



Stayin' Out Of Wrong Partnerships

"Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God." ~2 Corinthians 6:14-16, nkjv

Healthy influencers often do outreach-co-ops with other influencers. They often partner together to reach their respective God-given goals. Lots of people partner together for many different reasons.

Hey, nothing wrong with a partnership in and of itself ..just as long as thee working partnership is exactly what the Lord Jesus wants and that it doesn't function or remain cohesive from a basis of sin.

Christian, unless Jesus builds the house, or builds whatever really... the laborers just roll up their sleeves and go at it in vain. Why sweat it or waste your time if He isn't directing you? Yup, if He ain't Lord of all ..in your life.. then He ain't Lord at all.

In the corporate world and in the ecclesiastical church arena partnerships happen. This is a decade of partnering together unto the glory of God. But I say be very cautious that you do not get employed by, or enter into a binding agreement with a shortsighted fool. Employers need to be careful what they promise as well. I've heard it said, "Hire slowly, and fire more quickly (when it's a must for the health of the group) for it's easier to install than to uninstall. Let's talk about other partnerships too.

Missionary dating a.k.a. evangelical courting.. that jive is out! It's not biblical and it just doesn't work!

"Kurt, what are you even talking about?" Well, this happens when a believer gets romantically involved with and dates a lost person nurturing the hope that they will lead the hunk or the babe to faith in Christ.

A Christian saying vows in the altar of holy matrimony with a nominal Christian or with a full-on unbeliever is also simply not ordained of God or blessed by Him. Today statistics show that the Church is seeing almost as many divorces as the world sees, and many of these are due to wrong partnerships. Real rebellion to authority, over spending, fornication before marriage and sexual infidelity after the vows are said.. these and other factors also play a part in these marriages falling apart.

You know, in the olden days when you came from a divorced home it was an oddity. Today when you come from an intact home it is an oddity, but God wants to change that.

George Barna took a nationwide survey where he interviewed 4000 adults concerning divorce in the Church. What did he find? He found that "More people who call themselves born again are divorced than those who don't. Yep, 27% of born again adult Christians have previously been divorced compared to 24% of adults who are not born again. Of the Christians who were polled, 9 out of 10 Christians had gone through the divorce process after they had accepted Christ. That means that every 1 out of every 4 Christians has been divorced." Man, it makes you wonder if they were carnal or some other kind of weak Christians huh.

What's the bottom-line? Pray, seek out godly counsel and take your time to make sure it's of God. The Apostle Paul reminds all would be world-changers that nothing is more dangerous than forming an unhealthy or destructive partnership!

"Don't become partners with those who reject God. How can you make a partnership out of right and wrong? That's not partnership; that's war. Is light best friends with dark? Does Christ go strolling with the Devil? Do trust and mistrust hold hands? Who would think of setting up pagan idols in God's holy Temple? But that is exactly what we are, each of us a temple in whom God lives. God himself put it this way: 'I'll live in them, move into them; I'll be their God and they'll be my people. So leave the corruption and compromise; leave it for good,' says God. 'Don't link up with those who will pollute you. I want you all for Myself. I'll be a Father to you; you'll be sons and daughters to Me.'" ~2 Corinthians 6:14-18, msg

What are some tell-tale signs of a destructive partnership? Glad you asked...

- ❖ *Both parties do not share the same values.*
- ❖ *It never enters the minds of one or more party to actually inquire of the Lord as to what He wants?*
- ❖ *The parties thinking about working together do not have the same goal.*
- ❖ *One or both of the individuals looking to work in the proposed partnership must go against their inner conscience and compromise spiritually just to enter the partnership.*
- ❖ *One of the individuals starting to get involved selfishly demands that the other party surrender in order to please them.*
- ❖ *It would not be a win, win win. All of the parties there (including God who is omnipresent) would not gain a win from the working partnership. One party would benefit, the other party would lose and God's heart would just break.*
- ❖ *God-ordained partnerships do not promote illegal activity (unless you are preaching the Gospel in a country that makes this activity against the law), co-dependence, nepotism, cronyism or foster an enabler kind of relationship. So a bad partnership would include these things like these. Each party is secure in God's peace when it's right. They are both stretched with what God is calling them to accomplish together (it's gunna take some faith), and they enjoy the discipline and blessing of a proper synergy in Jesus.*

The praying, practical partnership multiplies the productivity of both parties. In other words, God uses them to do more than what they could each pull-off apart from each other. And we give all the glory to God!

The writer of the book of Ecclesiastes illustrated the advantages of fellowship and partnership (vv.9-12). Who did he do this? He did it by referring to the productivity of two laboring together (v.9), of one person helping the other one up when one falls down (v.10), of two keeping each other warm on cold nights (v.11), and of two protecting each other when they get attacked (v.12).

His closing example in talking about this stuff.. **"A threefold cord is not quickly broken."** And that basically means that there is "strength in numbers" ..especially when all are agreeing (unity).

When God calls a Christian couple together in marriage, or calls some workers together for a noble purpose, then He has other people in mind. He longs to bless more than just the partners as a result. Why? 'Cause He is a need-meeting kinda God and His heart beats every day for a lost world!

Have you partnered with Christ yet? That's by far the most important Partnership and besides, He is the One who can make the other ones work.

Have a prayer request or some questions about knowing God ..and how to properly walk in Jesus Christ? At fish4souls.org click '[Contact](#)' and let us know! Perhaps we can help. Follow.. [Facebook.com/ShareJesus](https://www.facebook.com/ShareJesus) or [Google Buzz](#) or at [Twitter.com/kurtwvs](https://twitter.com/kurtwvs)

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