



Point of View

Dear Marketplace Friend,

This week's Point of View is evidence that The Master's Program is preparing serious Kingdom players for the greatest Kingdom bull-market in our lifetimes! When you're done reading it, put your own comments in an email and forward this POV to the 5 - or, 50 - friends you know who ought to read it as well.

Seven days ago, I asked my readers who are participants or graduates of The Master's Program to tell me how they would advise **TMP** prospects right now, in the face of turbulent economic, political and cultural times. *Should they wait to consider **TMP**? Should they go for it?* Here are some of those responses (*lightly edited for length & clarity*):

- *Master's and Barnabas allow me the opportunity to invest my time and albeit diminished resources to HIS purposes in a time when those are the biggest blessings of all. What I learned in TMP allows me to do it with greater efficiency and efficacy. Bill Erickson, California*
- *... putting off growth, resisting the encouragement of great men of God, and delaying my opportunities to do great things in the kingdom is ridiculous! The "hard times" are when I'm going to want and need the*



encouragement of TMP the most! The returns so far on the investment of my time and money are phenomenal - and that appears to be a minute portion of all that is possible. Even from a simple, limited business perspective (calculating dollars and cents only, without any regard for the Kingdom) I've already come out ahead. Jeff Ronk, California

- *Why TMP now? Now, more than ever, God calls to us to stand up and show our faith in the face of earthly turbulence. How strong is your faith if never really challenged? For such a time as this, God's promises and words of assurance are more critical than ever. John Carroll, South Carolina*
- *As the financial moths munch away at your 401(k) wardrobe, why utilize all of your efforts in spinning more of that tasty cloth? Dedicate instead just a bit of your time and resources toward earning the treasure that cannot be eaten by moths or stolen by*

thieves. TMP will remind you how to face the current crisis and all of this life's challenges and, in the bargain, you will increase your faith, and enhance your family and professional life. J. Michael Grant, South Carolina

- I'm fresh out of a work meeting that found us wondering aloud how we could possibly work with the financing markets to close a large transaction. Times are not rosy but my wife and I are firmly committed to tithing + of our annual income... We'll work with what God gives us this year, and then do the same next year. God will provide what we need. Bob, keep doing what you do! My life is far richer with you involved. Matt Anderson, California

- I would say don't stop doing the right things. Work hard. Be industrious, save money, give generously. It's the basic disciplines that so often go first when times get stormy. Stay the course. Look for gold in the storm. Look for Jesus in the storm because He will be coming to meet us. He has something for me when life gets the scariest. If God takes everything I have I will still have Him and the promise of his eternal presence. Bring it on! John Stob, Illinois

- From a Godly perspective, I would tell prospective TMP participants not to delay in setting aside time and resources to pursue the opportunity. This IS the time to pursue God and His calling for our lives. Everything else is shrinking about us, but God and His instruction and input into our lives is steady. Steve Zoller, Illinois

- Move ahead courageously. The events of the last few weeks have certainly been tough

on everyone. What I took home from TMP has kept me centered on what is really important in this time of real uncertainty. The session on natural talents and strengths has given me more insight into who I am and what I am good at than anything I ever learned about myself in a 33+ year corporate executive career, and has really allowed me to focus on using my natural talents to line up with God's Kingdom plan for me. Warren Buffet says, "Be fearful when others are greedy and greedy when others are fearful." In these very uncertain and fearful times I think it is especially important to be greedy about pursuing God's plan for us. I highly recommend TMP for a roadmap to God's plan. Steve Franks, Texas

- I am a residential real estate broker in Southern California. Last month I spent several weeks in Nigeria and I will be going back again in several months for another several week trip. By worldly standards, I should be staying home and earning money for the family. However, both my wife and I agree that God has called me to work in this ministry. This has required and is requiring faith in God to provide all my family's needs. Not wants; needs. Eric Baucom, California

- For me, as a Life Coach and a TMP participant, I'm determined that my response to God will be to do whatever He asks of me, with complete confidence in His ability to enable me to complete that which He has asked of me. TMP is part of what He has called me to do. Chris Chesley, Washington

- When I look at all the rich blessings of the last four years and all the preparation for Kingdom work, I'd be a fool to tell Him that I

didn't have time or money for TMP. I've increased my giving to my church, as well as making significant gifts to other ministries where I believe the Lord is working and transforming lives. My life is better and richer...

Tony Mayer, Texas

- *I have taken a significant financial hit during this current market just as so many others have. Yet I am remarkably at peace, much more so than I would have been prior to TMP. The Bible verse that keeps jumping into my mind is from Job 1:21: "The LORD gave me what I had, and the LORD has taken it away. Praise the name of the LORD!"* Fred Lowe, Texas

- *It's really quite simple. Every entrepreneur and corporate executive understands one fundamental business principal: If you are not moving forward, you are moving backwards. The same applies to your KINGDOM CALLING! Commit to The Masters Program NOW! Join like minded, Kingdom focused men and women and begin your incredible three year journey! P.S. There's one fundamental Kingdom principal that all Master's grads understand: IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO OUT GIVE GOD!* Jeffery Alan Adam, Arizona

- *The excuses about the "economy" are just another convenient and sly way of saying, "I am a man who gets too much identity from my work, thus much too important to do this 'spiritual thing' in these tough times. Perhaps when things stabilize..."* Guys, get a grip! *This is an old and lame excuse to remain in isolation. When I finally agreed to come to Master's, my view of my work became more focused and sharp. Get on board and grow*

with your peers in a successful mentoring environment which will bless you, your family, and your business many years into the future! Carl Woodruff, Georgia

- *Do you believe that this Kingdom of God stuff is for real? In 2 Chronicles 7:13-14, God upset the agricultural economy of the day and told His people to humble themselves, pray and seek His face, and turn from their ways. It looks like the same thing is happening today and the call is the same. We either turn towards God and he restores the entire nation, or we turn to our own ways, and try to figure it out. If you believe that God is behind this and has the power to affect the situation, then I strongly recommend we take Him up on His offer. Ask yourself, "What would personal intimacy and repentance look like in your situation at home and work?"* I am finding lots to talk with God about in my life. And you? Vince Siciliano, California

- *Generally in times such as these we entrepreneurial types have less deals to work on and more free time. Seize that opportunity, pray more, and think about how to make yourself more useful in His Kingdom work through what you'll learn about 80/20 leverage in TMP. Do it NOW!* Johnny McConnell, North Carolina

- *What if God is starting to roll up history? What a great time to be alive! We need to be prepared and then ready to do battle. The Master's Program is doing that for me. Remember the Cross; Remember the Resurrection; We Win; Charge!* Steven Lenes, South Carolina

- People are always able to find a straw man to blame for not moving forward with their Kingdom calling. If it's not the financial markets it's something else - a business commitment, a busy schedule, a "difficult time in my life." The time to serve the Lord is now and the rewards are transcendent, not transient. Ray Pentz, California

- I can unabashedly say that God used my time in The Master's Program to begin to understand my calling. This understanding is still being honed and clarified but because of TMP I now have enough tools and knowledge to at least have a strategic vision and a practical plan to move life forward with purpose and impact. I am in-play and a part of the game. Without TMP, I would be sidelined, worried about the market and what is unfolding. Now, that worry has been replaced by eagerness to see and seize the opportunities that God will unveil through these times. Ryon Ellis, California

- "If God is for us who can be against us?" I would tell anyone who asks that to live safely (no battle to fight), without risk (adventure), to defer seeking first His Kingdom, and to miss His calling is to MISS THE POINT. To live is Christ and to die is gain. Why would a child of the King, one who is chosen, adopted, called and who has an inheritance in heaven (us) trade it for ANYTHING this pitiful (in comparison) place has to offer? It is utterly inconceivable. To turn back from one's calling is to turn back from the Lord. How can He really be Lord if we say "no" to Him? I would rather not live one more day on this earth than to live it outside of my calling, now that I know what it is. There is no other choice than to

trust God and obey His voice and it is our obedience that activates the power of the Holy Spirit working through us. No obedience, no power. No power, no light. No light, utter darkness. John Gross, North Carolina

- It is the Christian leader's call and responsibility to be prepared for whatever opportunities or crises come his way. I know of no better way to think through and address the issues and challenges of our day from a Kingdom perspective than through TMP. The impact on my life and leadership is inestimable. Chuck Olson, California

The Master's Program refines the leader's strategic thinking about his life on all fronts: personal, family, professional and Kingdom. **TMP** prepares leaders to be self-managed for God's glory... and to thrive in the same surroundings that will cause the less-prepared to decline.

The question is *not*: "Can a Christian leader afford to participate in **TMP** right now?" The *right* question is: "Can you afford *not* to participate right now?"

If you're ready to break from the pack who are frozen in fear, desperate in their demise, leaders waiting to be led... then shoot us a flare to say, "count me in!" Hit "reply" and tell us that you're ready to let God take you to the next level of Kingdom leadership. If your life is tied to the Markets, you're cooked. If your life is tied to the Kingdom, you have the ability to defy gravity and soar. Your choice! **Had enough? Ready for a breakthrough? Willing to take a chance on God?**

Bob Shank
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www.mastersprogram.org

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