Message: Reaping the Harvest Generously

Theme: The Month of Rebuilding – Relationships

Date: August 24, 2025

Introduction

Beloved in Christ, as we journey in this month of *Rebuilding – Relationships*, we are reminded that relationships thrive when nurtured with generosity. God teaches us that true blessing is not found in hoarding but in sharing.

"And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not wholly reap the corners of thy field, neither shalt thou gather the gleanings of thy harvest. And thou shalt not glean thy vineyard, neither shalt thou gather every grape of thy vineyard; thou shalt leave them for the poor and stranger: I am the LORD your God."—Leviticus 19:9–10 (KJV)

"And when ye reap the harvest of your land, thou shalt not make clean riddance of the corners of thy field when thou reapest, neither shalt thou gather any gleaning of thy harvest: thou shalt leave them unto the poor, and to the stranger: I am the LORD your God."—Leviticus 23:22 (KJV)

These commands reveal that generosity is not optional for the people of God—it is part of His covenant identity for us. As He is generous, so must we be. Today, we will explore three pillars of generous harvest: **the principle, the practice, and the promise.**

1. The Principle of Generosity

God instructed Israel not to consume every portion of their harvest but to leave margins—corners of the field, scattered grapes, and fallen stalks—for others.

- **Generosity is obedience**: Leaving part of the harvest was not merely an act of kindness but a command: "I am the LORD your God." (Lev. 19:10, 23:22). Our generosity reflects our obedience to God.
- **Generosity is a reflection of God's character**: He provides rain for both the just and unjust (Matt. 5:45). He freely gave His Son for our salvation (John 3:16).
- **Generosity reveals trust**: By leaving part of the harvest, Israel showed trust that God would continue to provide more than enough.

"The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself." — Proverbs 11:25

2. Generosity in Relationships

How does this principle apply to rebuilding relationships?

• Leave room for others: Just as the Israelites left the corners of the field, we must leave space in our hearts for others—room for mistakes, weaknesses, and growth. "Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another..." (Colossians 3:13).

- **Generosity in forgiveness**: Relationships are rebuilt when we forgive beyond measure. Jesus taught Peter to forgive not seven times, but seventy times seven (Matthew 18:21–22).
- **Generosity in kindness**: Paul reminds us, "Let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." (Galatians 6:9–10). Even when others may not immediately repay our kindness, God calls us to continue sowing love.
- Generosity in reconciliation: Like the father of the prodigal son (Luke 15:20–24), we are to extend open arms, showing grace rather than judgment, to those who seek restoration.

"Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over..." — Luke 6:38

3. The Promise of Generosity

God never allows generosity to go unrewarded.

- The blessing of provision: When we give, we open the door for God's abundance. "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." (2 Corinthians 9:6).
- **The blessing of restored relationships**: Generosity softens hearts and rebuilds trust. "*Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.*" (Matthew 5:7).
- **The eternal reward**: Every act of generosity stores treasure in heaven (Matthew 6:19–21).

When Ruth gleaned in Boaz's field, Boaz's generosity opened the door for redemption, leading to her inclusion in the lineage of Christ (Ruth 2–4). Our acts of generosity may seem small, but they have eternal impact.

Application Points

- 1. **Examine your "harvest"** In your time, resources, words, and love, are you leaving room for others or consuming it all for yourself?
- 2. **Practice generous forgiveness** Release past hurts and extend grace to rebuild relationships.
- 3. **Be intentional in kindness** Look for opportunities to bless the poor, the stranger, and the weak.
- 4. **Trust God's provision** As you sow generously into others, God will ensure you never lack.

Conclusion

Beloved, rebuilding relationships requires generosity—of time, forgiveness, love, and resources. Just as Israel left a portion of their fields for others, we are called to live lives that make room for people, not just ourselves.

"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work." — 2 Corinthians 9:8

Let us therefore sow generously, so that our harvest in relationships, in blessings, and in eternal reward will be abundant.



A Prayer Declaration:

"Father, help us to walk in generosity as You are generous. Teach us to leave room for others in our harvest, to sow seeds of kindness, and to rebuild relationships through forgiveness and love. Let our lives reflect Your abundance, and may our harvest glorify You. In Jesus' name, Amen."