

10/19/03 – THE LORD IS WITH YOU/PART 4

God is bigger than our circumstances

He is bigger than our past failures – **Have we had any?** He is bigger than our present difficulties – **Do we have any?**

He is bigger than our future struggles – **Will we have any?** Philippians 4:4-6 - “**Rejoice** in the Lord always; again I will say, **rejoice!** Let your forbearing spirit be known to all men. **The Lord is near. Be anxious for nothing**, but in everything by **prayer** and **supplication** with **thanksgiving** let your requests be made known to God. And the **peace of God**, which **surpasses all comprehension**, shall **guard** your **hearts** and your **minds** in Christ Jesus.”

He is with you – Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today & forever – Hebrews 13:8

The Lord of hosts **is with us**; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.” Psalm 46:7,11 – **With us in battle**

“...for He Himself has said, ‘I will **never desert you**, nor will I ever forsake you...’” Hebrews 13:5 **Will never abandon** or divorce Himself from us

“Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for **Thou art with me...**” Psalm 23:4 – **With us in death & near death**

“Do not be afraid of them, for **I am with you** to deliver you, declares the Lord.” Jeremiah 1:8 – **With us to overcome fear & deliver us from evil**

The Great CO—MISSION

The Great Mission of church is a **co-mission** – God with us, we with Him – “For we are God’s fellow-workers” – 1 Corinthians 3:9

“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, **I am with you always**, even to the end of the age.”

Our call, our job, our purpose, our ministry, our co-laboring is in the reality that **He is with us**

Jesus said, “Apart from Me you can do nothing...” Nothing of value or eternal worth

The Lord Makes You Successful

“**And the Lord was with Joseph**, so he became a successful man. And he was in the house of his master the Egyptian. Now his master saw that **the Lord was with him** and how the Lord caused all that he did to prosper in his hand.” Genesis 39:2 & 3

Can a kidnapped man, an alien with no friends, no family, no rights, a slave surrounded by the occult, a convicted felon be successful?

What would you do with your life if you have everything you want? Why & for whom do you want to be successful?

Is the Lord the center of the center of your life?

The Lord Gives Us Victory in Hostile Circumstances

He is with us! – Recognized & affirmed by the Lord that **He was with them**

Moses – Exiled, fugitive, speech impediment...Confronts Pharaoh, Israel delivered

Caleb & Joshua – Did not go with crowd – Had a different spirit, only one of their generation to enter land

Gideon & his 300 – with one puts a thousand to flight, with two ten thousand

Even you? Even me? Even him? Even her? – Yes, when it’s God’s way for God’s purpose

Disciples – Acts 4:13 – “Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John, and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were marveling, and began to recognize them as **having been with Jesus.**”

The Lord is with us in the Preparation & Process

David – shepherd, poet, musician, soldier, general, statesman & finally, King of all Israel – With us at every stage of life

1 Samuel 18:14 – “And David was prospering in all his ways for **the Lord was with him.**”

Don’t despise the day of small beginnings – Remember it’s all about a relationship with you & God – If we are faithful in that which is least will be faithful in much & if we are unfaithful in that which is least will be unfaithful in much – Immanuel...**God with us!**