

Partnership in Leadership

Joshua 2:14-24

Partnering in ministry is a biblical model of collaborative, gospel-centered labor where believers work together—through prayer, financial support, and active service—to advance God's kingdom. Partnership brings joy, efficiency, and mutual encouragement, with Christ as the foundation (Don Carson - The Gospel Coalition). Through the two Hebrew spies and Rahab, this lesson will provide explanation and practical application to show the benefits of partnership in the kingdom of God.

I. External Partnerships.

A. Commitment. *Vs. 14 “So the men said to her, ‘Our life for yours if you do not tell this business of ours; and it shall come about when the LORD gives us the land that we will deal kindly and faithfully with you.’ ” Matthew 5:33-37*

B. Pleasant. *Vs. 14 “So the men said to her, ‘Our life for yours if you do not tell this business of ours; and it shall come about when the LORD gives us the land that we will deal kindly and faithfully with you.’ ” Romans 12:18, 2 Timothy 2:24*

C. Equivalent. *Vs. 15 “Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was on the city wall, so that she was living on the wall.” Galatians 6:2, 1 Thessalonians 4:6*

D. Intelligent. *Vs. 16 “And she said to them, ‘Go to the hill country, so that the pursuers will not encounter you, and hide yourselves there for three days until the pursuers return. Then afterward you may go on your way.’ ” Joshua 14:11-13, Esther 4:15-17, 1 Timothy 4:12*

E. Requirements. *Vs. 17 “And the men said to her, ‘We shall be exempt from this oath to you which you have made us swear, 18 unless, when we come into the land, you tie this cord of scarlet thread in the window through which you let us down, and gather into your house your father, your mother, your brothers, and all your father’s household. 19 And it shall come about that anyone who goes out of the doors of your house outside will have his blood on his own head, and we will be innocent; but anyone who is with you in the house, his blood will be on our head if a hand is laid on him.’ ” Genesis 13:8-12*

F. Silent. *Vs. 20 “But if you tell this business of ours, then we shall be exempt from the oath which you have made us swear.” Mark 3:12, 5:43, 8:30*

G. Consent. *Vs. 21 “She then said, ‘According to your words, so be it.’ So she sent them away, and they departed; and she tied the scarlet cord in the window.” Matthew 7:1-5, Luke 17:3, James 5:16*

II. Internal Partnerships.

A. The Challenges. *Vs. 22 “So they departed and came to the hill country, and remained there for three days, until the pursuers returned. Now the pursuers had searched for them all along the road, but had not found them.” Acts 15: 36-41, 1 Corinthians 9:6, 2 Timothy 4:11*

B. The Cohesiveness. *Vs. 23 “Then the two men returned and came down from the hill country, and they crossed over and came to Joshua the son of Nun. Then they reported to him all that had happened to them. 24 And they said to Joshua, ‘The LORD has indeed handed over to us all the land; furthermore, all the inhabitants of the land have despaired because of us.’ ” 1 Corinthians 2:12, Colossians 2:8*