



“CONSCIOUS AND INTENTIONAL MINISTRY: DOING WHO I AM”

My eyes focused and clear, so that I can see exactly what it is he
is calling me to do... Eph. 1:18 MSG

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MATTHEW 11:11-15

TITLE: IN IT TO WIN OR IN IT TO NOT LOSE?

INTRODUCTION

- A. In it to win and in it to not lose is the same thing _____
- B. No, there is a big difference between in it to win and in it to not lose _____
- C. In the Lord's Prayer/Model Prayer, Jesus shared two things that should be incorporated in our prayers regarding the Kingdom of God _____
 1. Your Kingdom Come (on earth as it is in heaven). Our goal should be to **Apply Kingdom Principles and Practices to Earthly Living**
 2. Your Will Be Done (on earth as it is in heaven). Our goal should be to **Apply God's Purpose and Plan to Earthly Decisions**
- D. Regarding the fulfillment of your ministry calling for the benefit of the Kingdom, _____
 1. Are you it to win?
 2. Are you it to not lose?
 3. There is a difference

“THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN SUFFERS VIOLENCE”

Suffers violence = *biazō* = to force, to overpower, taken by storm

Middle Voice

Forcefully advancing, to press violently, press,
force one's way into

Passive Voice

Suffers violence, violently attacked, to inflict violence
on

“THE VIOLENT TAKE IT BY FORCE”

Violent = *biastēs* = strong, forceful, violent

Take it by force = *harpazō* = to seize on, claim for one's self eagerly, plunder

Positive

Believers forcefully taking hold of the kingdom,
making it their own

Negative

Violent opponents to the kingdom taking the kingdom
by force

THEREFORE,

The kingdom of heaven is forcefully advancing,
pressing its way into the world, and believers are
forcefully taking hold of the kingdom to make it
their own

The kingdom of heaven is being violently attacked,
and violent opponents to the kingdom are taking it
by force

- A. Note the parallel passage in Luke 16:16, ¹⁶ *The law and the prophets were until John. Since that time the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is pressing into it.* _____
- B. What prevents us from fulfilling our ministry calling to win versus to not lose? _____
 1. Fear. 2 Corinthians 7:5b, ...*Outside were conflicts, inside were fears.* The crippling effects of fear has more to do with what is happening on the inside than what is happening on the outside.
 2. Fear of Trying
 3. Fear of Failing
 4. Fear of Succeeding