

Matthew 16:18 (NKJV) ¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not [\[a\]](#)prevail against it.

(Growth Track 2025 – Discovery)

Developing YOUR Gift

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I. Review

A. The Importance of the Local Church (*Community*)

1. **Matthew 16:18 (NKJV)** ¹⁸ And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not [\[a\]](#)prevail against it.
 - a. I will build (3618. oikodomeó): In the Greek New Testament the verb translated “to build” occurs forty-one times and carries both its obvious architectural sense and its richer theological sense of establishing, strengthening and edifying. The narrative, didactic, and prophetic books alike show that what is built reveals the builder’s identity, intent and ultimate allegiance. (Topical Lexicon)
 - b. prevail against (2729. katischuó): The verb under consideration communicates an active, victorious strength that pushes through resistance until it gains the mastery. It is more than mere endurance; it pictures decisive, effectual power that achieves its goal, whether for good or for evil. (Topical Lexicon)

B. The Vision of Church on the Rock (*Essentials*)

1. **Proverbs 29:18 (KJV)** Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, happy is he.
2. **Berkley Translation (Modern Language Version, MLV)** Where there is no vision, the people run wild, but he that keeps the law is happy
3. COTR Vision
 - a. ...to train each person in every age group to reach his **fullest potential in Christ Jesus our Lord**. (Luke 6:40 & Hebrews 5:14)
 - b. ...**to train and equip people** in the ministry of helps. (I Corinthians 12:28)
 - c. ...that each individual may **find his place in the body** and in turn **help meet the needs of others**. (I Corinthians 12:12-21)

II. What is *Your* Gift?

A. You ARE Gifted by God

1. **1 Peter 4:10 (AMPC)** As each of you has received a gift (a particular spiritual talent, a gracious divine endowment), employ it for one another as [befits] good trustees of God's many-sided grace [faithful stewards of the extremely diverse powers and gifts granted to Christians by unmerited favor].
2. **1 Corinthians 12:1 (AMPC)** Now about the spiritual gifts (the special endowments of supernatural energy), brethren, I do not want you to be **misinformed**.
3. **1 Corinthians 12:18, 27-31 (KJV)** ¹⁸ But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him. ²⁷ Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular. ²⁸ And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? ³⁰ Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? ³¹ But covet earnestly the best gifts: and yet shew I unto you a more excellent way.
 - a. **AS PLEASED HIM! I am not gifted for that?**
 - b. **Psalms 133:1-3 (AMPC)** ¹ Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!² It is like the precious ointment poured on the head, that ran down on the beard, even the beard of Aaron [the first high priest], that came down upon the collar and skirts of his garments [consecrating the whole body].³ It is like the dew of [lofty] Mount Hermon and the dew that comes on the hills of Zion; for there the Lord has commanded the blessing, even life forevermore [upon the high and the lowly].
 - c. **When the atmosphere is right the dew (anointing) will fall!**
 - d. **Why join if you are not going to help?**
4. **Ephesians 4:16 (AMPC)** ¹⁶ For because of Him the whole body (the church, in all its various parts), closely joined and firmly knit together by the joints and ligaments with which it is supplied, when each part [with power adapted to its need] is working properly [in all its functions], grows to full maturity, building itself up in love.
 - a. **There is no position void of power. Each is graced.**
 - b. **The only way a church grows is when everyone does their part. Without your part there is no supply from your connection for growth.**

B. DO NOT Neglect Your Gift

1. **1 Corinthians 11:29-31** - ²⁹ For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. ³⁰ For this reason many are weak and sick among you, and many sleep. ³¹ For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.
 - a. **Not doing my part in the body - a foreign contaminant?**
 - b. **You are set for a purpose not a position. (Bus Analogy)**
 - c. **Romans 11:13 (NKJV)** ¹³ For I speak to you Gentiles; inasmuch as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry,

- i. **Do away with competition and comparison. (1 Samuel 30:24)**
 - ii. **The same honor is shown across the board. Put honor on those who serve.**
 - iii. **All believers are the same other than their service and position. THERE IS RANK AND ORDER. Giftings & leaders are set in the Body. (1 Corinthians 12:28) This speaks nothing of our value but there is a difference in position and function.**
2. **Philippians 4:19 (NKJV)** And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
- a. Shall Supply (4137. pléroó): Strong's Greek 4137 and its compounds portray God's action of filling up what is lacking—whether prophecy, time, righteousness, joy, the Spirit, or the Church itself—and the human response of entering that divinely-ordained completeness. Eighty-eight New Testament occurrences span the Gospels, Acts, Pauline Epistles, General Epistles, and Revelation, weaving a unified thread of divine purpose brought to its intended fullness. (Topical Lexicon)
 - b. Need (5532. chreia): The noun χρεία appears forty-nine times across every major section of the New Testament. It ranges from literal necessities such as food (Mark 2:25) and financial support (Acts 20:34) to moral obligations (Hebrews 7:11) and spiritual requirements (Hebrews 10:36). The word therefore becomes a theological lens through which Scripture portrays human dependence, communal responsibility, and the ultimate sufficiency of God.
 - c. Riches (4149. ploutos): The noun πλοῦτος appears twenty-two times in the Greek New Testament, spanning Gospel parables, Pauline epistles, General epistles, and Revelation. The contexts fall into two broad categories: (1) material wealth possessed by humans, and (2) inexhaustible spiritual wealth possessed and dispensed by God in Christ. The term is therefore pivotal for articulating both the peril of misplaced trust in earthly treasure and the majesty of divine generosity. (Topical Lexicon) – [Ephesians 4:8 - gifts to men - 1390. Doma]
 - d. **The more we pursue His plans, the more power and manifestation we will see in our lives and ministries.**

C. How to Serve

- 1. Love God.
 - a. **Colossians 3:17 (NKJV)** And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.
 - b. **Colossians 3:22-25 (NKJV)** And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, ²⁴ knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. ²⁵ But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality.
- 2. Walk in humility and love for others. (Love Others)
 - a. **Ephesians 4:1-3 (NKJV)** I, therefore, the prisoner ^[a] of the Lord, ^[b] beseech you to

walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, ² with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, ³ endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

b. **THIS verse is before Ephesians 4:16 – every joint supplies!**

3. Stay planted and ***don't be moved!***

a. **Psalm 92: 12-15 (AMPC)** ¹² The [uncompromisingly] righteous shall flourish like the palm tree [be long-lived, stately, upright, useful, and fruitful]; they shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon [majestic, stable, durable, and incorruptible]. ¹³ Planted in the house of the Lord, they shall flourish in the courts of our God. ¹⁴ [Growing in grace] they shall still bring forth fruit in old age; they shall be full of sap [of spiritual vitality] and [rich in the] verdure [of trust, love, and contentment]. ¹⁵ [They are living memorials] to show that the Lord is upright *and* faithful to His promises; He is my Rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him.

b. **Ecclesiastes 10:4 (AMPC)** If the temper of the ruler rises up against you, do not leave your place [or show a resisting spirit]; for gentleness *and* calmness prevent or put a stop to great offenses.

c. **When God sets us, we are fixed and settled. NOTHING moves us.**

III. Where to Begin

A The Ministry of Helps

1. Selecting the Helps Ministry (Acts 6:1-7 KJV)

a. **Acts 6:1 (KJV)** And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.

i. disciples (3101): It is an adherent who accepts the instruction given to him and makes it his rule of conduct. [Z]

ii. ministration (2041): service, ministering, especially of those who execute the commands of others [T]; "works" from the Book of James

b. **Acts 6:2 (KJV)** Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples *unto them*, and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables.

i. disciples (3101): It is an adherent who accepts the instruction given to him and makes it his rule of conduct. [Z]

ii. reason (701): "pleasing", In Acts 6:2 reference is not made to the apostles, but to that which is pleasing to God. [Z]

c. **Acts 6:3 (KJV)** Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

i. look ye out (1980): To look at accurately or diligently with the meaning to look for, seek out, as persons for office [Z]

- ii. honest report (3140): to be lauded {praise, commended, W} [Z]
- iii. full (4134): abounding or abundant [Z]
- iv. wisdom (4678): Skill in the affairs of life, practical wisdom, wise management as shown in forming the best plans and selecting the best means, including the idea of sound judgment and good sense. [Z]
- v. appoint (2525): set, place, put [T]
- d **Acts 6:4 (KJV)** But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.
 - i. give ourselves continually (4342): steadfastness and faithfulness in the outgoings of the Christian life, especially in prayer [Z]
- e. **Acts 6:5 (KJV)** And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:
- f. **Acts 6:6 (KJV)** Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid *their* hands on them.
- g. **Acts 6:7 (KJV)** And the ***word of God increased***; and the number of the ***disciples multiplied*** in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the ***priests were obedient to the faith***.
 - i. priests (2409): Jewish priests, the descendants of Aaron generally [Z]

B. Keys to Promotion within the Ministry of Helps

1. Faithfulness (*Heart for the Ministry, 1 Cor 4:2, Php 2:3-4 {AMP}, 1 Pt 5:5*)
 - a. **Luke 16:10-12 (KJV)** He that is faithful in that which is least is faithful also in much: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much. If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the true *riches*? And if ye have not been faithful in that which is another man's, who shall give you that which is your own?
 - b. **Exodus 18:23-27 (KJV)** If thou shalt do this thing, and God command thee so, then thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go to their place in peace. So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said. And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. And they judged the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves. And Moses let his father in law depart; and he went his way into his own land.
 - c. **1 Chronicles 13:1 (KJV)** And David consulted with the captains of thousands and hundreds, and with every leader.
2. Loyalty (*Heart for the Minister, 1 Samuel 16:21, 18:5*)

1 Samuel 14:6-7 (KJV) And Jonathan said to the young man that bare his armour, Come, and let us go over unto the garrison of these uncircumcised: it may be that the LORD will work for us: for *there is* no restraint to the LORD to save by many or by

few. And his armourbearer said unto him, Do all that *is* in thine heart: turn thee; behold, I *am* with thee according to thy heart.

3. Responsibility and Accountability (*Responding with your ability and giving an account for the use of your ability.*)

Luke 12:48 (KJV) But he that knew not, and did commit things worthy of stripes, shall be beaten with few *stripes*. For unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required: and to whom men have committed much, of him they will ask the more.

4. Humility

Matthew 23:12 (KJV) And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.

C. Keys to Promotion into Leadership

1. What is a Leader? Are YOU a Leader?

a. Webster's New World Dictionary: One that leads, guiding head

b. Old Testament (5057)

From H5046; a *commander* (as occupying the *front*), civil, military or religious; generally (abstract plural), *honorable* themes: - captain, chief, excellent thing, (chief) governor, leader, noble, prince, (chief) ruler.

c. New Testament (3594)

From G3595; to *show the way* (literally or figuratively [*teach*]): - guide, lead.

2. Promotion to Leadership

a. Guidelines for the Deacon

i. **1 Timothy 3:8 (KJV)** Likewise *must* the deacons *be* grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre;

*deacon (1249): one who executes the commands of another, especially of a master, a servant, attendant, minister [T]

*grave (4586): venerated {respected and honored} for character [T]

*double-tongued (1351): two faced [T]

*greedy of filthy lucre (146): A person who is eager to gain even if such gain degrades his moral character. [Z]

ii. **1 Timothy 3:9 (KJV)** Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience.

iii. **1 Timothy 3:10 (KJV)** And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being *found* blameless.

*proved (1381): to test, examine, prove, scrutinize (to see whether a thing is genuine or not), as metals; to recognize as genuine after examination, to approve, deem worthy [T]

*blameless (410): that cannot be called into to account, unproveable, unaccused, blameless [T]

iv. **1 Timothy 3:11 (KJV)** Even so *must* their wives *be* grave, not slanderers, sober,

faithful in all things.

*slanderers (1228): One who falsely accuses and divides people without any reason. [Z]

*sober (3524): It is that state of mind which is free from the excessive influence of passion, lust or emotion. [Z]

v. **1 Timothy 3:12 (KJV)** Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well.

*ruling (4291): to be over, to superintend, preside over to be a protector or guardian, to care for, give attention to [T]

vi. **1 Timothy 3:13 (KJV)** For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.

b. The Example of Jesus

i. **Mark 3:13 (KJV)** And he goeth up into a mountain, and calleth *unto him* whom he would: and they came unto him.

*calleth (4341): invite [S]

*would (2309): to take delight in, have pleasure [T]

*came (565): to go away in order to follow any one, go after him, to follow his party, follow him as a leader [T]

ii. **Mark 3:14 (KJV)** And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach,

*ordained (4160): appoint, ordain [Dakes]

iii. **Mark 3:15 (KJV)** And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils:

*power (1849): authority [S]

c. How to be Mentored

i. Pay attention.

ii. Learn by watching.

iii. Learn by study.

iv. Ask questions. (*Most never do!*)

v. Be available for Discussion.

vi. Take correction.

D. More Verses for Study

1 Peter 2:21; Matthew 20:25-28; 2 Corinthians 10:12-14; 1 Chronicles 12:1, 8, 17-18, 21-22, 32-22; 38-40; Exodus 17:8-13; Ezra 1:3-5; Exodus 18:13-26; Numbers 11:16-17; 1 Chronicles 28:10-12, 19-21; Proverbs 14:23; Ecclesiastes 9:10; Colossians 3:23

IV. Conclusion

The House of God

There are *seven reasons* why we must build the House of God:

1. It is the place where sinners find mercy.
2. It is the place where Heaven is made real to mankind.
3. It is the place where God speaks to us in revelation knowledge.
4. It is the place where angels congregate in the earth.
5. It is the place where God gives us a vision and destiny for our lives.
6. It is the place where we join hands with God financially.
7. It is the place where the divine laws of increase begin to operate in our lives.

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