Live, Give, Grow, **GO** (50)Sent: Be the Church!

**“*Be the Church” Video Introduction***

**The first time “Church” is ever mentioned in the Bible….**

**Matthew 16:13-19**

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He was asking His disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” **14**And they said, “Some *say* John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; but still others, Jeremiah, or one of the prophets.” **15**He \*said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” **16**Simon Peter answered, “**You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”** **17**And Jesus said to him, “Blessed are you, **Simon Barjona**, because flesh and blood did not reveal *this* to you, but My Father who is in heaven. **18**I also say to you **that you are Peter**, and **upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.** **19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.”**

**1. Identity Change**

***“Simon Barjona”* to *“Peter”***

* “Simon” – *a Wavering Reed in the wind…*
* “Peter” – *the (unmovable) Rock*
* **A Real Difference…**

**2 Cor. 5:17** Therefore if anyone is in Christ, ***he is* a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.**

* **A New Name**

**Revelation 2:17** **To him who overcomes I will give…a new name…which no one knows but he who receives it.**

* + **The Significance of Name Changes in the Bible** 
    - Abram – Abraham
    - Sarai – Sarah
    - Jacob – Israel
    - Saul -- Paul
    - Simon – Peter…
  + God is making a point about the individual concerning the work He is doing in them…what/who they are becoming…
  + The Romans Would Give **Olympic Champions** white stones with their names inscribed upon it…along with the value of their victory in the games…
* **What’s Your New Name?**
  + *Overcomer; More Than Conqueror; Child of Light; Friend of God; Salt of the Earth*
  + *Faithful One; Redeemed of the Lord; Priest of the Lord; Minister of our God*
  + *Rebuilder of Walls; Restorer of Homes; Child of the Living God…*

**2. Stronger Than Hell**

***“I will build my church and the gates of hell will not overpower it.”***

* **The Correct Understanding of this Metaphor**
* **Do We Believe It…?**

**1 John 4:4** You are from God, little children, and have overcome them; **because greater is He who is in you than he who is in the world.**

* **Open Our Eyes So We Can See…**

**2 Kings 6:15-17** Now when the attendant of the man of God had risen early and gone out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was circling the city. And his servant said to him, “Alas, my master! What shall we do?” So he answered, **“Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”** Then Elisha prayed and said, **“O Lord, I pray, open his eyes that he may see.”** **And the Lord opened the servant’s eyes and he saw; and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.**

**3. Authority with the Full Backing of Heaven’s Armies**

***“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven.”***

**Mark 13:34**"For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, putting his servants in charge, assigning each one his task…”

**John 14:12** Truly, truly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do, **he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do;** because I go to the Father.

* What does God want the church to do in the world?
* What does God want Church of the Chimes to do in this Valley?
* How are we to do it?

**I’ve been praying and dreaming, and meditating, and deliberating on these questions for the last year and half since I got here…. I need you to join me…committed to hearing the Spirit….**

**JESUS**

***“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.”***

**James 2:17-20**

**Faith, if it has no works, is dead, *being* by itself.**But someone may *well* say, “You have faith and I have works; show me your faith without the works, and **I will show you my faith by my works.”**You believe that God is one. You do well; the demons also believe, and shudder. **But are you willing to recognize, you foolish fellow, that faith without works is useless?**