



Acts

Amplifying Hope | October 29, 2023

Sermon: Two-by-Two Faith Sharing

Scripture: Acts 13

Summary: Life is an amazing adventure but it is multiplied greatly when we share it with those we love and cherish. Doing things alone is not as rewarding as doing things together (in teams). Winning as a team has advantages. Even the golfer who wins a tournament can't wait to hug his caddy and his wife and his children and his coach and agent! The baseball player can't wait to celebrate a big win with his team in a dog pile. Parades are given to winning teams. Individual winners have press conferences. Teams build relationships and accomplish more together than they ever could alone! We were created to accomplish more in pairs or more, so "Buddy Up" everybody! Solomon explained it this way, "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken" (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12). Find a friend or friends to be accountable with, to experience the adventure of following Jesus with and to join together with in faith sharing!

- Teamwork makes the Dreamwork
- Buddy Up (Ecclesiastes 4:9-12)
- Our faith is a we faith, not a me faith.
- We are designed to sail through life on at least five ships: Relationship, Discipleship, Partnership, Fellowship and Worship. All five operate best at least Two by Two!!!

- Matthew 18:20 (Where two or more are gathered in my name, I am with them)
- Mark 6:7 (And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits)
- Luke 10:1 (After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go)
- John 8:17 (In your Law it is written that the testimony of two people is true)
- Revelation 11:3 (I will grant authority to my two witnesses)

1. Send Out Disciples Faith Sharing Two by Two (Acts 13:1-3).

- Jesus sent His disciples out two by two.

2. Go Out to Share Faith with Others Two by Two (Acts 13:4-12).

- We were meant to work together.
- We were meant to witness together.
- We were meant to combine our hearts and resources in the work of faith sharing!

3. Learn How to Use the Bible to Share Your Faith!!! (Acts 13:13-41)

- Back up the truth of your words with the truth of God's Word.

4. Speak Words of Life Boldly Together (Acts 13:42-49).

- The two witnesses in Revelation

5. Disciples who together share their faith with others are filled with JOY and the Holy Spirit (Acts 13:50-52).

- Acts 2 - Pentecost
- Ephesians 5:18
- Dust Shaking

Life Application Questions

1. Have you ever watched a sunset alone or completed a big task singlehanded or heard an amazing song by yourself or watched an awesome movie without a friend and wished you had someone that you could share it with? (NOTE: Strangers in certain situations join in great celebration because good news, great adventures and significant moments are meant to be shared!)
2. Not everyone is an extrovert but everybody needs teammates and benefits from the discipline and practice of doing life together. Name those closest to you and what you enjoy doing together.
3. Jesus sent his disciples out two by two. The early church followed this same pattern. What keeps the church of today from the same practice? What steps could you take to find a partner and begin serving and sharing together?
4. List some benefits of strategically going together sharing faith with others in pairs.
5. Have you ever had a partner in ministry, faith sharing and mission? Describe the experience.
6. How active and regular are you in sharing your faith alone with others? Would a partner sharing a similar vision expand your opportunities and motivate you to share your faith more frequently?
7. PRAY: Ask the Lord to help you find the right partner(s) in faith sharing and ministry!