

RLC graphic

God wants you/us to be **GREAT!!**

Could our definition of and path to great be a **bad yoke?**

Matthew 11:28-30

“Come to Me, all of you who are **weary and burdened**, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, because I am **lowly and humble** in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is **easy** and My burden is **light**.”

2 KINGDOMS CIRCLES (same as before)

{come up one at a time}

Greatness: what we wish we were and/or what we wish we were more like

- **Meritocracy** → **Achievement**
- **Reputation** → **Approval**
- **Power** → **Control & Self-reliance/sufficiency**

“Greatness” that wearies and burdens our soul and promotes pride
= NOT of God.

John 14:1

“Do **not** let your heart be troubled. **Believe** in God; **believe** also in Me.”

John 14:6-7

Jesus told him, “**I am the way, the truth, and the life**. No one comes to the Father except through Me. If you **know Me**, you will also **know My Father**. From now on you do know Him and have seen Him.”

{all together}

- **The complete sufficiency of Jesus** → “**way ... truth ... life ...**”
- **Jesus = God** → “**From now on, you do know Him ...**”
- **God & His Kingdom are now here and available to us**

Jesus + {nothing} = Everything

John 14:8-11

“Lord,” said Philip, “show us the Father, and that’s enough for us.”

⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been among you all this time and you do not know me, Philip? The one who has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father?’ ¹⁰ Don’t you **believe** that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me? The words I speak to you I do not speak on My own. **The Father who lives in Me does His**

works. ¹¹ **Believe Me** that I am in the Father and the Father is in Me. Otherwise, believe because of **the works** themselves.

Luke 7:20-23

“John the Baptist sent us to ask you, ‘Are you the **one who is to come**, or should we expect someone else?’” ²¹ At that time Jesus healed many people of diseases, afflictions, and evil spirits, and He granted sight to many blind people. ²² He replied to them, “Go and report to John what you have **seen and heard**: The blind receive their sight, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor are told the good news, ²³ and blessed is the one who is **not offended by Me.**”

{all together}

Jesus’ Kingdom has come ... and there is MORE to come.

- **The Kingdom is breaking through**
- **Evil is being overcome by good.**
- **It all rests upon Jesus as the God-King**

John 14:12

“Truly I tell you, the one who **believes in Me** will also do the works that I do. And he will do even **greater works** than these, because I am going to the Father.

{all together}

Greater-??

- **Not quality but extent and reach**
 - **Regional to global**
 - **Small number to multiplying & growing church**

{all together; one slide}

We will now be the “signs” --

- **Demonstrating that the Kingdom has come**
- **Pointing people to the King**
- **Inspiring hope that the best is yet to come!!**

Jesus wants to **demonstrate His Kingdom through us!**

Red Letter Graphic

Jesus’ Words:

- 1) **AWAKEN** the church to a holy ambition = *greater works*

Unbiblical Visions:

- Rampant individualism & consumerism *in* the church
- Clergy vs. laity division
- Secular – Sacred Divide
- Personal insufficiency
- Pending Rapture/ Judgment

No one is **usable** until we first make ourselves **available**.

2) **CONNECT** the church to her Source = *believes in Me*

John 14:13-16

Whatever you **ask in My name**, I will do it so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.

¹⁵ "If you **love Me**, you will keep My commands. ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and He will give you **another Counselor** to be **with you** forever.

a) The **love** of God

John 13:34-35

"I give you a new command: Love one another. Just **as I have loved you**, you are also to love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are My disciples, if you love one another."

God, help me do my greater so I can be happier. {FALSE}

Because God has greatly loved me, I aim to offer His great love to others. {YES!}

Matthew 23:11 (NLT)

The greatest among you must be a **servant**.

b) Authority in **prayer**

Hebrews 4:16

... let us approach the **throne** of grace with **boldness**, so that we may receive **mercy** and find **grace** to help us in time of need.

Presence of **Holy Spirit** → power and promptings to glorify Christ

3) **SET** the expectation for *normal* Christianity

**What does Jesus want to demonstrate to the world through Rock Bridge?
Our unique platforms? Our particular lives ... in this time and place?**

{all together}

BELIEVE BIG: God → Vision → Prayer

START SMALL: where you are & when you are

GO LOW: humility, self-forgetfulness

{come up one at a time}

The Great Question: What can I do to serve others in Jesus' Name?

- **Member of a Family → see a need, meet a need**
- **Part of a Team → serve supernaturally (spiritual gifts)**

No one is usable until we first make ourselves available.