

WHY JOIN THE TEAM

#WINNING: Part 2

September 6, 2020

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God's TEAM is the local CHURCH.

"...I am writing these things to you now...[so] you will know how to live in the family of God. That family is the church of the living God, the support and foundation of the truth." (1 Timothy 3:14–15, NCV)

I am called to JOIN the TEAM!

"Afterwards he went up into the hills and summoned certain ones he chose, inviting them to come and join him there; and they did." (Mark 3:13, The Living Bible)

"Then, calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me." (Mark 8:34, NLT)

"We who believe are carefully joined together with Christ as parts of a beautiful, constantly growing temple for God." (Ephesians 2:21, The Living Bible)

"What we have seen and heard we announce to you also, so that you will join with us in the fellowship that we have with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ." (1 John 1:3, GNB)

WHY I NEED TO JOIN THE TEAM

1. BECAUSE GOD IS DRAFTING ME!

JESUS: "...I will build my [TEAM], and all the powers of hell will not conquer it." (Matthew 16:18, NLT)

"I am writing to God's [TEAM] in Corinth, to you who have been called by God to be his own holy people. He made you holy by means of Christ Jesus, just as he did for all people everywhere who call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, their Lord and ours." (1 Corinthians 1:2, NLT)

God's church is simultaneously eternal, universal, and local!

2. BECAUSE I CAN'T WIN WITHOUT A STRATEGY.

"This is the kind of life you've been invited into, the kind of life Christ lived. He suffered everything that came his way so you would know that it could be done, and also know how to do it, step-by-step." (1 Peter 2:21, The Message)

"Stay alert. This is hazardous work I'm assigning you. You're going to be like sheep running through a wolf pack, so don't call attention to yourselves. Be as cunning as a snake, inoffensive as a dove." (Matthew 10:16, The Message) Compare Luke 10:1-17

3. BECAUSE THE TEAM NEEDS ME.

“Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ’s body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.” (Romans 12:4–5, NLT)

God in his kindness gave each of us different gifts... (Romans 12:6, GW)

4. BECAUSE OF THE THRILL OF A TEAM VICTORY!

“But you must always behave in a way that is worthy of the gospel of Christ...standing firm and united in spirit, battling, as a team with a single aim, for the faith of the gospel,” (Philippians 1:27, NJB)

“In the same way, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God when one sinner changes his heart and life.” (Luke 15:10, NCV)

ACTION: FIRST BASE!