

S.O.H.L.

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEDITATIONS

Pronounced "Soul"

June 17, 2013

Why Isn't It Working?

JOHN 15:16 NKJV – (16) You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you.

In **MATTHEW 28:16-20**, Christ speaks about the "Great Commission," a command instructing us as a people to make disciples among our fellow brothers and sisters in the faith. God has ordered (**MATTHEW 28:19-20**), ordained (**JOHN 15:16** - You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you) and supplied (**JOHN 15:16** - go and bear fruit—fruit that will last) and promised the pupil providing each one with the necessities to complete the assigned tasks (**JOHN 15:16** - whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you). The last statement must be aligned with His will.

God has instructed us to feed his sheep, not force the sheep to eat and not to fix what is broken. If we attempt to do anything else outside of what God has tasked us to do, we will become frustrated! When this happens, the question always asked is, "Why isn't it working?"

In 1969, Frank Sinatra recorded a song called "I Did it My Way." The lyrics of the song tell the story of a man who, having grown old, reflects on his life as death approaches. He is comfortable with his humanity and takes responsibility for how he dealt with all the challenges of life while maintaining a respectable degree of honor.

Many will stand before God believing what they did was honorable ("their way"). God chose us, provided us the tools and despite these gifts, some still some want to have their own agendas. With, lazy or selfish attitudes, they will stand before God and attempt to defend themselves and all their wrong choices.

Jesus made the first choice – to love and to die for us, to invite us to live with Him forever. We make the next choice- to accept or reject His ways and His offers. Remember, without His choice, we would have no choice to make!

SCRIPTURE READING

JOHN 13:34-35

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Am I my brother and sisters keeper? The answer is "no" if you only care about yourself.

