



Set Sail

CHARTING THE COURSE FOR CHRIST'S CHURCH

Set Sail Conferences October 2024
Benefits of Partnerships

Scriptures on Partnerships

Ecclesiastes 4:9, "Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil."

1 Corinthians 3:9, "For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building."

John 4: 35-38 : "Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! And he who reaps receives wages, and gathers fruit for eternal life, that both he who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together. For in this the saying is true: 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors."

Benefits of Partnerships

- 1 - Options increase. Potential for action expands.** Working alone, no matter how sophisticated or substantial one's resources, limits what one person or ministry can accomplish. Working with others who complement existing strengths expands potential and the horizons of ministry and impact.

- 2 - Achievement of goals accelerates, costs decrease, and redundancy is eliminated.** An effective partnership produces efficiency and reduces the gaps and overlap that result when we all do our own thing. Return on Kingdom investment increases.

- 3 - Individuals and ministries are able to capitalize on their strengths.** Effective partnerships allow people or organizations to do what they do best, to maximize their contribution rather than spreading themselves too thinly by doing many different things—often poorly. When we join hands with others, we discover different, often complementary, strengths.

- 4 - The bigger picture comes into focus.** Effective partnerships let us see what is needed to accomplish the bigger vision, identify the missing pieces, and connect with resources to accomplish the vision. Getting all the pieces together, focused on a common objective, is a sure recipe for better outcomes.

5 - Flexibility increases. Partnerships encourage individuals or ministries to play their unique roles. When they don't have to do everything, they can concentrate on what they do best.

6 - Risks diminish. The larger or more complex the vision or project, naturally, the greater the resources needed. Working in effective partnerships, we can share the load and reduce risk while increasing the speed of progress or the quality of the outcomes.

7 - God's power is released in a special way. Working alone on challenging projects, particularly in our own strength without God's presence and power, can be scary! God promised that his power will be present and released in a special way when we join with his people in partnership (cf. Psalm 133).

8 - We receive refreshment and new hope. In challenging circumstances, hope keeps us alive. Whatever our vision, in our community or elsewhere in the world, the knowledge that others share our vision refreshes our spirits and sustains our hope (cf. Matthew 5:9; Psalm 133).

9 - And perhaps most importantly: **Our work gains significant credibility.** God's people working together demonstrates the core Scriptural truth: the work of Jesus restores relationships, both with God and with each other. Working in collaborative partnership infuses ministry with authenticity—both in word and in deed—and moves us closer to the fulfillment of the Great Command (Matt 22:36), the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-20), and the great, unfulfilled prayer of Jesus in John 17 (John 17:20-23).

