

“Work with Me”

December 11, 2022

INTRODUCTION

Come and See. Follow Me. Now... WORK WITH ME.

For far too many of us, we have treated the Kingdom as if it were a hobby. When Jesus has called us to work.

“I Will Build My Church”

What is the work that Jesus is doing? In Matthew 16:18 Jesus put it this way, “...I will build My Church...” That is the work that Jesus is still doing. How is He doing it? How is Jesus building His Church?

He is EVANGELIZING the lost through compassionate Spirit-filled workers (Matthew 9:35-38; John 20:21-22)

³⁵ Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. ³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷ Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. ³⁸ Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

He is EQUIPPING and SHEPHERDING His Church through leaders (Ephesians 4:11-3, 16; 1 Peter 5:1)

11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up 13 until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ....

To the elders among you, I appeal as a fellow elder and a witness of Christ’s sufferings who also will share in the glory to be revealed: ² Be shepherds of God’s flock that is under your care, watching over them—not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; ³ not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

He is BUILDING UP His Church through gifted and equipped workers (Ephesians 4:16; 1 Corinthians 12:)

16 From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

⁷ Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

He will RESOURCE His Church to send forth even more workers (Romans 10:14-15; Philippians 4:19)

13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

14 How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? 15 And how can anyone preach unless they are sent? As it is written: "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

¹⁹ And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

The Kingdom is not a Hobby

Questions for Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

1. How does the idea that Jesus has invited you to work hard WITH Him impact you?
2. Is your growing in compassion for the lost? If not, why do you think?
3. Do you believe that Jesus still wants to reach the lost through preaching, teaching, healing, and deliverance from the demonic? Why or why not? If so, do you believe that He can do that through you? Why or why not?
4. Do you know what your spiritual gifts/heart passions are? Are you developing them?
5. When you look at your life are working hard or hardly working?