

# GOALS OF A KINGDOM FAMILY

## THE ROLES

*And I also say to you that 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*

*Go therefore, and **make disciples of all the nations**, baptizing them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit:*

*Matthew 28:19*

It is very important to begin understanding what the roles are in the Kingdom. The Lord Jesus is the one who builds up His church, it is His. And on the other side are we, called to make disciples. So, let's break this down a bit more. What did the Lord mean by building His church and by us making disciples?

*However, I am telling you the truth. **It is for your advantage that I am going away**, because **if I do not go away the Helper will not come to you**. But if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, **he will convict the world** of sin, righteousness, and judgment— [...] "I still have a lot to say to you, but you cannot bear it now. Yet when the Spirit of Truth comes, **he will guide you into all truth**. He will not speak on his own accord, but **will speak whatever he hears and will declare to you** the things that are to come. **He will glorify me**, because **he will take what is mine and declare it to you**.*

*John 16:7-8, 12-14*

How is the Lord building up His church? Through the work of the Holy Spirit in His church. If you read in the Kingdom Culture section about the New Birth, you can read in more detail about the role of the Holy Spirit. But by now, understanding that the Lord Jesus builds His church through the Holy Spirit is important.

How does the Holy Spirit build the church? At a personal level, He first builds up our character:

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. Now those who belong to the Messiah Jesus have crucified their flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, by the Spirit let us also be guided.*

*Galatians 5:22-25*

At a personal but also collective level, the Holy Spirit brings direction and gives instructions and revelations. Here an example of how the Spirit gave direction Paul's apostolic team, and also to the church in Jerusalem:

*Because they had been prevented by the Holy Spirit from speaking the word in Asia, Paul and Timothy went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia. They went as far as Mysia and tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them, so they bypassed Mysia and went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision. A man from Macedonia was standing there and pleading with him, "Come over to Macedonia and help us!" As soon as he had seen the vision, we immediately looked for a way to go to Macedonia, because we were convinced that God had called us to tell the people there the good news.*

*Acts 16:6-10*

*Then **the apostles, the elders, and the whole church decided** to choose some of their men to send with Paul and Barnabas to Antioch. These were Judas, who was called Barsabbas, and Silas, who were leaders among the brothers. They wrote this letter for them to deliver: "From: The apostles and the elders, your brothers To: Their gentile brothers in Antioch, Syria, and Cilicia. Greetings. We have heard that some men, coming from us without instructions from us, have said things to trouble you and have unsettled you. So we have unanimously decided to choose men and send them to you with our dear Barnabas*

*and Paul, who have risked their lives for the sake of our Lord Jesus, the Messiah. We have therefore sent Judas and Silas to tell you the same things by word of mouth. **For it seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us** not to place on you any burden but these essential requirements:*

*Acts 15:22-28*

So, when the Holy Spirit brings direction to the church, it is actually telling us what to do. So, Jesus builds up His church by giving us integrity, supernatural power and guidance to fulfill the mission we have ahead of us. In short, He tells us what to do to build up His church. Not any church is the same, as much as not any family is the same, but the foundation and goals are the same, and the boundaries within which we are supposed to reach our goals are the same as well.

It is us working under His direction, obeying when He changes the plans, accepts or rejects our ideas, when He calls us to sacrifice or blesses us with an undeserved reward.

*The one who plants and the one who waters have the same goal, and each will receive a reward for his own action. For we are God's co-workers. You are God's farmland and God's building. As an expert builder using the grace that God gave me, I laid the foundation, and someone else is building on it. But each person must be careful how he builds on it. After all, no one can lay any other foundation than the one that is already laid, and that is Jesus the Messiah.*

*1 Corinthians 3:8-11*

Here Paul calls the disciple-makers co-workers of God. He calls disciple-makers expert builders, laying all the same foundation and having all the same goal. We can biblically and confidently say then, in all truth, that we are called to make disciples and let the Lord build up His church by following His instructions and operations, cooperating with Him in the work of building communities of the Kingdom of God. We have a high commandment, a mission, and we need to carry it out doing what we know is our task, plus following the specific instructions He gives us for every different mission.

## THE MISSION

The Lord said that we had to make disciples by GOING, then BAPTIZING, and finally **TEACHING THEM TO OBEY** everything He commanded. Our mission is as evangelistic as it is apostolic. We need to go to wherever the Lord sends us, give the right message that brings to repentance and baptism, and **give the right training** so that they can do the same and be sent.

A very important part of that training is being one, part of a body of believers. Jesus trained His disciples to work together, He sent them together, He asked them to stay together, pray together, to be one. He called a people to Himself. We are called to be different but in unity, and serve one another from the gifting we have received, and this is only achievable if we share our lives with others.

Let me give you an example from natural life. If you go to a doctor with a certain health issue, the doctor will not tell you to become a doctor. He will use his/her expertise to help you solve the problem, even more when you have no medical knowledge. In that manner, our differences make us strong if we work in unity. Church is thus, a unity of different disciples helping, serving, training and equipping one another to get to know the Lord Jesus better and do the work of His Kingdom.

*What, then, does this mean, brothers? When you gather, everyone has a psalm, teaching, revelation, other language, or interpretation. Everything must be done for upbuilding.*

*1 Corinthians 14:26*

## THE GOAL

We can easily summarize it by saying that the foundation is Christ, and the goal is the sanctification and the sending of everyone in the group to their respective mission fields.