

My Ministry Partnership with Jesus ***Study Questions***

Getting Started

1. What insight, principle, or observation from this week's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening or troubling? Explain.

My Ministry Partnership with Jesus ***Sharpening Our Focus for a New Ministry Year*** *Sunday September 11, 2016*

Who is responsible for our ministry to grow?

Jesus Works through People like Me

“He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”
Matthew 16:15–18 ESV

Three Insights

1. Church = Community of Believers
2. Build = Building the Community of Believers
3. Rock emphasizes God's person to lead this ministry.

**“When I created my community of believers,
you are the rock that will be the foundation.”
(Jesus words to Peter)**

Will I Take the Baton?

Jesus' Example Be Motivated to take the Baton

“Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.” Hebrews 12:1–3 ESV

Carrying Jesus' Baton means I will Cross the Finish Line

“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9 ESV

“Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.” 1 Corinthians 15:58 ESV

Carrying Jesus' Baton is Hard Work

“Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.” Colossians 1:28–29 ESV

And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.” Matthew 16:18 ESV

“And Simon answered, “Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets.”” Luke 5:5 ESV

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” Matthew 11:28–29 ESV