

Apprenticeship Prayer Partner Questions

1. Are there places in my life that God is calling me to follow Him? Are there things I would need to leave behind?
2. Where are places around me that I see God at work? How can I join him in those places?
3. Who is God putting around me that is to be part of the journey with him in the days ahead?

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**St. Albert Alliance Church
Annual General Meeting
March 25, 2019 @ 6:30 pm**



WHOLE LIFE

**Matt Garvin
March 17, 2019**

Jesus is the only path to whole life

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

John 10:10-11 NIV

The paradox of life is that whenever you chase it your way, you miss it....

Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

Matthew 10:39 NIV

As I have reflected on my journey here in Canada and tried to capture what is important for my church in Australia, I have found three words to be important.

Follow (Looking UP)

The first chapter of the first gospel written:

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people."

Mark 1:17 NIV

The final chapter of the last gospel written:

Jesus said this to indicate the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. Then he said to him, "Follow me!" Peter turned and saw that the disciple whom Jesus loved was following them. (This was the one who had leaned back against Jesus at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is going to betray you?") When Peter saw him, he asked, "Lord, what about him?" Jesus answered, "If I want him to remain alive until I return, what is that to you? You must follow me."

John 21:19-22 NIV

The whole journey of faith is about following Jesus:

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it."

Matthew 16:24-25 NIV

Bless (Looking OUT)

You are God’s gift to the world

*“Don't think you have to put on a fund-raising campaign before you start. You don't need a lot of equipment. **You** are the equipment, and all you need to keep that going is three meals a day. Travel light.”*

Matthew 10:9-10 MSG

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10 NIV

God has given his church a mission

“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Matthew 5:13-16 NIV

In the face of the darkness, pain and evil of the world we are called to respond with blessing

“But to you who are listening I say: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.”

Luke 6:27-28 NIV

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Romans 12:14 NIV

Share (Looking ACROSS)

No one of us has what we need alone

But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

1 Corinthians 12:18-20 NIV

So that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

1 Corinthians 12:25-27 NIV

Sharing life doesn’t happen accidentally

Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

Ephesians 4:25 NIV

The whole life that Jesus calls us to is a life lived from a place of rest

“All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Matthew 11:27-30 NIV

The “Yoke” is a double metaphor:

- 1. Oxen pulling a load together
- 2. For Jewish teachers the Yoke is the Law. When Jesus says “my yoke” he is saying “my law” or “my way of doing life.”

Following, Blessing and Sharing is one way of summarizing the kind of Yoke that Jesus calls us to.

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”

Matthew 7:24 NIV

Is the Foundation of your life built on the rock of Jesus’ Yoke?