

## SYNERGY

1. Text: I Corinthians 3:6-9
2. Can we come away from this lesson with one word: synergy.
3. It's from two Greek words: syn = with + ergos = energy, work, power.
4. It is found in verse nine. Verse 6 is the famous verse: I planted, Apollos watered; God gave the increase. Verse 8 says the one who plants and one who waters are one. Verse 9 we are "God's fellow-laborers" or workers together in synergy.
5. Definition: the action of two or more to achieve what each individually could not. That which is greater than the sum of its parts. Famous verse: Romans 8:28 "All things work together." James 2:22 Abraham's faith and works were "synergized" or worked together.
6. Few things could help us more in advancing Christ's cause than synergy. Why?

### I. **It's The Biblical Way**

1. The word is filled with this idea.
2. Judges 20:11 The men of Israel gathered united together as one man.
3. Paul often used this of his fellow-workers: Priscilla and Aquila (Romans 16:3); Urbane (verse 9); Timothy (verse 21); Epaphroditus (Philippians 2:25); Philemon (Philemon 1); Four named in Philemon 24.
4. Paul was the famous one but he knew the value of synergy in the church.
5. Notice it's WORK together, not griping, complaining, talking, thinking.
6. So many good words tie to this: teamwork, inter-action, co-operation, mutual, fellowship.

### II. **It's The Effective Way**

1. This creative cooperation means 1+1+1=more than 3; maybe 5 or 10 or whatever.
2. Ben Franklin in the heat of the Revolution: "Our only choice: we will hang together or we will hang separately."
3. III John 8 Support the evangelist and be synergizers in the truth.
4. Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Two are better than one. Each can warm the other. The threefold cord is not easily broken.
5. When a little child was lost in the fields:
6. The body and church analogy (I Corinthians 12:12)
7. Truly effective in home, business, school.
8. Our Elders:
9. The marvel of the campaign:

### III. **It's The Spirit-Building Way.**

1. It's a very special feeling to work in this kind of atmosphere and enriching the lives of those who truly synergize.
2. Some of the sweetest moments in life are when we share with others in something which became more than the sum of us.
3. II Corinthians 1:24 We work together for your joy.
4. Colossians 4:11 They are my fellow-workers and a comfort to me.
5. Mark 2:3-4 Imagine how those four men must have felt.
6. Proverb: "The road is better than the inn."
7. Team spirit: I'm glad I played basketball.

Conclusion: Philippians 4:3 Fellow-laborer's names in the Book of Life.  
Synergy: God's grace and the human will

**A Sermon preached by Monte Ginnings  
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