

A photograph of a globe with silhouettes of a group of people holding hands, standing on top of it. The globe shows parts of North and South America. The text "Laboring in the Church" is overlaid in white.

# Laboring in the Church

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## Scriptures on Laboring for God

## **Matthew 9:37-38 (NKJV)**

**37 Then He said to His disciples, The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few.**

**38 Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.**

## **John 6:27 (NKJV)**

**27 Do not labor for the food which perishes, but for the food which endures to everlasting life, which the Son of Man will give you, because God the Father has set His seal on Him.**

## **1 Corinthians 3:8 (NKJV)**

**8 Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor.**

## **1 Corinthians 15:58 (NKJV)**

**58 Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.**

## **Colossians 1:28-29 (NKJV)**

**28 Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. 29 To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily.**

## **1 Thessalonians 5:12-13 (NKJV)**

**12 And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, 13 and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves.**

## 1 Timothy 4:10-11 (NKJV)

10 For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. 11 These things command and teach.

## Hebrews 6:10 (NKJV)

10 For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, *in that* you have ministered to the saints, and do minister.

## **Ephesians 4:11-16 (NKJV)**

**11 And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, 12 for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ,**

**13 till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; 14 that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting,**

**15 but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head Christ 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.**

### **Ephesians 4:12 (AMP)**

**12 His intention was the perfecting and the full equipping of the saints (His consecrated people), (that they should do) the work of ministering toward building up Christ's body (the church).**

**Whenever the scripture speaks of the Body of Christ, it is talking about the Church.**

**Ephesians 1:22-23 (AMP)**

**22 And He has put all things under His feet and has appointed Him the universal and supreme Head of the church [a headship exercised throughout the church], [Ps 8:6.]**

**23 Which is His body, the fullness of Him Who fills all in all [for in that body lives the full measure of Him Who makes everything complete, and Who fills everything everywhere with Himself].**



## A. 1st Point:

**Ephesians 4:16 (NKJV)**

**16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.**

**What are you supplying that holds us together as a church / body?**

**Romans 12:4-8 (NIV)**

**4 Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, 5 so in Christ we who are many form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. 6 We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith.**

**7 If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; 8 if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.**

**1 Corinthians 12:12 (NIV)**

**12 The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So, it is with Christ.**

**1 Corinthians 12:14-15 (NIV)**

**14 Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. 15 If the foot should say, Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body, it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body.**

## **1 Corinthians 12:18 (NIV)**

**18 But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be.**

## **1 Corinthians 12:21-27 (NIV)**

**21 The eye cannot say to the hand, I don't need you! And the head cannot say to the feet, I don't need you! 22 On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, 23 and the parts that we think are less honorable we treat with special honor. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty,**

**24 while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, 25 so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other.**

**26 If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it. 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.**

## 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 (NIV)

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. 5 It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. 6 Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. 7 It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. 8 Love never fails.

## Galatians 5:22-23 (NIV)

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

## Galatians 6:1-4 (NIV)

1 Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. 2 Carry each other's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ. 3 If anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4 Each one should test his own actions. Then he can take pride in himself, without comparing himself to somebody else,

## Ephesians 4:11 (NIV)

11 It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers,

## Colossians 3:12-15 (NIV)

**12** Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. **13** Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

**14** And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity **15** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.



## **2nd Point: (Part 1 & 2)**

**Ephesians 4:16 (NKJV)**

**16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.**

**1. What is your share of the work of the church?**

**Are you doing it?**

**2. What are you doing in the church that is causing it to grow?**