

# Five Harvest Practices of an Exemplary Leader

## Lord of the Harvest Part 3

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**Scripture:** Matthew 9:14-17 AMP

*<sup>14</sup> Then the disciples of John [the Baptist] came to Jesus, asking, “Why do we and the Pharisees often fast [as a religious exercise], but Your disciples do not fast?” <sup>15</sup> And Jesus replied to them, “Can the guests of the bridegroom mourn while the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. <sup>16</sup> But no one puts a piece of unshrunk (new) cloth on an old garment; for the patch pulls away from the garment, and a worse tear results. <sup>17</sup> Nor is new wine put into old <sup>[a]</sup> wineskins [that have lost their elasticity]; otherwise the wineskins burst, and the [fermenting] wine spills, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine is put into fresh wineskins, so both are preserved.”*

### **Practice #1 – Model The Way.**

- You are granted the title of Christian when you accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. But it's how you treat others that earns you respect.

**Action #1** – Treat others with love and respect for their humanity as Jesus would.

### **Practice #2 – Challenge The Status Quo.**

- “Possibility Thinking is the willingness to see possibilities everywhere instead of limitations” - John Maxwell.

**Action #2** – Be willing to see the possibility that every “tax collector and sinner” is a potential Disciple of Jesus Christ.

### **Practice #3 – Inspire A Shared Vision.**

- Jesus and His Disciples passionately believe they can make a difference.

**Action #3** – Believe that as a Christian, you can share the good news of Jesus Christ and make a difference in the life of others.

### **Practice #4 – Encourage The Heart.**

- Jesus uses the metaphor of new wine and old wineskins to teach John’s disciples and others about the newness of his teachings and the need for openness to spiritual transformation.

**Action #4** – Remind yourself, and others, that in the pressing, Jesus is making new wine. And where there is new wine, there is new transformation, power, and freedom.

**Practice #5 – Enable Others to Act.**

- The transformation process involves leaving behind old habits, traditions, and mindsets that no longer serve the Kingdom's purpose.

**Action #5** – Respect the foundation of biblical truths while being open to the leading of the Holy Spirit and fresh expressions of faith.