Imagine a better future as you are BECOMING one who Equips Kingdom Citizens

Satan (The Tempter) loves to separate us...

from our ...work of faith

from our ...labor of love

from our ...steadfastness of hope

Surrendering
Abiding
Worshiping

Gathering
Equipping
Loving

Living Sent
Inviting Along
Proclaiming Christ



- The value of a church is not in its longevity but in its love.
- The success of a church is not in its size but in its service to the people and the community.
- We are a people founded by a person who never established a church or built a building or led a finance campaign to build impressive buildings.
- Our leader just came and served and then died for the good of others.
- I suppose that would be a pretty good mission statement for a church, but one I am not likely to see:
- "We exist to serve others and then die, just like our Founder." James Bryan Smith, The Good and Beautiful Community

GOO'S Fellow Workers 1 Thes. 3:1-5



Charged: To Walk Worthy

The Word of God: at work in you

Brethren: you are our joy

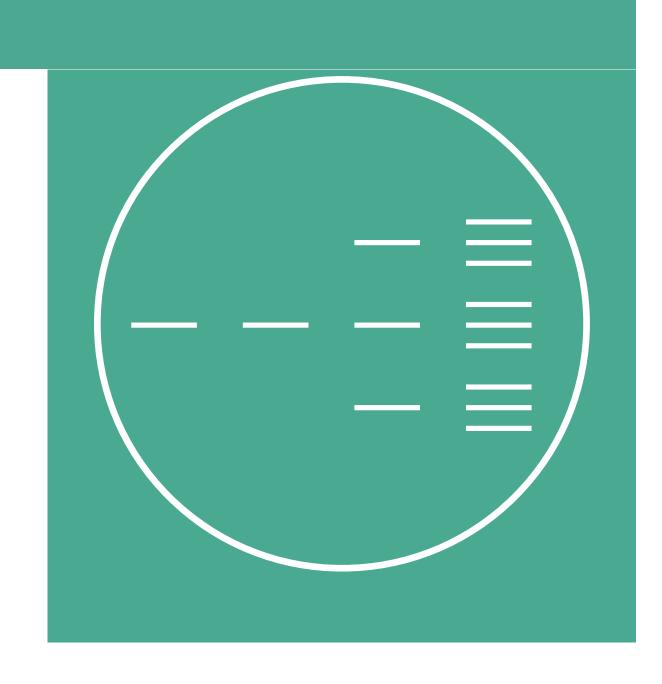
God's: Fellow Workers

The Intensity of Personal Relationships v. 1-5

God's Fellow Worker & Our Labor v. 2 & 5

Strengthen & Encourage v. 2

(Another's) Faith v. 2 & 5

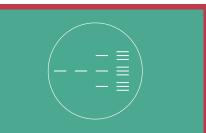


Charged: To Walk Worthy



1 Thessalonians 2:9 For you recall, brethren, our labor and hardship, how working night and day so as not to be a burden to any of you, we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. 10 You are witnesses, and so is God, how devoutly and uprightly and blamelessly we behaved toward you believers; 11 just as you know how we were exhorting and encouraging and imploring each one of you as a father would his own children, 12 so that you would walk in a manner worthy of the God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

The Word of God: at work in you

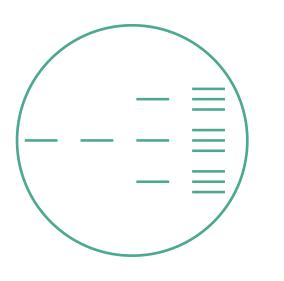


1 Thessalonians 2:13 For this reason we also constantly thank God that when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but for what it really is, the word of God, which also performs its work in you who believe. 14 For you, brethren, became imitators of the churches of God in Christ Jesus that are in Judea, for you also endured the same sufferings at the hands of your own countrymen, even as they did from the Jews, 15 who both killed the Lord Jesus and the prophets, and drove us out. They are not pleasing to God, but hostile to all men, 16 hindering us from speaking to the Gentiles so that they may be saved; with the result that they always fill up the measure of their sins. But wrath has come upon them to the utmost.

Brethren: you are our joy

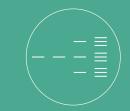


1 Thessalonians 2:17 But we, brethren, having been taken away from you for a short while—in person, not in spirit—were all the more eager with great desire to see your face. 18 For we wanted to come to you—I, Paul, more than once—and yet Satan hindered us. 19 For who is our hope or joy or crown of exultation? Is it not even you, in the presence of our Lord Jesus at His coming? 20 For you are our glory and joy.





1 Thes. 3:1 Therefore when we could endure it no longer, we thought it best to be left behind at Athens alone, 2 and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you as to your faith, 3 so that no one would be disturbed by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we have been destined for this. 4 For indeed when we were with you, we kept telling you in advance that we were going to suffer affliction; and so it came to pass, as you know. 5 For this reason, when I could endure it no longer, I also sent to find out about your faith, for fear that the tempter might have tempted you, and our labor would be in vain.



A different time Timothy was sent (to Corinth):

1 Corinthians 4:14 I do not write these things to shame you, but to admonish you as my beloved children. 15 For if you were to have countless tutors in Christ, yet you would not have many fathers, for in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel. 16 Therefore I exhort you, be imitators of me. 17 For this reason I have sent to you Timothy, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, and he will remind you of my ways which are in Christ, just as I teach everywhere in every church.



1 Thes. 3:2 and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you as to your faith,

Philippians 4:2 I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord. 3 Indeed, true companion, I ask you also to help these women who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel, together with Clement also and the rest of my <u>fellow workers</u>, whose names are in the book of life.

Fellow Workers (**Synergy**: cooperation of two or more people/organizations to produce a combined effect greater than the sum of their separate effects)



ReFocus Equips CCBC Equip

Vision —> Fellow so that Fellow —> Kingdom

Team Workers Workers Citizens

In 2020, join me in praying that we "Remove the Mission Fog" so that as "Fellow Workers" we can build on unity

and see "organizational clarity."

Stages of Alignment (Will Mancini)

Confusion -> Communication -> Coordination -> Collaboration

Imagine a better future as you are BECOMING one who Equips Kingdom Citizens

Be one who
Works and Labors to
Strengthen and Encourage,
Concerned for Others' Faith

Don't be one who is

Unwilling or Misdirected or

Separated from God's Plan for Us

Serve Others (and then die)

Surrendering **Abiding** Worshiping Gathering **Equipping** Loving Living Sent **Inviting Along** Proclaiming Christ