

MY LIFE

Part 4: Investment Portfolio

INTRODUCTION

Sound financial investments are made with great care (or at least they should be!). We have entire industries built around managing our financial instruments, and when they go awry it can derail the entire economy.

Management makes sense because we have a limited amount of money and resources, and we want the best return. Since time is the one resource that you can never make more of, shouldn't we give that same sort of attention to how we invest that time?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Do you have any trophies you earned in the past? What kinds of things were they for? Where are they right now?
2. Read Matthew 16:13-18. Why do you think Jesus went through this exercise of asking the disciples this question? Why not just tell them who he is (Jesus should know after all!) Why is the answer to this question critical to the disciples and to us as well?
3. If Jesus were back on Earth today, how do you think he would spend his time and energy? There are so many issues that he might focus on, why would Jesus focus on building the church and not just "fixing the world's problems"?
4. Looking back at the last 2000 years, the Church is the only cause, effort, or institution that is still standing (as Jesus said it would). Why do we as people have a tendency to support and build things that ultimately don't last? What keeps us from making an investment in something that Jesus says will never fail?

MOVING FORWARD

We invest in the Church, not because it is perfect, but because it is the hope of the world and because it will endure for all time. If we truly believe that Jesus rose from the dead, then the Mission of the Church is worthy of the investment of your life. What does that investment look like in your life?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." 1st Corinthians 15:58