

Reading: Luke 14:16-23**Topic:** Total Church Growth # 1

INTRODUCTION: God has designed and planned for _____ things to grow and increase and to multiply, and that includes both natural things and _____ things.

I. THE LAW OF THE SEED:

A. *Natural Seed:*

1. When the Lord created the earth, He covered the barren _____ with vegetation and with plants and trees and designed them all to _____ and reproduce. Gen. 1:11
2. The key to reproduction is the _____ which is a marvel in itself as a very small entity, yet it contains the material to produce and reproduce many _____ over. Gen. 1:12

B. *Spiritual Seed:*

1. In the teachings of Jesus during His ministry, He spoke repeatedly about things that _____ and produce and reproduce, and how that if things do not _____ they end up dying. Lk. 13:6-9
2. In the famous parable of the sower, Jesus clearly states that the _____ that is to be sown is none other than the _____ of God. Lk. 8:4,5,11

C. *The Law of Sowing & Reaping:*

1. God instituted the law of sowing and reaping during the creation and it is still in _____ to this very day – if you plant a _____ in the soil, it will grow and produce if the conditions are right.
2. The law of sowing and reaping also applies in the _____ realm, and it is the key to the growth of Spiritual life, be it in an individual or in a _____. I Pt. 2:2

II. THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH:

A. *The Great Commission:*

1. After the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ, He met with His disciples and _____ them the instructions to go and _____ the Gospel. Mk. 16:15
2. The preaching of the Gospel is the sowing of the _____ of the Word of God into the soil of the hearts of the people that _____ it. I Cor. 1:21
3. From the parable that Jesus taught concerning the _____ of the sower, we understand that not all who hear will receive the _____ but many will hear and believe and be saved. Mk. 16:16

B. *The Making of Disciples:*

1. In Matthew's _____ of the Great Commission, the original translation of the word 'teach' is to 'make disciples' which is the next _____ after reaching people with the Gospel. Mt. 28:19,20
2. Again, it is the _____ of the Word of God that causes spiritual growth in the _____ of the Individual who has been born again.
3. Therefore, the mission of the church is to continuously be _____ the seed of the Word of God and then reaping the _____ that it produces.

III. THE URGENCY OF THE HOUR:

A. The Harvest Is Ready:

1. Some people are waiting for the _____ to come to them, but Jesus told His disciples that the time for reaping was not in the _____ but it was now! Jn. 4:35
2. Harvest time is a critical time, because it is the shortest season in the _____ of the crops, and if the window of opportunity is _____ then the grain will be lost.

B. The Harvest Is Plenteous:

1. Jesus also emphasized to His disciples that there was no _____ of a harvest, but instead there is a plenteous harvest to be _____, a harvest that is ready now! Mt. 9:36-3
2. The great need to gather the harvest is the _____, which Jesus said are not enough in number as compared to the amount of the grain that has to be reaped before it is too _____.
3. Therefore, it is imperative that all the members of every _____ in the church understand the need of becoming involved in the process of reaping the harvest of lost _____ that are in our fields.

C. No Magic Formulas – Only Work:

1. Some people are waiting for some magic formula to bring revival and _____ to their church, but no such thing exists – it takes the basics of work - _____ and reaping. Ecc. 11:4
2. In addition, the whole operation of the work of God must be undergirded with _____, and more of _____, both personal spiritual life _____ as well as the church with its _____ meetings and special seasons of _____ and fasting.

CONCLUSION: Over the next few classes, we will be examining some basic principles and _____ that lead to effective _____ that lasts, and your involvement in the harvest field through the ministry that you work in is vital to this process.