

SERMON STARTERS

Series:

**“WHAT IS THE CHURCH?”**

Message # 2 **“THE CHURCH: FELLOWLABORERS WORKING TOGETHER.”**

Text: **I Thess. 3:2**

***“I sent Timotheus, our brother, and minister of God, and our fellowlaborer in the gospel of Christ, to establish you, and to comfort you concerning your faith.”***

Intro:

We continue our messages on the theme, “What Is The Church?” In answering that question we are using some of the words in the New Testament with the prefix “fellow”. In the first message the subject was, “The Church: Fellowshipers Worshipping Together.”

This second message is titled: “The Church: Fellowlaborers Working Together.” The church is not to be a crowd of “fellowloafers” but a crew of “fellowlaborers”! Because we are Fellow-laborers:

**A. WE SERVE WITH THE SAME HOLY COMPANIONS.**

1. Consider our invisible Companion. “We are laborers together with God”. (I Cor. 3:9)
2. Consider our visible companions. “We are laborers together...”

**B. WE STRIVE FOR THE SAME HEAVENLY CAUSE.**

Which is The work of the Lord. “...*always abounding in the work of the Lord...*” (I Cor. 15:58)

The Lord’s work is:

- The work of the church. Read I Cor. 3:9-11
- The work of the Kingdom of God. Read Col. 4:10-11
- The work of the Gospel. I Thess. 3:2

**C. WE SHARE THE SAME HELPFUL CHALLENGE.**

Revelation 2:10 “*Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life.*”

This challenge is helpful for at least two reasons:

1. Because of our natural inclination: “*Be not weary in well doing*” (I Thess. 3:13) and “*faint not*” (Gal. 6:9).
2. Because of our need for inspiration. See Gal. 6:9 again.

**D. WE SEEK THE SAME HONORABLE CROWN.**

Read I Cor. 9:24 & 25.

1. The Rewards here.
2. The Rewards hereafter.

We work for the same Company, we have the same Head. Let us serve God and each other gladly, (“serve the lord with gladness”), faithfully and harmoniously. Can you say, in the words of the song, “I am happy in the service of the King”?