

**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 it's \_\_\_\_\_ 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.