#### 2 Corinthians 4:7

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us.



## This Really Works

Think for a minute about how Jesus interacted with his disciples.

#### He said.....Follow me,

Jesus gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God, and to heal.

He set them free to use their intelligence, creativity, and passion to make it happen in any way that made sense in their context.

The whole story of Jesus and his disciples is one of empowerment and freedom.

After Jesus told them that they had the "power and authority"

He said,

You do it! You confess! Take up your cross every day Get ready for my departure Your hands are my hands



#### Purpose

Jesus knew why He was here:

"Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came to do." [Mark 1:38]

# "I have come to call not the righteous but sinners." [Mark 2:17 B]

I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness."

[John 12:46]

#### The Spirit of the Lord is upon me

Because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

## The Spirit is given to us

Guiding principles are at the center of this ministry, just like our core values.

They are visible in our actions, and they are in the words we use.

# For Peter, what really mattered was following the Spirit.

The followers of Jesus had a new Guiding Principle:

"Do what seems right to us, and to the Holy Spirit" [Acts 15:28]

#### St. John's Core Values

Authentic Worship
Intentional Relationships
Sacrificial Service
Radical Generosity

#### **Strategic Directions**

Very different from a future goal you hope to achieve.

They point you in a particular direction so that you know where to focus and what to do right now.

**Example: feed those who are hungry** 

#### Jesus' Strategic Direction

Jesus said,
"Go be my witnesses in Jerusalem;
in Judea and Samaria;
to the ends of the Earth.