

## **Partnership Brings Fruitfulness – Bible Study Lesson**

### **Luke 5:1-11 (NLT)**

**1 One day as Jesus was preaching on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, great crowds pressed in on him to listen to the word of God.**

**2 He noticed two empty boats at the water's edge, for the fishermen had left them and were washing their nets.**

**3 Stepping into one of the boats, Jesus asked Simon, its owner, to push it out into the water. So he sat in the boat and taught the crowds from there.**

**4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Now go out where it is deeper, and let down your nets to catch some fish."**

**5 "Master," Simon replied, "we worked hard all last night and didn't catch a thing. But if you say so, I'll let the nets down again."**

**6 And this time their nets were so full of fish they began to tear!**

**7 A shout for help brought their partners in the other boat, and soon both boats were filled with fish and on the verge of sinking.**

**8 When Simon Peter realized what had happened, he fell to his knees before Jesus and said, "Oh, Lord, please leave me—I'm such a sinful man."**

**9 For he was awestruck by the number of fish they had caught, as were the others with him.**

**10 His partners, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, were also amazed. Jesus replied to Simon, "Don't be afraid! From now on you'll be fishing for people!"**

**11 And as soon as they landed, they left everything and followed Jesus.**

### **Partnership Brings Fruitfulness**

Few things give us motivation like being around people who get along and do great things together. There is joy in fellowship. But, it's really special when we move beyond fellowship to true partnership. When we enter into a

partnership, we create deep and meaningful sharing and work together. Partnerships are important to God. The scripture lets us know that if we partner with God in suffering, we get to partner with Him in reigning. With this in mind, let's examine: **Partnership Brings Fruitfulness.**

### **Genesis 1:26-28 (NLT)**

**26 Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground."**

**27 So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.**

**28 Then God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground."**

God will never ask us to do anything, He is unwilling to do Himself. Before He asked us to partner with Him on anything, He gave us an example, by partnering to make us. He says, **"Let US make man, in our image."** God the Father made us like Him, so we could experience partnership. God made us like Jesus, so we could experience sonship. God made us like the Holy Spirit, so we could experience fellowship. **A PARTNERSHIP CREATED US SO WE COULD LEARN HOW TO BE IN PARTNERSHIPS THAT CREATE.**

- 1. Partnership brings fruitfulness to creation.**

### **Luke 1:34-35 (NASB)**

**34 But Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"**

**35 The angel answered and said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; for that reason also the holy Child will be called the Son of God.**

### **Luke 1:38 (NASB)**

**38 And Mary said, “Behold, the Lord’s bond-servant; may it be done to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.**

Without partnership, we wouldn’t even have Jesus. God has given man and woman dominion over the Earth and everything in it. Thus, anything God wants to do in earth will require the hands and feet of a human. God needed to get Himself into the world. Because people need bodies to interact on the Earth, Jesus had to come into the world as a baby, through a woman. **GOD NEEDED A WOMAN TO PARTNER WITH HIM, SO WE COULD HAVE JESUS. GOD NEEDS MEN/WOMEN TO PARTNER WITH HIM TO SHARE THE GOSPEL.**

**2. Partnership brings fruitfulness through people.**

**Matthew 18:19 (NLT)**

**19 “I also tell you this: If two of you agree here on earth concerning anything you ask, my Father in heaven will do it for you.**

Partnerships are so important to God, that He put a special provision on them. Heaven isn’t authorized to move until two touch and agree, in corporation. Faith partners cause your faith to multiply. That’s why you need faith friends and not fake friends. Remember, **whatever you get in agreement, you cause to be released in your life.**

**3. Partnership brings fruitfulness to our prayers.**

**2 Timothy 3:16 (AMP)**

**16 All Scripture is God-breathed [given by divine inspiration] and is profitable for instruction, for conviction [of sin], for correction [of error and restoration to obedience], for training in righteousness [learning to live in conformity to God’s will, both publicly and privately—behaving honorably with personal integrity and moral courage];**

**2 Peter 1:20-21 (AMP)**

**20 But understand this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture is a matter of or comes from one's own [personal or special] interpretation,**

**21 for no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.**

The Bible clearly lets us know how much profit there is in the gospel. The gospel is the good news. It is literally, the Word of God. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. Without partnerships there would be no Bible. Without partnerships, there would be no one to teach the Bible to us. **PARTNERSHIP BROUGHT AND CONTINUES TO BRING THE GOSPEL TO US.**

#### **4. Partnership brings fruitfulness to the gospel message.**

**Philippians 4:15-20 (NLT)**

**15 As you know, you Philippians were the only ones who gave me financial help when I first brought you the Good News and then traveled on from Macedonia. No other church did this.**

**16 Even when I was in Thessalonica you sent help more than once.**

**17 I don't say this because I want a gift from you. Rather, I want you to receive a reward for your kindness.**

**18 At the moment I have all I need—and more! I am generously supplied with the gifts you sent me with Epaphroditus. They are a sweet-smelling sacrifice that is acceptable and pleasing to God.**

**19 And this same God who takes care of me will supply all your needs from his glorious riches, which have been given to us in Christ Jesus.**

**20 Now all glory to God our Father forever and ever! Amen.**

God doesn't want from us. He wants for us. He has great plans for us. The only thing He needs is for us to authorize Him to release His supply to us. Throughout scripture, we find people who authorized God to release His supply, by partnering with Him, through His Men/Women. The widow with

the cake, the little boy with his lunch, the rich woman who added the room, and the people who gave to Paul all used God's man to authorize Him to release. **IT'S NOT THAT THEY DESIRE A GIFT. THEY DESIRE THAT ABUNDANCE WOULD HIT YOUR LIFE.**

#### **5. Partnership brings fruitfulness and God's supply.**

Few things give us motivation like being around people who get along and do great things together. There is joy in fellowship. But, it's really special when we move beyond fellowship to true partnership. Learning to cooperate, get along, touch, and agree will allow us to realize: **Partnership Brings Fruitfulness.**