye shall pass before your brethren armed, all the mighty men of valour, and help them; 15 Until the Lord have given your brethren rest, as he hath given you, and they also have possessed the land which the Lord your God giveth them: then ye shall return unto the land of your possession, and enjoy it, which Moses the Lord’s servant gave you on this side Jordan toward the sunrising. 16 And they answered Joshua, saying, All that thou commandest us we will do, and whithersoever thou sendest us, we will go.

The Israelites did not all come into their inheritance (rest) at the same time. Some tribes (Gad, Reuben, Manasseh) received their “rest” before the others. However, they were STILL expected to fight until the remaining tribes received their rest!

Numbers 32:20–23

²⁰ And Moses said unto them, If ye will do this thing, if ye will go armed before the Lord to war, ²¹ And will go all of you armed over Jordan before the Lord, until he hath driven out his enemies from before him, ²² And the land be subdued before the Lord: then afterward ye shall return, and be guiltless before the Lord, and before Israel; and this land shall be your possession before the Lord. ²³ But if ye will not do so, behold, ye have sinned against the Lord: and be sure your sin will find you out.

Notice, if these tribes refused to fight for their brethren, they would have been guilty of SIN.

Galatians 6:2

² Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

This means that if we DON'T bear one another's burdens, we'll be guilty of breaking the law of Christ!

Understand, “bearing one another's burdens” doesn't mean that we do all the work while others sit back and watch.

2 Thessalonians 3:10–11

¹⁰ For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. ¹¹ For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.

Notice, those who won't work are the ones sinning (walking disorderly). Therefore, the “sin” is NOT requiring men to work. The “sin” is requiring men to work (fight) ALONE.