

# **Brothers, Co-laborers, Fellow Soldiers**

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## I. Introduction.

- A. Topic: Philippians 2:25.
- B. Three descriptive terms: brothers, co-laborers, fellowship soldiers.

## II. Brother.

- A. Three terms that summarize the teaching of the Gospels concerning the essence of discipleship: brother, believer, saint.
- B. The people of the ministry enjoy each other because of brotherhood.
- C. Love is what characterizes the brotherhood.
- D. There is a commitment to love. (John 17:6)
- E. The basis of fellowship: our walking in the light and being cleansed by Jesus' blood. (1 John 1:7)
- F. We need to learn to talk more to each other than about each other. (Matthew 18, Galatians 6:1)

## III. Co-laborer.

- A. The aim of the ministry is to be laborers and make laborers.
- B. A laborer is one who goes about doing good. (Acts 10:38)
  - 1. There is a Great Commandment before there is a Great Commission.
  - 2. Love is an unselfish concern that freely accepts another and seeks his good.
  - 3. Jesus went about doing good when we sometimes only go about.
- C. A laborer is one who is healing the oppressed of the Devil. (Acts 10:38)
  - 1. This is associated with the Great Commission.
  - 2. We are to make disciples wherever we are.

## IV. Fellow soldier.

- A. The aim is for laborers in every nation. (Isaiah 49:6)
- B. We are to see a ministry in light of the possibility of the whole world.

C. Surrender to the Lord so that he may use you for the battle.

D. We are soldiers, we are missionaries. (Isaiah 6)

E. Endure hardness. (2 Timothy 2:3-4)

1. Success is never final; you have to work hard at it.
2. Failure is seldom failure.
3. Courage counts. It is a mental willingness to endure.
4. In due season you will reap. (Galatians 6:9)

F. Priorities are highly important.

1. Single-minded people leave a mark and not a blur.
2. Some are far too broad.
3. You have to have a list of things you will start doing and stop doing.

**Application questions.**

1. What is it that ties a group together in fellowship? How do you think this is nurtured?

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2. What two elements make a laborer according to the speaker? How do they relate?

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3. What are some things you ought to become more single minded about? Make a list and order them by importance. Reflect prayerfully how you might go about accomplishing this list.

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