

Series: The Right Way to G.R.O.W. a Church
We Are Not In This Thing Alone

God Rewards **Our** Work

1 Corinthians 3:5-14

1 Corinthians 3:5-14 (NIV)

What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe--as the Lord has assigned to each his task. ⁶I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. ⁷So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow. ⁸The man who plants and the man who waters have one purpose, and each will be rewarded according to his own labor. ⁹For we are God's fellow workers; you are God's field, God's building.

¹⁰By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as an expert builder, and someone else is building on it. But each one should be careful how he builds. ¹¹For no one can lay any foundation other than the one already laid, which is Jesus Christ. ¹²If any man builds on this foundation using gold, silver, costly stones, wood, hay or straw, ¹³his work will be shown for what it is, because the Day will bring it to light. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test the quality of each man's work. ¹⁴If what he has built survives, he will receive his reward.

1. AS GOD'S FELLOW WORKERS, WE PARTNER WITH ONE ANOTHER TO ACCOMPLISH GOD'S PLAN.

v. 9a *"For we are God's fellow workers..."*

2 Corinthians 6:1 (NIV)

As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain.

Mark 16:20 (NIV)

Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.

- We don't have to do the work alone, we have fellow workers.
- As God's servants we do our part, but God is bringing the result.
- Team ministry is God's plan.

2. AS GOD'S FIELD, GOD HAS CAREFULLY PREPARED US FOR HIS KINGDOM.

v. 9b *"...you are God's field..."*

- God prepares us like a farmer prepares his field.
- God shapes us for the ministry we are to perform.
- God plants His kingdom in us.

3. AS GOD'S BUILDING, WE ARE BUILT FOR HIS PURPOSES.

v. 9c *"For we are ... God's building."*

Ephesians 2:21 (NCV)

. . . and that whole building is joined together in Christ. He makes it grow and become a holy temple in the Lord.

- God as the master Architect builds us on the foundation of Christ.
- As God's building, we become useful by His design.
- As God's building, we are built to last.